Gentleware AG integrates RealObjects edit-on® JavaBean Rich Text Client into Poseidon for UML

Enterprise applications, those that execute core business processes and span across multiple internal applications, must be more than just a bunch of code modules. They must be well-designed in a way that guarantees proper business functionality, reusable code, and reduced coding time.

Modeling, the designing of software applications prior to coding, is an essential part of large software projects. It helps software developers ensure that the functionality is complete and correct while end-user needs and requirements for scalability, robustness, and extendibility are met. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) helps to specify, visualize, and document models of software applications. By utilizing UML, you can reduce the complexity of software system design, increase productivity, decrease maintenance efforts, and reduce costs.

Documentation is a vital part of the UML modeling process. In order to allow software designers to easily create such documentation in a WYSIWYG view, Gentleware AG integrated the RealObjects edit-on® JavaBean Rich Text control into its market leading modeling tool Poseidon for UML. The user-friendly word processor-like control adds comprehensive WYSIWYG XHTML editing functionality to Gentleware's flagship product line.

Author: Dr. Marko Boger, CEO, Gentleware AG

About Gentleware AG

Headquartered in Hamburg, Germany, Gentleware AG develops and distributes UML modeling tools and related products. In addition to the product line Poseidon for UML, the firm also offers training and consulting as well as tool customization for high productivity software engineering. Poseidon for UML is the world's most downloaded commercial UML tool, with over 1,200,000 copies distributed to over 100 countries.
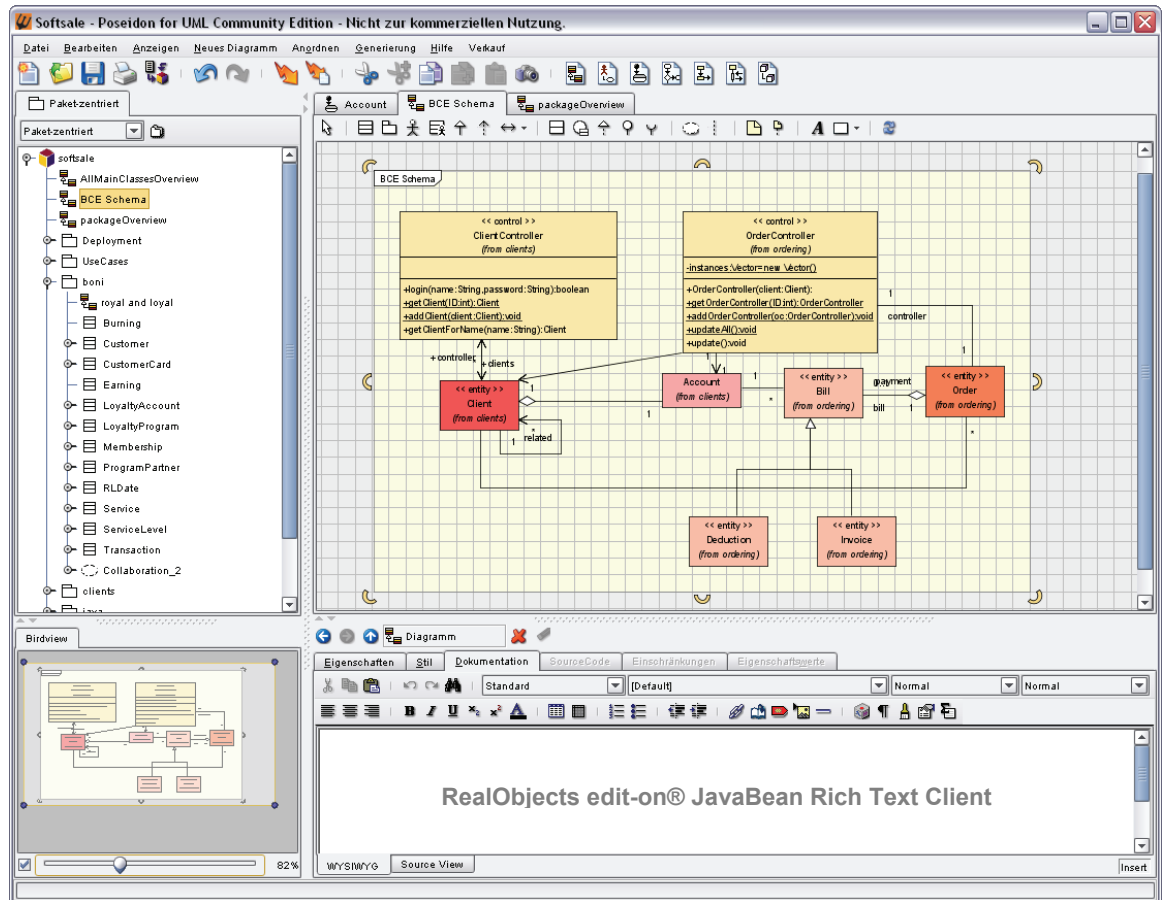
Starting point

The first versions of Poseidon for UML offered only a plain text field for documentation purposes. As customers demanded enhanced and standard-compliant rich text editing capabilities, Gentleware searched for a reliable Java-based WYSIWYG control that offered common editing functions including text formatting, image insertion and upload, extensive table editing, paragraph/line spacing, redo/undo, color picker, hyperlinks, and more.

Requirements and solution

Gentleware has clear requirements for all third-party "off-the-shelf" software components that are integrated into Poseidon. These include:

- Proven technology from a well-known vendor
- Easy integration through an enhanced API
- Highly customizable and fully configurable
- Compatible with major Java IDEs
- Reasonable pricing, no run-time or client royalty fees

The RealObjects edit-on® JavaBean SDK fully met all of these requirements and was eventually chosen as the WYSWIYG XHTML editor for integration into the entire Poseidon for UML product line. The editor control now offers comprehensive documentation functionality to Poseidon users.

Customer comments

Matthias Köster, Chief Technology Officer, Gentleware AG
"RealObjects edit-on JavaBean SDK has allowed us to integrate comprehensive WYSIWYG editing functionality into the Poseidon for UML product line. Similar to a word processor, Poseidon users can easily create XHTML documentation as the editor provides most common editing and formatting features. From a technical point of view, we chose the RealObjects editor because it is more robust than Sun's Swing JEditorPane text component or other editor solutions with this basis. The editor's configurability and extensibility guarantees quick and seamless integration into our software products."

Summary

RealObjects' edit-on® JavaBean Rich Text Client added comprehensive WYSIWYG editing functionality to Gentleware's Poseidon for UML product line. The user-friendliness has been increased and the overall creation of XHTML documentation within Poseidon has been streamlined. The editor's configurability and extensibility also offers the flexibility to include further editing features in the future.

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