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SmartBear releases new version of Collaborator code-review tool

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SmartBear, which recently changed PE ownership to Francisco Partners, focuses on providing management software that supports the application-delivery processes. Its offerings target development, testing, API readiness and user-experience monitoring across desktop, web and mobile platforms. The company now has a total of five software development centers backed by more than 300 employees. SmartBear currently has about 20,000 customers and claims to continue being highly profitable. We estimate that its revenue is almost \$100m for the 2016 fiscal year.

SmartBear recently announced its release of a new version of Collaborator. According to the company, it is the only code and document review tool that integrates with the three largest repository management offerings. This provides flexibility for development teams to leverage a single review tool across teams, regardless of the repository or version-control tools they are using. In an increasingly fragmented micro-services environment, or across external suppliers, this could be valuable. New functionality allows users to automatically create reviews any time a pull request is created. In addition to creating review, the pull request can be merged or the branch deleted upon completion. Competition most importantly includes built-in functionality in GitHub, or open-source tool Gerrit, which is more fully featured. Atlassian, GitLab, CollabNet, Microsoft IBM and others also target the space.

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