



7.21 Meister and Mojo Feature Review

A summary of enhancements that are included in the 7.21 release of OpenMake Meister and Mojo.

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7.21 Feature Overview

This document outlines the feature enhancements that are included in the 7.21 release of Meister and Mojo. The 7.21 release focuses primarily on providing customer requested enhancements. The 7.21 release delivers specific enhancements requested by our top "power users" of both Meister and Mojo. Close to 100 enhancements and bug fixes are included in the 7.21 release.

Specific features to note are clarifications on how to implement "pre-commit" builds for continuous integration and the ability for workflows to nest other workflows.

7.21 also prepares a clean roadmap for the 7.22 release which will involve the re-organization of Project and Workflow components. 7.22 will be GA 2nd quarter of 2009.

TGT Generation

The TGT Generator was introduced in Mesiter 7.2. The following enhancements have been added:

- TGT Generator improved for RAD 6
- Enhanced the cooperation of Meister and the TGT Generator Plugins in the same Eclipse instance.
- Build Services enhanced to manage webxml= and appxml= attributes set for files that are in "Exclude" mappings.

Pre-Commit Builds

Pre-Commit builds is the process of building code before it is checked into the SCM tool ensuring that the code changes do not break the build after it is committed to the SCM repository. We currently provide this in a very advanced way. The 7.21 documentation includes detailed information on how to define this process using dependency directories.

Target Editor Enhancements

The use of "exclude" file types is needed for the easy use of wildcards. Enhancements to the TGT Editor have been added to better manage "excludes". This includes enhancing the use of a "path" when wildcarding. The TGT Editor has also been enhanced to handle Eclipse 3.3 tree views and tree filters. Additional improvements have been made to resolve inconsistencies reported in the displaying of the Save As and OK options.

Build Services

Build Services are unique to only Meister. Build Services support the calling and management of compilers, linkers, build engines and software utilities. Enhancements to build services included updates to the Microsoft .Net Add-in, the ability to manage version information with the dependency directory data, and improving the Build Services Editor. Below is a list of specific updates to Meister's Build Services.

Build Services now handles a 0 byte .rsp file. This resolves starting a local build from an integration class when %TEMP% has a space.
linux 641 omsubmit was not exiting after updating DB. The checkRunningOmsubmit function was modified to use getuid() instead of environment variables.
-g:none was removed as a default in Java compiles
Build Service Editor - Options Window - "Up" and "Down" buttons disabled once you click on of them.
Dependency Directory Editor enhanced to handle "Up" and "Down" sort buttons.
Junit activity improved to prevent SAX parsing errors in tomcat logs
When Creating a Target File, the standard Options from the build type are now visible and therefore optional flags from the build services can be selectable.
Enhanced .Net Build Service to allow skipping commands that are flagged as - ignore-pre-post in the Target file.
omcmdline.jar enhanced to take commands from MSBuild and TeamBuild

Build Services enhanced to read Target and Dependency version data from new TGT format and write info into the Build Control File.
Enhanced Build Services to concatenate the Target Name with the Target Version Data if it is defined.
Enhanced Build Services to be case aware when building java jar final target
Error handling added to the copy_files.pl script.

Workflow Enhancements

Enhancements to the Mojo and Meister Workflow include a variety of new features and fixes, including the addition of nested workflows within a workflow.

Workflows are series of activities need to support pre and post build actions, for example a call to your version control tool to perform a check-out prior to calling Meister Build Services to execute a build. With Mojo and Meister 7.21, a Workflow can now include a nested Workflow. This allows a template workflow to be re-used by other workflows. Minimizing Workflows simplifies your overall build environment and allows your developers to be more productive by borrowing from what already works.

Below are a list of improvements made to the Workflow components.

Tabbing through email was improved for ease of use.
"om complete"/"build job complete" activities are generalized so they can be skipped in a workflow.
Inconsistent data display in Activity editor fixed.
Fix applied to Logger to prevent double entries in workflow log explorer.
Fixed applied to Continuous integration Server loop to restart after executing a Workflow.
Inconsistencies in saving changes to the Activity type resolved.
User and Group Privileges corrected to allow Users to creates public workflows without losing access.

An edit check is now in place to restrict the use of pre-defined macros such as \$(BUILD_DIRECTORY) when defining workflows.

Enhancement to the Build Manager Server connection added so that connection is established anytime that Workflows are loaded.

Email enhanced to support HTML format emails.

Management Control Console Menu options renamed for clarity.

Enhancements added to workflow chaining to deal with removed activities that had other dependent activities.

Enhanced the double click on row in the Workflow Monitor to display html log.

Added Activity Plugin for nested workflows.

Installation Improvements

Because Meister integrates at a deep level with many development tools, compilers, build engines, and ALM partners, the installation can require many steps and pre-installed components. We have updated the installer to simplify some of these steps and address particular problems unique to certain operating systems. Below is a list of the installation improvements.

During install, if a machine restart is needed, a message is not displayed. This occurs on first time installs and shows up as an Admin perspective error.
Installer modified to handle Vista Security and update of registration keys with the KB Server.
Clarified install documentation on how to handle setting up variables at a system level for command line executables.
The Auto-installer now registers the MSBuild .NET Scanner and the VS 2005 Addin
Update Site enabled for Mojo and Meister
The installer has removed ENV variables to handle Vista properly.
Install directory can now include spaces in the name.
HP-UX X-windows first run doesn't think this is a new install
JAVA_HOME on Preferences->Openmake->Machine->Client Tab allows for blank JAVA_HOME
Correct Start Menu options added to the RBS Service Install.
Added the license expiration date to the Admin summary screen.
Start Menu shortcuts added for the installation and getting started documents.
Added a License Agreement dialog at startup
Fix applied to handle the omenvironment.properties OPENMAKE_SERVER value on client/RBS only installs
Error message displayed on start up for an expired license.
Installer now checking for an existing KB Server install.

Additional Anomalies Addressed

Below is list of anomalies addressed in 7.21 reported by our internal staff during testing, or reported by existing customers.

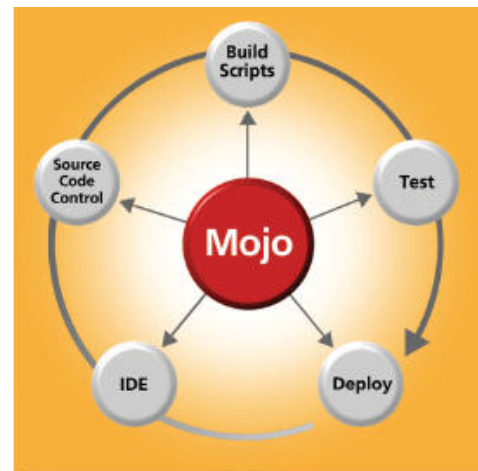
Meister cannot connect to KB on first run, need to restart
The Preference screen was enhanced so all components are now easily visible without scrolling. Preferences > Machine window - layout previously did not show all elements.
KB server attempts to create mgmt table when it already exists
Build Method editor does not load the Dot Net Solution Build.sc
When submitting builds to a Remote Server that is not working, an error dialog is now displayed to the user.
AIX, HP-UX - Build Service Editor - Rule Wizard was not displaying file extensions.
linux and unix cannot run builds because of permissions on the extracted client
Build Service Rules missing MakefileName tag
Build Service Editor - editing an option does not prompt a save.
Build Job complete not being created from omcmdline.jar builds - causing incorrect success/error completion.
User Privileges enhanced to prevent "user" from creating Projects/Directories.

About Meister

Meister provides build services that allow a dynamic and adaptive method for managing builds from the most detailed level of compile management to the broader Application Lifecycle workflow requirements. Through its build services, Meister eliminates the redundancies normally found in ad hoc scripting. For developers who are working within agile methodologies, Meister's community-developed knowledgebase provides reusable templates which are sustainable roadmaps for the software build challenge; without relying on static, homegrown scripts. Meister offers agile developers maximum protection from failed builds and releases by providing improved traceability, adaptability, impact analysis and audit control. In summary, Meister improves software quality and speed by leveraging reuse and consistency in the build-to-release process.

About Mojo

OpenMake Mojo is the only tool you will ever need for automating, centralizing and accelerating your software development processes from build to release. Mojo automates processes through its unique community-developed knowledgebase. Workflow hand offs, logs, and reports are centralized across multiple teams and hardware platform. Build to release cycles are accelerated with Mojo's multi step activity synchronization and continuous build support.



Mojo Process Automation

Additional Information

For more information on all the features Meister can bring to the CI build processes please visit <http://www.openmakesoftware.com/build-management-white-papers/> for additional whitepapers and information.

For a free continuous integration server with build to release workflow processing – go to www.openmakesoftware.com/get-mojo/

Company Overview

Meister has been revealing the "secret art" of the build to release process through a reusable, community-developed knowledgebase since 1995. Meister is used by Global 2000 customers worldwide, representing approximately 40,000 end users.

North American Headquarters

General Info: request-info@openmakesoftware.com

OpenMake Software

213 W. Institute Place, #404

Chicago, IL 60610

Ph: 800.359.8049 – 312.440.9545