The Business Analyst 2.0

Dennis Aarts

Blue Goose

The BA Achievement Award is organised by

BLUE GOOSE

Model Driven Engineering

Decision Management

Business Process Management

Case Management

Achievement summary
What was delivered and what was the result?

As Blue Goose, we use the diagrams that are typically designed by business analysts to realize software. To do so, we configure those diagrams in low-code platforms such that they can be automated. We call this model-driven engineering. The types of diagrams that can be automated this way relate to the domains of Case, Business Process and Decision Management (also known as the 'Triple Crown').

Blue Goose only has business analysts, which means that those people are responsible for both the analysis and the configuration. Knowing that about 80% of the average project can be configured with a low code platform, the role of the business analyst heavily increases within a software development project. Developers are only required for the functionalities that are not directly available within the low-code platform used.

Achievement details
Please explain the details of the initiative and the approach that was taken.

The foundations for Blue Goose were laid in 2002 when Dennis Aarts came to Belgium to introduce decision management. The Belgian market, however, was not ready for the use of low-code platforms. Most of the projects he worked on limited themselves to the analyses and thus didn't allow for the configuration of the resulting diagrams. Around 2007 this started to change slightly, but the interest in decision management alone was too limited to build a company around (at least in Belgium). Hence, Dennis broadened his focus to include both case and business process management, allowing for the foundation of Blue Goose at the beginning of 2021.

Key achievement
Why do you think this initiative should receive the award?

Blue Goose's approach within the domain of low-code platforms is unique. First of all, Blue Goose has a business-oriented approach (as have the diagrams used within the domain). This means that the diagrams are designed in such a way, that they're understood by business users. In other words, business users are able to grasp the logic that is executed by their application. Even more so, simple modifications can be made by business users after Blue Goose has configured the initial diagrams.

Furthermore, Blue Goose can operate product independent due to its methodological approach. That is, the different platforms within the domain of model-driven engineering are all based on the same methodologies (see the Triple Crown). The only variations are in the functionalities supported by the different platforms. Hence, a short introduction to a platform allows the employees of Blue Goose to start using said platform within the context of a project. This allows Blue Goose to provide support to organizations using a broad range of different platforms.