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[SOT108]
Setting up a central ATC-system – the long, long winding road to get there

Bärbel Winkler
May 30th, 2020
18:00 - 18:40 UTC

This presentation recaps the journey from reading blog posts about a central ABAP Test Cockpit (ATC) to actually getting such a system up and running.

IMPLEMENTING A CENTRAL ABAP TEST COCKPIT (ATC) SYSTEM AT ALFRED KÄRCHER SE & CO. KG

AGENDA

1 **ALFRED KÄRCHER SE & Co. KG**
A brief overview

2 **FROM START TO FINISH**
Our path to a central ATC-System

3 **LESSONS LEARNED**
& Next steps

4 **READING UP ON THINGS**

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ONE BIG FAMILY.
13,500 employees, 73 countries, 127 companies
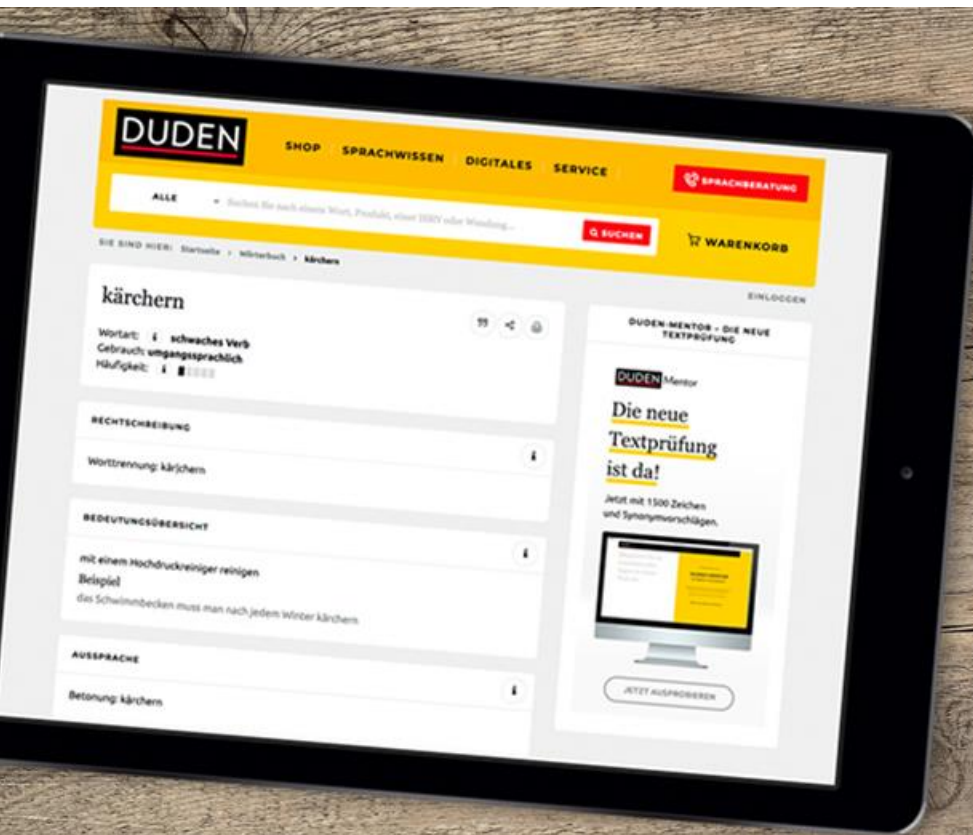
HOME & GARDEN.
Devices for retail users.

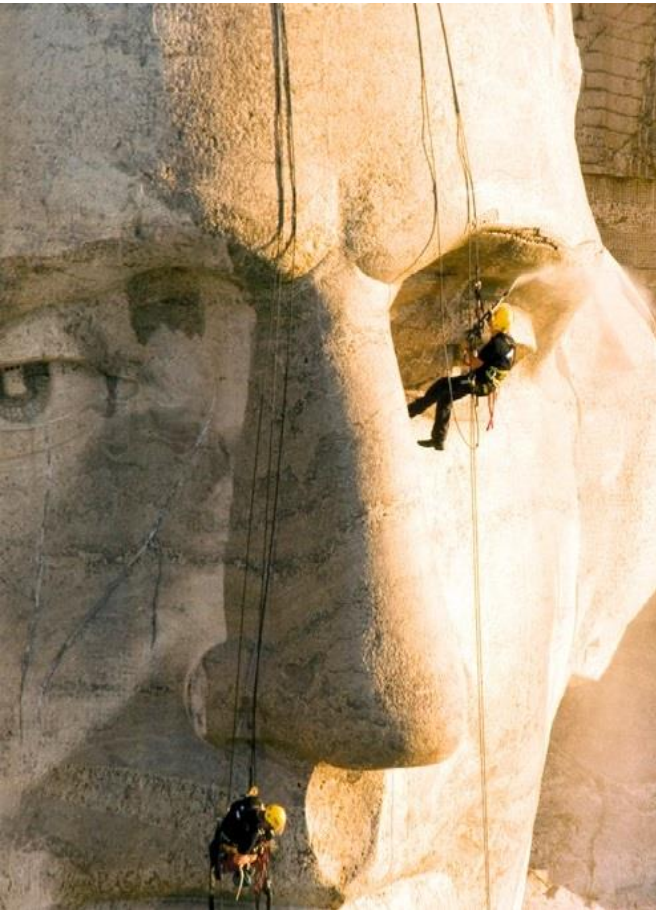THANKS TO KÄRCHER, EVEN LARGE TASKS CAN BE FUN AND TAKE LESS EFFORT.

"KÄRCHERN" IS IN THE DICTIONARY.
When a brand is in the "Duden" (German dictionary), this is an impressive achievement indeed

PRESERVING CULTURAL MONUMENTS.
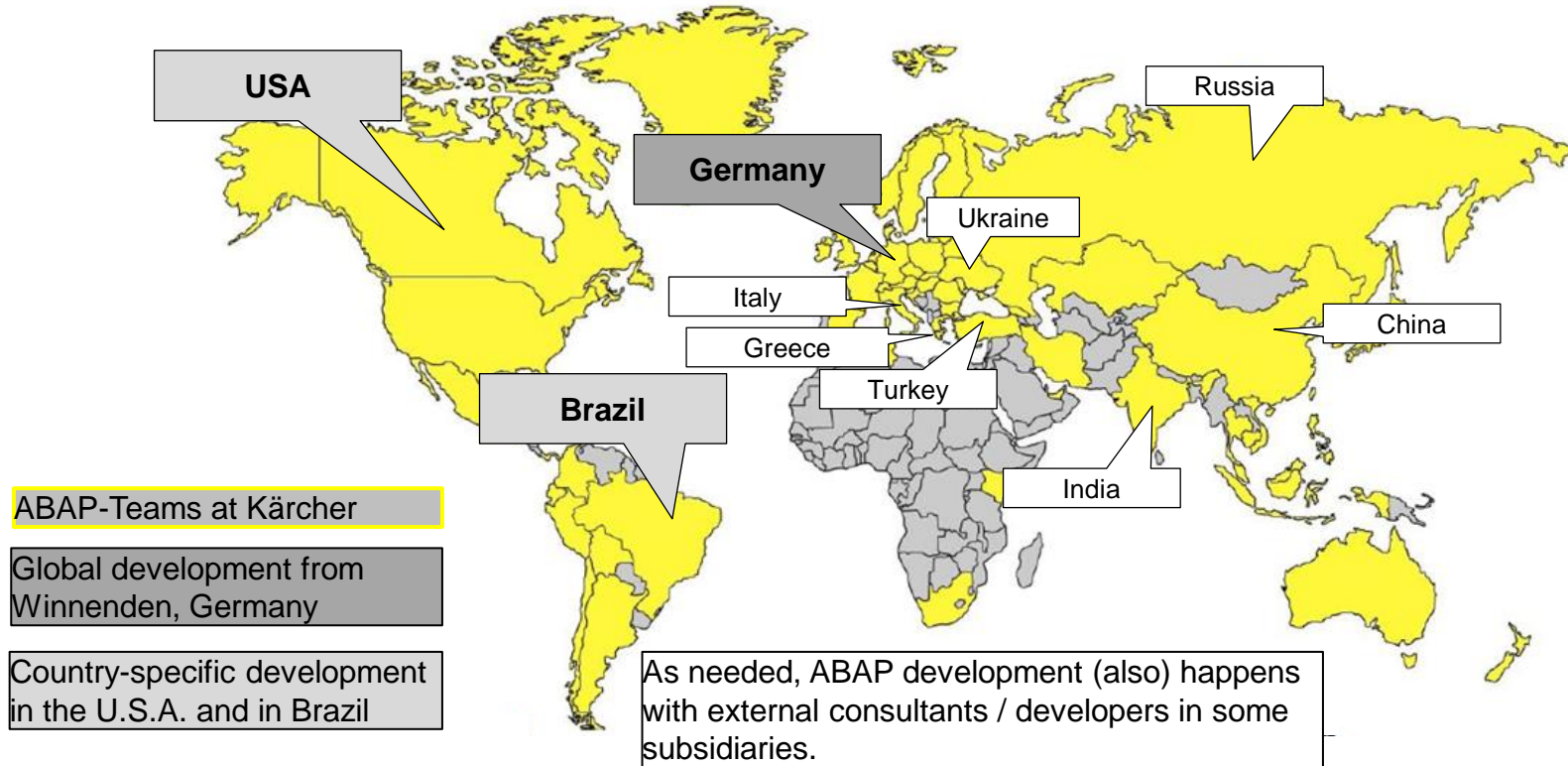Over 40 years. More than 140 campaigns. One legacy.

… it shouldn't come as a big surprise that Kärcher is also interested in clean ABAP-code!

GLOBAL ABAP DEVELOPMENT (AS OF MAY 2020)

USA

Russia

Germany

Ukraine

Italy

China

Greece

Turkey

Brazil

India

ABAP-Teams at Kärcher

Global development from Winnenden, Germany

Country-specific development in the U.S.A. and in Brazil

As needed, ABAP development (also) happens with external consultants / developers in some subsidiaries.

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DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE VIA SE80

STARTING POINT FOR ATC CHECKS - 1

DEVELOPMENT
DEV-1

DEVELOPMENT
DEV-2

DEVELOPMENT
DEV-x

ATC-conficuration in DEV-1
- Check-variants (SCI)
- Transport settings
- Message priorities
- Dependent on SAP release of DEV-1

ATC-conficuration in DEV-2
- Check-variants (SCI)
- Transport settings
- Message priorities
- Dependent on SAP release of DEV-2

ATC-conficuration in DEV-X
- Check-variants (SCI)
- Transport settings
- Message priorities
- Dependent on SAP release of DEV-X

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STARTING POINT FOR ATC CHECKS - 2

- Duplication of effort for initial configuration and ongoing maintenance

- Dependency between NW version of SAP-System and available ATC-checks

- S/4HANA Readiness Checks not yet possible with NW 750

- Check lists findings for complete program instead of just for the current changes, often generating long lists of errors

- No check for enhancements

- Checks only possible upon transport but not task release

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OUR GOAL

Current release 7.52
"bare-bones" NW-System

Central ATC System

Easy to keep current
RFC-connection to other systems
with SAP_Basis > 7.02

DEVELOPMENT DEV-1

DEVELOPMENT DEV-2

DEVELOPMENT DEV-x

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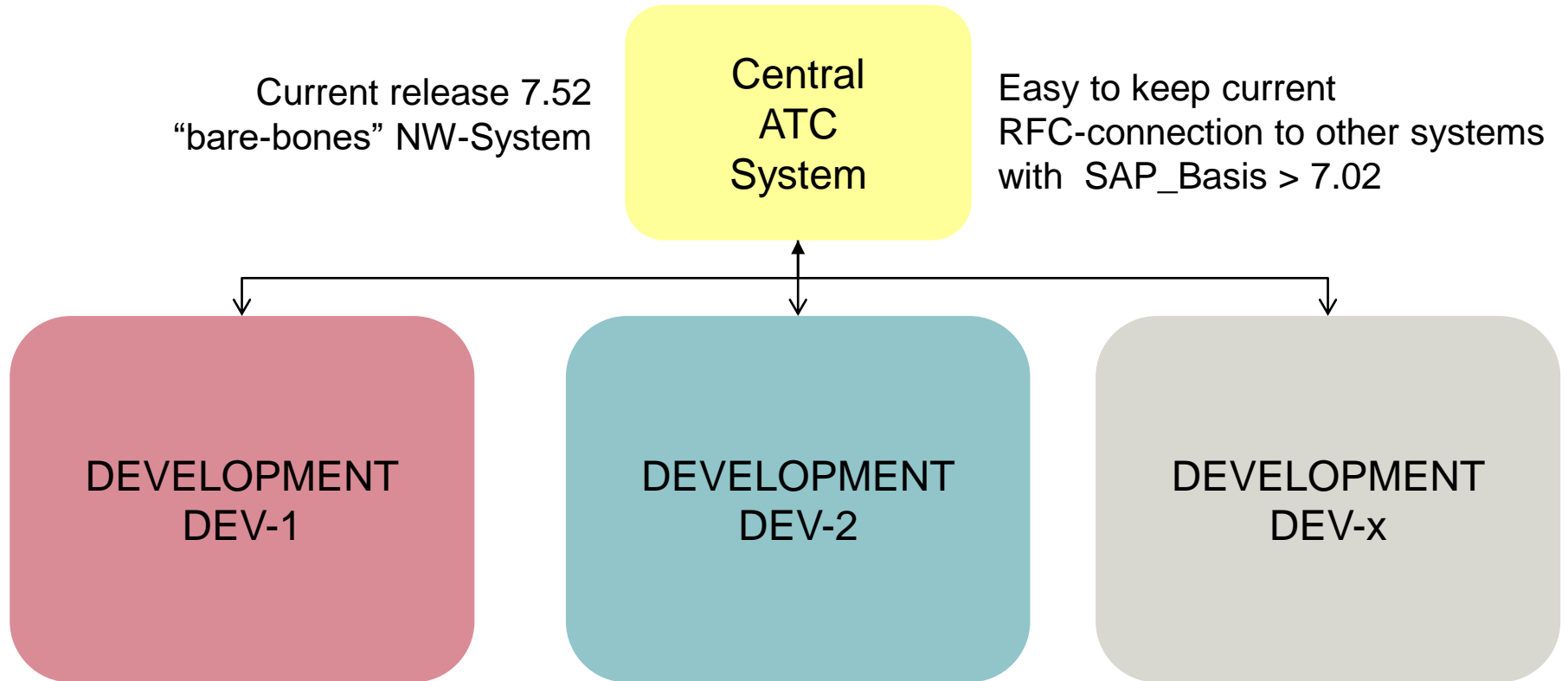
OUR PATH – OR: THE LONG LONG WINDING ROAD

December 2016
First mention of a central ATC-system in Olga Dolinskaja's blog post

March 2017
Planning of update to HANA-DB in November. ATC-Checks gain importance!

November 2017
Adaptation of Z-Code for SAP-HANA using Smartshift

March 2018
Installation of a central ATC-Systems gets approved!

January 2017
Proof of concept S/4HANA with access to NW 750

May 2017
Initial ATC-Checks in DEV-1 & DEV-2 to get developers used to it

Winter 2017/2018
Plans to move towards S/4HANA start to take shape

May 2018
1. inhouse developer workshop – albeit without system access

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OUR PATH – OR: THE LONG LONG WINDING ROAD

July 2018
System available and getting configured. Sandbox systems get connected for testing purposes.

September 2018
2nd workshop with developers and activation of new central checks but without blocking of transport release in case of errors.

November 2018
Project to implement central ATC-checks successfully completed!

August 2018
DEV-1 and DEV-2 connected with central ATC-system, Baseline gets created and check runs are executed for testing purposes.

October 2018
Feedback-session to discuss first experiences and interactions. Afterwards, setting activated to block transport release when findings with priority 1 or 2 are encountered.

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LESSONS LEARNED 1

- "Good things take time"

- Many OSS-Notes need to be applied in the central ATC-system as well as the satellite systems.

- Make time for workshops and feedback sessions with developer team(s)

- ATC-related authorizations need to be given to a large group of people if you work with a trusted RFC-connection as we do.

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LESSONS LEARNED 2

- Testing can happen by triggering the ATC-checks from within a report (for details, check out blog post [How to trigger multiple ATC-checks in one go](#))

- Adjusting message priorities to decrease the number of priority 1 and 2 findings helps to avoid too many blocked transports upon release.

- Regular communication and easily accessible documentation increase acceptance.

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DOCUMENTATION IN OUR DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

1.2 ABAP Testcockpit (ATC) - FAQs

Created by Winkler, Baerbel, last modified on Nov 06, 2018

Index to FAQs about ATC

- What do the acronyms ATC and SCI stand for?
- What is a check variant?
- Why do we have a central ATC system?
- Do I ever need to login to the central ATC system?
- Which check-variant can I use before releasing my transport?
- Which checks are included in the central check variant?
- What is meant by "baseline"?
- Is the extended syntax check (SLIN) included in the central ATC-checks?
- How to avoid surprises during task/transport release?
- Why can I no longer ignore some errors and warnings upon transport-release?
- Why is a statement reported even though it shows a pseudo-comment for code inspector?
- Why are there findings for code I didn't touch?
- Is there additional information available for the displayed list of findings?
- What do I do when I cannot release a task?
- What should the exemption be requested for?
- Who do I pick as the Approver of an exemption request?
- Where can I learn more about ATC checks via a central system?
- Is there a list for open issues?
- Is there a risk that transports only containing translations get blocked when one of the impacted underlying objects shows priority 1 or 2 findings?
- Why do I get a tool failure error with priority 1 and cannot release my transport?

English presentation (September 7, 2018)

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CENTRAL ATC-SYSTEM AND CHECKS PREVENTING RELEASE OF TRANSPORTS

PDF

German presentation (September 7, 2018)

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ZENTRALES ATC-SYSTEM UND VERHINDERNDE PRÜFUNGEN BEI FREIGABE VON TRANSPORTEN

PDF

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NEXT STEPS

- Additional feedback sessions as needed

- Connecting additional development systems

- Add more checks blocking the release of transports

- Run S/4HANA Readiness Checks as needed

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN SAP COMMUNITY

Blog post series about ATC from Olga Dolinskaja:

1. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – One central check system for multiple systems on various releases
2. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – Technical Setup step by step
3. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – Working with Baseline to suppress findings in old legacy code
4. Remote Code Analysis in ATC for Developers
5. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – Working with Exemptions
6. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – Scanning customer extensions
7. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – Working efficiently with ATC Result List
8. Remote Code Analysis in ATC – FAQ

My blog posts about implementing a central ATC-system at Kärcher:

1. Setting up a central ATC-system – Part 1: Setting the stage
2. Setting up a central ATC-system – Part 2: Preparing the systems
3. Setting up a central ATC-system – Part 3: Tweaking the settings to our liking
4. Setting up a central ATC-system – Part 4: The final stretch
5. Setting up a central ATC-system – the long, long winding road edition

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QUESTIONS?

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE
THANK YOU

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