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Apitech **NEWS**

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EDITO

HOW DO YOU HANDLE DATA?

*With the forced acceleration towards a digitized economy, startups thriving on **innovation and disruption** have found their playpen. They come and challenge legacy players who had been resting too much on their laurels. Guess what their favourite tool is? **Data** !*

*This tool is too often neglected by the established organizations who ignore the opportunities offered by the **Big Data and machine learning**. Perhaps they are put off by access difficulties and non-compatible formats.*

*However, in the **Factory of Tomorrow**, elementary measurement data coming from intelligent sensors or automation and robotics equipment is gaining momentum with consolidation, predictive analysis and performance optimization. Accessing elementary data is now a major issue for all industry players.*

*Apitech is an expert in the area of industrial data collection using communication and consolidation modules. We can help you keep full control over your data. A nice way to start 2017 by exploring **new areas of growth** ! ■*

FOCUS

University of Rwanda capitalizes on local software developers. Dr. Luc Ngend, Head of the Computing Department at the **University of Rwanda** (<http://www.cst.ur.ac.rw>) in Kigali, explains the business model behind the **e-ntego platform**, which was rolled out in partnership with the **RTN** operator (<http://www.rtn.rw>) and Apitech. [\[more ...\]](#)

With REP Net 4.0, REP upgrades its machine supervision system. Nicolas Reboul (Automation Development Engineer) explains the issues surrounding the update of their supervision tool. A project fully in line with the "Factory of Tomorrow" and "Industry 4.0" initiatives. The stakes include the modernization of production tools using **web-based solutions and mobile terminals in open-ended and scalable industrial architectures**. [\[more ...\]](#)

IN BRIEF

Communicate: Apitech deploys a **secured videoconferencing platform** for an Eastern Africa operator.

Alert: Redmine (<http://www.redmine.org/>) event and alert notification application designed by Apitech for a French Ministry.

Read: Nicolas Dufourcq, BPI France's President, says "If you think France is in a bad shape, read (French industry news magazine) Usine Nouvelle from time to time".

AGENDA

- **September.** Attends **Africa2016** (<http://www.africa2016.org>) in Paris. Sets up partnerships for eCommerce platforms in Western Africa.
- **October.** Apitech carries out a market survey on **business management software**.
- **October.** Apitech develops **Microsoft Exchange 2016 connectors** for a French telecoms operator
- **Novembre.** Introduction and installation in Japan of **DiziSoft's** industrial optimization software developed by Apitech.

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University of Rwanda capitalizes on local software developers

As Head of the Computing Department at the **University of Rwanda in Kigali**, **Dr. Luc Ngend** is in charge of 3 campuses, one in the capital Kigali and the others in Huye and Musanze, respectively more than 100 kms South and North of the capital. Transport infrastructures are one of the many challenges faced by the country. This is also what triggered the creation of the e-ntego platform which was rolled out by Rwanda Telecenter Network (RTN) in partnership with Apitech, a long-standing contact of the University.

Originally a customization of the Orange Labs Open Source Emerginov platform, this toolbox enables the creation and deployment of mobile apps which offer **voice and data services** (voice server, SMS). An interesting feature of this platform is that

it provides digital services to populations without internet access or who do not have a smartphone.

*"This strategy which clearly focuses on promoting innovative digital services is based on a win-win business model i.e. **revenue is shared with local software developers**. The stakes are both commercial and social. Hands-on training courses have been arranged over a 5-day period for two different types of audiences: teachers and students who are members of the Science & Technologie college's incubator"* says Dr. Ngend.

The University supports open source development models, notably around



the forthcoming **FOSSIR** (Free and Open Source Software Initiative for Rwanda) project. Students will develop applications which will be provided on a cost-free basis to the community, the industry

or local authorities, with a view to generating enough revenue through maintenance agreements.

Through technological innovations and new partnership models, Apitech is proud to be able to contribute to the development of entrepreneurship in the country and satisfy the needs of emerging economies !

With REP Net 4.0, REP upgrades its machine supervision system

REP manufactures and exports rubber injection machines and rubber compression molding machines for household appliances as well as the car, electrical, pharmaceutical and military sectors. Nicolas Reboul explains how their environment operates and discusses the **issues behind the upgrade of their machine supervision tool**.

REP Net 4.0 centralizes the information coming from several machines including parameter validation or production data. The first software version originally released more than 30 years ago experienced many functional upgrades. The tool is based on the most recent evolutions in terms of tools (Computer aided software development) and environments (Dos, Unix, Windows ...).

However, in its latest version, a number of issues used to come up on a regular basis especially concerning the installation, portability, the look and feel and maintainability. Technically speaking, REP Net 4.0 - developed by Apitech - operates in an environment which includes the latest

technologies in order to **improve User Experience**.

*"Apitech already demonstrated their expertise in the past in a similar industrial context when they developed an interface which consolidated information coming from several controllers and robots. They also demonstrated their ability to operate in an **agile environment** which was a crucial factor as software releases had to be deployed on a regular basis. A standard, off-the shelf solution would have required numerous changes. Apitech adjusted to our requirements to be in line with the project's development and were **particularly responsive when we attended K2016** - the famous plastic and rubber trade show held every 3 years in Düsseldorf (Germany) - as they provided a hosting solution for REP Net App, our Web consultation application".* The web application is quite flexible: a production manager can check his fleet remotely using a smartphone. REP



also appreciates the scalability potential of the tool: increased connectivity between the injection machines and between the machines and the IT systems can be expected. There are great possibilities in terms of maintainability - for instance in the area of alarm management - as well as product and batch traceability. So, REP is well into the digital arena. Certainly Apitech will know how to support them as **industrial supervision** was their original expertise when they were founded in 1991.

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