

BilbaoTIK manages applications efficiently with Red Hat JBoss EAP



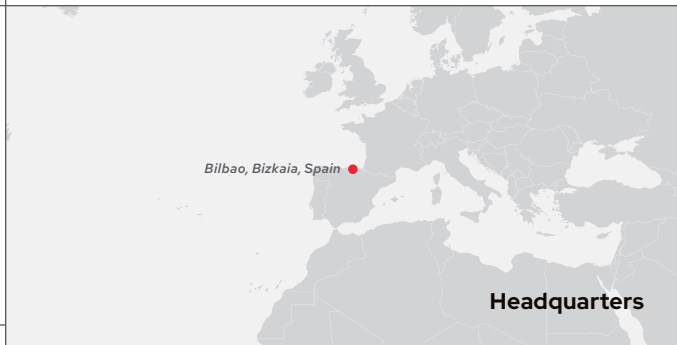
BilbaoTIK is a publicly run organization that provides IT services to government bodies and citizens in the city of Bilbao. To reduce the workload of adapting third-party and internal applications to WebSphere Application Server, the company migrated to a new solution based on Red Hat JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (JBoss EAP). With its new platform, BilbaoTIK has reduced time and effort for application development, migration, and management with innovative enterprise open source technology and community code libraries.

Software

Red Hat® JBoss® Enterprise Application Platform
Red Hat Enterprise Linux®

Hardware

HPE x86-based servers



Government IT services

51- 200 employees

Benefits

- Streamlined migration of third-party applications
- Simplified application deployment and management with compatible open source tools, such as Jenkins and Maven
- Gained access to reusable code libraries from active open source community

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Oihane Agirregoitia
President,
BilbaoTIK



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Managing applications efficiently for local government and citizens

With a wider metropolitan population of more than 1 million residents, Bilbao is the largest city in the Basque Country region and the most populous city in northern Spain. For 30 years, all of the city’s IT services have been managed by BilbaoTIK, a publicly owned municipal organization.

BilbaoTIK provides a broad range of around 200 applications to staff for the city council and other local government bodies, as well as citizens. These applications include government services – such as law enforcement, social care, and transportation – as well as taxation and financial management.

Until recently, these applications ran on a platform based on WebSphere Application Server (WAS). However, many third-party providers were not developing their applications for WAS, requiring more time and effort from BilbaoTIK’s staff of developers to migrate those applications before they could be used.

“Over the last two years, a lot of vendors and partners are developing their applications for JBoss Enterprise Application Platform, not for WebSphere. Having to migrate the applications to our WebSphere platform was generating a lot of extra work for us,” said Agirregoitia, President BilbaoTIK. “If we want to move to cloud or containers, JBoss EAP would be better suited to that change. It’s more cloud-ready and container-ready than WebSphere. And in recent years, it’s improved a lot more than WebSphere.”

Simplifying third-party compatibility with new application server

BilbaoTIK decided to begin an application modernization and migration project to move from its existing WebSphere application server to a new system, based on the open source JBoss EAP technology.

After a competitive selection process, the company chose to migrate to JBoss EAP with help from a local Red Hat partner, Dominion Digital. JBoss EAP is an enterprise open source application server that lets organizations deploy and manage critical enterprise Java™ applications, whether in bare-metal, virtualized, containerized, on-premise, or cloud environments. BilbaoTIK runs this platform on the Red Hat Enterprise Linux operating system on HPE servers in its two datacenters.

“We are very happy with our platform built with Red Hat JBoss EAP. Since we migrated our first application, it has been very stable,” said Roibal, CIO at BilbaoTIK. “The partner, whose work was excellent, helped us solve the challenges of migrating some libraries to open source versions. But, migration was smooth, without issues.”

Improving productivity with integrated, efficient IT

Simplified third-party migration

Using JBoss EAP as its application platform has helped BilbaoTIK reduce the effort needed to add and manage third-party applications, as many are already developed for JBoss EAP. With help from Dominion Digital, migrating around 200 third-party and in-house applications to the new production environment took around six months, and finished ahead of schedule.

“In addition to having a platform that’s compatible with the technology many of our partners primarily use, we can still adapt applications that were originally developed for other application servers and platforms, such as Apache Tomcat or WebLogic, for our JBoss EAP environment,” said Agirregoitia.

Automated application deployment and management

BilbaoTIK can now use open source solutions to automate application deployment and management, such as Jenkins, an open source automation server, and Apache Maven, a project management tool. These tools have helped the company simplify deployment of new applications and have made maintenance easier.

“Development is easier for us with Red Hat JBoss EAP, because we have been able to migrate our applications to Jenkins using a continuous development approach,” said Roibal. “Jenkins has reduced friction between the development and operations teams, which makes deployment of new applications easier for our staff, and saves them time.”

JBoss EAP also provides a foundation for future container technology adoption to further improve application development and management efficiency. “It’s more cloud- and container-ready than WebSphere,” said Roibal.

Access to open source community resources

By adopting enterprise open source technology from Red Hat, BilbaoTIK has been introduced to the large community of JBoss users and developers, many of whom contribute libraries and code that are available for the company to reuse.

“The extensive community around JBoss EAP and the solutions its members provide are very valuable to us – it’s a noticeable difference from our previous application server,” said Agirregoitia. “Our developers can save time by reusing code they would otherwise have to write themselves, and bugs are quickly fixed by the community.”

Planning for the future with a container-ready platform

After its successful migration to JBoss EAP, BilbaoTIK is now evaluating options to move to a container-based application development and deployment model. The company also plans to start using a microservices-based approach for developing new services.

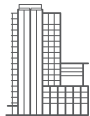
To support these changes, BilbaoTIK is considering adding Red Hat software to its application environment, including Red Hat 3scale API Management and Red Hat Ansible® Tower, to further simplify management as it continues to grow.

“It’s been an intensive project” said Agirregoitia “Now, we plan to keep improving our current applications to deliver a better service to our users, including migrating to the latest version of Java.”

About BilbaoTIK

Founded in 1981, BilbaoTIK (formerly CIMUBISA) is the computer center of the City of Bilbao. It is the public municipal society that manages all information technology services for the City Council and municipal public companies.

About Red Hat



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