

META Group Ranks Candle in Leader Category for IBM's WebSphere MQ Management Tools

Candle's WebSphere Monitoring and Management Solution Earns High Marks Across Key Evaluation Criteria According to METASpectrum for WebSphere MQ Management Tools Analysis

Sydney, Australia - October 25, 2002 - Candle Corporation, a leading enterprise infrastructure management provider, today announced that it has been ranked as a market leader in META Group Inc.'s METASpectrumSM for WebSphere MQ Management Tools analysis. META Group named Candle a market leader based on Candle's broad set of WebSphere MQ tools, strong consulting and service offerings, along with a proven systems management heritage. META Group is a leading research and consulting company that focuses on IT and business transformation strategies.

Combining innovation and ease of use, Candle brings more than 26 years of experience in enterprise systems management solutions to accelerate customers' WebSphere initiatives. Since introducing systems management solutions for IBM middleware in 1996, Candle's management capabilities have been enabling customers to gain visibility into the business impact of application and systems performance. As a result, Candle customers are able to align their IT with business objectives. Global business leaders rely on Candle's WebSphere management solutions to build, deploy and manage their mission-critical e-business infrastructures.

"Businesses are wisely selecting WebSphere management vendors based on the combination of a proven track record, technology innovation, vendor viability and product offering breadth," said Corey Ferengul, senior program director, META Group.

"The ability to calibrate for system performance throughout the WebSphere MQ planning, building and deploying phases is critical to providing the power and flexibility to support enterprise business requirements."

In addition to earning an overall leadership designation in the METASpectrum for WebSphere MQ Management Tools analysis, Candle also received high marks in key evaluation criteria, including technology and services.

"We are extremely pleased that the META Group has recognised Candle as the premiere provider of WebSphere MQ management tools," said John Bostelman, General Manager Australia and New Zealand, Candle Corporation. "To truly harness WebSphere infrastructure, businesses must have the specialised tools to ensure the high performance and scalability required to support their critical applications. The latest METASpectrum further reflects Candle's demonstrated WebSphere MQ management tools expertise. With high marks across the board, Candle clearly earned the leadership designation in the METASpectrum for WebSphere MQ Management Tools analysis."

IBM Corp.'s WebSphere MQ is powerful middleware that provides the infrastructure to integrate business applications and processes across the enterprise. Using WebSphere MQ, companies can sidestep technology interoperability hurdles and enable users to access different types of applications across multiple computing platforms. For example, WebSphere MQ can link newer Web-based applications with more traditional mainframe-based systems.

About METASpectrum

METASpectrumSM evaluations from META Group (Nasdaq: METG) provide IT professionals with a view into critical market success factors and vendor positioning. METASpectrum, in combination with META Group's SPEX modules - which provide detailed technical analysis of product features and capabilities - delivers comprehensive evaluations of both technology markets and vendor product offerings. There are multiple market evaluations planned for release in 2002. METASpectrum evaluations are a standard component of a META Group retainer service subscription and are updated quarterly, biannually, or annually, depending on the characteristics of individual markets. To view completed market evaluations, or learn more about the METASpectrum methodology, visit www.metagroup.com/metaspectrum. For more information on META Group's SPEX offerings, visit www.checkspex.com.

About Candle Corporation

Candle Corporation provides solutions to manage and optimise business-critical infrastructures, systems, service levels and other information technology assets. By enabling companies to manage the performance and availability of their systems and applications across multiple environments,

Candle empowers customers to align IT investments with business value. More than 3,000 of the world's largest companies use Candle products and consulting services, including 73 percent of the Global 100. With more than 5,000 customer sites in 60 countries, Candle is one of the world's largest independent software and services companies. Candle is headquartered in El Segundo, California. For more information, visit www.candle.com.

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