

XAP 7.0 – The Story, the Vision, the Reality

Q. What do you think about the future of Java since Oracle bought it?

A. [Cees de Groot]: That's a predictable question. It's hard for me to predict the future, but I don't think a lot will change because the industry is simply too large for Oracle to ignore and so personally it might slow down a little bit or not, but Oracle simply does not have an option if they want to preserve the most of what they paid Sun for especially Java Technology and if you don't want to have an industry that's going to run away, They probably would need to just play along. So personally I would be very surprised if anything would change.

Q. Can GigaSpaces be deployed to EC2 or any other cloud platform?

A. [Nati Shalom]: EC2 for us is a first class citizen. We made our platform on EC2 available directly from our website, if you go to www.gigaspace.com/demo, you see the ability to actually run all the GigaSpaces demos in a production ready environment in a click of a button and that basically would run on top of EC2. Read more at www.gigaspace.com/cloud

Q. GigaSpaces and start-ups - how do you approach / help them?

A. [Nati Shalom]: We found that many startups need to use our product but could not afford the price. We therefore came out with the startup program. The startup program enables startups to use the product at no initial cost and pay only when they become profitable and successful.

Q. Why would a start-up with 3 people choose GigaSpaces?

A. [Nati Shalom]: It's basically a question of alternatives. In most cases your alternatives would be to take a set of free open source projects and build your product around them. This has the advantage that it's free but in many cases building a product around various frameworks that are not necessarily integrated together and doesn't provide holistic solution for scaling your application can be fairly complex. With GigaSpaces we aim to provide a more holistic approach which provides most of what you need to scale your entire application. That include the most common patterns such as partitioning, map/reduce, distributed-caching, auto-scaling, a sync-web, remoting, messaging etc. All runs on the same clustering mechanism. So you may find that even building a small scale application can be simpler with GigaSpaces then with alternatives. So if the only reason you would consider alternative solution is cost then you'll find that the different programs that we provide can answer that concern.

Q. A lot of emphasis in this presentation has been on Java. What about other technologies?

A. [Nati Shalom]: The project that was presented in this webinar was actually based on PHP. They used a bridge to communicate between their PHP environment and our Java servers. In addition to that GigaSpaces provides native support for .Net and C++

Q. What is support for Dot Net Plate form, for ASP.NET and Desktop application in C#?

A. [Nati Shalom]: Yes we have full support for .Net in our product. See details here: <http://www.gigaspace.com/wiki/display/XAP7NET/>.

Q. My question is about using GigaSpaces for an application that may not have scaling issues (few hundred users), but just want to use a middleware component that does not have many moving parts.

A. [Nati Shalom]: This is a good point. Users use GigaSpaces for that purpose or purely for high availability

not just for scalability. You will find that our pricing support that as well i.e. for basic high availability you can use the standard edition.

Q. Can Java and .NET interoperate? Share data?

A. [Nati Shalom]: Yes sure. You can find details here:
<http://www.gigaspace.com/wiki/display/XAP7NET/.NET+Java+Interoperability>

Q. How will you address the scaling on web server? As all the stuff was particularly about Database level scaling.

A. [Nati Shalom]: Yes, we have a fairly comprehensive support for scaling web application from the load-balancer to the database. You can read the details here:
<http://www.gigaspace.com/wiki/display/XAP7/Scaling+Your+Web+Application>

Q. What if there are too much update in data, is that scalable too?

A. [Nati Shalom]: The way you scale updates is by increasing the number of partitions in that case the load will be spread across the partitions and can scale up to x100 machines easily. You can read more about it here: http://natishalom.typepad.com/nati_shaloms_blog/2008/03/scaling-out-mys.html

Q. Cees, you mentioned that you would need to write some code/parts of the system that use concurrency. What kind of processing would this typically be? And now that you've worked with GigaSpaces, do you still expect to need a lot of this kind of programming? Are there any simplification benefits in this area?

A. [Cees de Groot]: We didn't have to write a lot of code for dealing with concurrency. We basically used GigaSpaces built-in components such as executors, map/reduce, polling containers etc. This enabled us to handle fairly complex tasks with just a few lines of code and therefore reduce the development effort quite significantly on this area.

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Visit our website at www.gigaspace.com, and:

- View [the recording](#) of this and other on-demand webinars
- See how easy it is to [scale your Java EE app](#) using GigaSpaces XAP
- Check out what GigaSpaces XAP [users are saying](#)
- Read our [documentation](#) about GigaSpaces XAP autoscaling capabilities and the specific example demonstrated in the webinar

About GigaSpaces

GigaSpaces Technologies is a leading provider of scalability solutions for Java, .Net and C++. The company's flagship product, GigaSpaces eXtreme Application Platform (XAP), is a next-generation application server built for today's most demanding enterprise and web applications. Unlike traditional application servers, GigaSpaces XAP scales predictably and on-demand, and integrates with existing development frameworks. GigaSpaces customers include leaders in financial services, telecommunications, government, manufacturing, oil & gas, on the Web and other industries.

U.S. Headquarters

GigaSpaces Technologies Inc.
317 Madison Ave, Suite 823
New York, NY 10017
Tel: 646-421-2830
Fax: 646-421-2859

International Office

GigaSpaces Technologies Ltd.
4 Maskit St., P.O. Box 4063
Herzliya 46140, Israel
Tel: +972-9-952-6751
Fax: +972-9-956-4410

Europe Office

GigaSpaces Technologies Ltd.
2 Sheraton St.
London, W1F 8BH, United Kingdom
Tel: +44-207-117-0213
Fax: +44-870-383-5135

Asia Pacific Office

GigaSpaces Technologies Ltd.
Level 21, Centennial Tower
3 Temasek Avenue
Singapore, 039190
Tel: +65-6549-7220
Fax: +65-6549-7001

Corporate site: www.gigaspace.com
Team's Blog: blog.gigaspace.com
Community Site: www.openspace.org