Continuous Delivery Kagool and TDS Classic

Who

Kagool is a leading UK digital agency and top tier Sitecore
Platinum Partner, and the only UK agency with three Sitecore
MVPs (Most Valuable Professionals). Kagool advises global
brands on digital strategy to build websites that get the best out
of Sitecore. Among their other services are hosting, software
integration, SEO and support. Kagool's customers include
Fairtrade, Formica, Welsh Water, Saint Gobain, Britvic and
Manchester City Football Club, plus many more

How They Use It

Kagool's Sitecore development process is different from most Sitecore partners as they have a dedicated team of non-developer Sitecore experts that work alongside developers to create content architecture (templates, IA etc.) and optimize solutions. Because Kagool's development teams are able to share a single set of databases, TDS Classic comes in to play when deploying to QA, Staging UAT Live, etc.

TDS Classic is used as a deployment tool for continuous delivery; TDS Classic projects are synced exclusively when a build needs to leave the development environment. Kagool uses TDS Classic in conjunction with Octopus Deploy, Team city and Sitecore Package Deployer

The Advantages

TDS Classic has allowed Kagool to automate the build of Sitecore Update packages as part of their continuous delivery process. As a synchronization tool within Visual Studio, Razl is "invaluable in serializing and keeping track of Sitecore items".

The Benefits

Because of their unusual team structure, it has historically been difficult for Kagool to track Sitecore changes within the development environment. TDS Classic has helped them overcome that issue. They no longer need to be concerned about missing any items that have changed as all templates and layouts are now synced and deployed.