Codeweavers

porting

No Excuse Needed for TestTaker on Mac

Opportunity

To move NWEA's flagship TestTaker application onto the Mac platform. NWEA currently administers more than 10 million tests annually to more than 4 million children. Many of these test takers were on Macs, and NWEA needed to service that market.

Hurdles

Apple's move to Intel-based Macs in 2007 meant that the PowerPC version of TestTaker would no longer run. A solution was needed to take NWEA's late-1990 vintage fat client application, and somehow make it run on the new Intel Macs. Furthermore, the ported application would need to deliver good performance, handle complex file-locking requirments, and have the necessary graphical 'spit and polish.'

Solution

By utilitzing CrossOver, NWEA's existing PC source code was able to be ported to the Intel platform on a very short timeframe. In less than three months, CodeWeavers was able to deploy an initial beta solution for field testing, with full product rollout just a month later, in time for NWEA's heaviest testing season.

Benefits

CodeWeavers ported version of TestTaker fulfilled two crucial needs. It allowed a new Mac solution to be deployed very quickly, without breaking the bank. At the same time, CodeWeavers freed up resources within NWEA's software development team, so that a follow-on native Mac version could be developed without rushing it into production. The result was a graceful transition to a fully native Mac version, enabled by the initial port of the Windows codebase.

Contact

For more information on how CodeWeavers can help you bring your Windows application into a new market contact:

James Ramey | President jramey@codeweavers.com [p] +1 651.523.9302

NWEA

Founded: 1977

HQ: Portland, OR

Product: TestTaker



"The project had a number of challenges, but CodeWeavers was very responsive." -Karl Boekelheide, CQO