

LogicLibrary complements homegrown repository with static analysis from BugScan

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IMPACT REPORT

7 June 2005

LogicLibrary has polished up the **BugScan** software it bought last year and rereleased it under the name Logiscan 2.0. The security vulnerability scanning software takes its place beside the company's flagship Logidex 3.6 software asset repository. It's all part of LogicLibrary's larger plan to bring development shops under the aegis of service-oriented governance.

Impact assessment

The message

Founded around its software asset repository for managing code reuse in development shops, LogicLibrary picked up the BugScan product last year. Now it can perform static analysis on your binaries as well, filling out the governance life cycle.

Competitive landscape

There are software asset repositories on the one hand and code analysis tools on the other, but to our knowledge, LogicLibrary is the only company to offer the combination.

The 451 assessment

The combination of Logidex with Logiscan makes sense. To govern development shops effectively, you need to know what has already been written (in order to avoid duplicating work), and you need to have some kind of assurance as to the quality of these assets (in order to avoid duplicating bugs). The two products already communicate via SOAP, and the company is obviously committed to having them play nicely with IDEs and with Web services management platforms. The combination is not the final answer to governance over the application life cycle, but it is a useful piece.

Context | LogicLibrary was founded in 2000 by **IBM** veteran Brent Carlson, now vice president of engineering, and by CFO Mark Vernallis, who has worked as COO of a manufacturing company and as a partner in two VC firms. CEO Greg Coticchia hails from Symantec (which acquired **Axent Technologies**) and **TruSecure**. The company has strategic partnerships with IBM's software group, **Microsoft** and **Serena Software**. Customers include **AstraZeneca**, **Charles Schwab**, **Citrix**, **ING** and **Kaiser Permanente**.

The company offers two products. Logidex is a metadata catalog for software development assets, designed to help IT shops manage, reuse and govern the software they already have, thus speeding development and improving application quality. Logiscan is an application security vulnerability scanner. It analyzes Java and x86 binaries for Windows, FreeBSD, Solaris and Linux; MIPS binaries for Windows CE and Linux; and Sparc binaries for Solaris, NetBSD and Linux.

Strategy | LogicLibrary's plan is to extend the notion of service-oriented governance to the application development team. In practice, this means persuading programmers to use Logidex and Logiscan to develop their J2EE and .NET applications. Those applications then hook via specified integration points into governance frameworks for deployed systems, such as a Web services management platform from **AmberPoint, Blue Titan** or **SOA Software**.

Within this strategy, Logidex should deliver architectural guidelines and supporting materials, governance over project-specific selection of those materials, traceability of materials used in a given project and feedback on how effective those materials turned out to be. To LogicLibrary, this bundle of features fulfills the promise of service-oriented architecture (SOA) governance for the development phase of the software lifecycle.

Technology | The latest release of the company's Logidex repository, version 3.6, includes a JBuilder plug-in, support for the open source Firefox Web browser, integration with Logiscan, better integration with Rational Application Developer and Rational Software Architect, and smart controls for federated repositories and asset production control. The federated repository feature is particularly important for large organizations with many business lines as they try to set up reuse initiatives. Libraries in multiple branch locations can fire automatic asset metadata updates via SOAP over HTTP(S) to a centralized enterprise library. Still to come is Logidex 4.0, slated for a Q3 release, with even more governance and integration with Rational.

The Logiscan product came to the company via its September 2004 acquisition of Sunnyvale, California-based BugScan. The software conducts static analysis of software binaries for security vulnerabilities. Because it doesn't need source code, you can run it on proprietary, closed-source packages – a key differentiator. The product plays nicely with critical IDEs Eclipse 3.0 and Rational Application Developer, and it includes a new visualization tool, AppExplorer. New APIs let Logiscan communicate with Logidex via SOAP. The company says the latest release also finds more bugs and supplies more meaningful reports.

Competition | The Logidex repository faces competition from **Flashline, OSTnet OpenSource Technologies** and **Select Business Solutions** in the proprietary software world, and **CollabNet** and **VA Software** on the open source side of the house. LogicLibrary also reports seeing homegrown tools and the use of spreadsheets as repositories. Meanwhile, Logiscan faces competition from code analysis tools from **Cleanscape Software, Coverity, Fortify Software, Klocwork, Ounce Labs, PolySpace, Secure Software Inc** and **SofCheck**.

SWOT analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
The scanning tool complements the repository by giving some assurance that bugs won't be replicated as code is reused. The company is obviously committed to providing the right hooks between products and into the rest of the software development infrastructure.	Much remains to be done. There are popular IDEs still unsupported, and while Logiscan talks to Logidex, it's a little harder to communicate the other way.
Opportunities	Threats
The proliferation of code scan providers hints at the promise of that market, while software asset repositories now form a small part of the burgeoning IT governance market.	The intersection of application development with IT governance is one that IBM and Mercury Interactive, in their different ways, each fully intend to dominate.

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