

Compare for Yourself Plastic SCM vs Perforce

Plastic SCM vs Perforce

By design, Plastic SCM speeds and secures software development, supporting Agile and Parallel methodologies in both local and distributed environments. For development teams of five or 500 members, comprising developers, partners and vendors, Plastic SCM is a robust and affordable Software Control & Configuration Management system, delivering enterprise-class functionality to maximize collaboration efficiency throughout the software development lifecycle. Perforce is a legacy client-server tool which cannot effectively support either parallel or distributed development and high costs for ongoing license fees and system administration. By comparison, Plastic SCM is the next generation SCCM system which helps development teams develop code faster, discover problems sooner, deliver higher quality and distribute product rapidly.

Parallel Development (Branching and Merging)

- Plastic SCM is designed for efficient and stable branching and merging with the innovative, patented XMerge and XDiff technology. Plastic SCM branches are first class objects; branching is simple and effective. The Plastic SCM GUI makes branch management easy and allows increased productivity with parallel development.
- Perforce recommends against Parallel development due to the Perforce product's rudimentary branching model, the difficulty in tracking merge history, the trouble handling renames and moves across branches and the complexity and overhead associated with the full branch and merge process. The Perforce serialized process requiring each user to check-in to the root depot and synch's after every change does not promote code stability and hinders the ability to manage complex changes and testing.

Truly Distributed Development

- Plastic SCM was designed to operate easily and efficiently in the demanding distributed environments on laptops, desktops, on the go and in virtual offices or across geographically dispersed sites. Replicating a branch or a repository is a simple point and click process. Plastic SCM is not tied to a centralized client-server working model - teams have full write access to distributed repositories based upon permissions, allowing changes to be bi-directionally synchronized and reconciled. Developers can also work offline with full use of features and functionality, anytime anywhere. Of course, if a Proxy-based setup is required, Plastic SCM also supports this configuration choice.
- Perforce is a proxy-based product which has operational challenges when the network is slow or files are large and it cannot be used at all if the network is down for any reason. Exclusively proxy-based systems have a single point of failure. Users cannot work off-line so when contact with the main server is not available, work stops and productivity goes to zero.

Plastic SCM vs Perforce

Database backend

- Plastic SCM allows teams to select which popular and stable back-end database they want to use including: SQL Server, MySQL, Oracle and Firebird. Using industry standard databases assures security and stability of the development environment. Plus, there is no added IT overhead for learning, maintaining, or backing up a proprietary database so existing IT infrastructure can be leveraged for optimal performance, reliability and scalability.
- Perforce uses a proprietary back-end server which adds burden and supportability tasks/costs and presents scalability challenges for system administrators.

Multi-server support

- Plastic SCM offers multi-server support out-of-the box at no additional charge. Server can work together for improved performance and scalability.
- Perforce does not offer multi-server support

File Sharing

- Allows files, directories, branches, labels and changesets to be shares between local and remote projects
- File sharing is not supported

Rename Support

- Carefully tracks moves and renames
- No support for moves or renames

Visualization

- Plastic SCM redefined traditional file history visualization with the Plastic SCM 3D version tree. Visualization is a centerpiece in Plastic SCM. For example, using Plastic SCM's branch explorer, users can perform every action graphically.
- Perforce implements some branch level diagrams for repository hierarchies.

Plastic SCM vs Perforce

Offline Development

- Plastic SCM developers can work when offline anytime, anywhere
- Perforce does not allow offline operation

ACL based security system

- Plastic SCM is built around Access Control Lists. Just a few clicks allows administrators or project managers to finely tune security rights.
- Perforce uses a confusing command line based security protection system which is both limited and difficult to administrate that has even resulting in code theft.

Cost

- Plastic SCM offers a range of per-user and site license options that are affordable and flexible.
- Perforce can cost thousands of dollars per user per year, plus the cost of an administrator.

Evolution

- Plastic SCM is the next generation SCCM product. It is used by thousands of developers worldwide whose feedback is monitored for new features and functionality to meet their changing needs. Plastic SCM evolves in tune with the market offering new features releases quarterly.
- Perforce is at the end of its lifecycle, based upon aging technology and it is no longer a dynamic rapidly evolving product.

***Plastic SCM is the next generation SCM system which allows development teams to:
Develop code faster • Discover problems sooner • Deliver higher quality • Distribute product rapidly.***

Visit www.codice software today to download a free trial!