



Business Case

This document should help you in constructing a business case to justify the purchase of an MQGem Software licence. It considers a number of aspects such as cost, time savings, quality, and employee satisfaction although you may well have other reasons too. If you have any feedback, such as additional reasons, we would love to hear from you.

Dollar Price

Of course cost is often the primary consideration so let's take a moment to think about it in some detail. A single user Emerald licence from MQGem Software costs about \$1.50 per week. Your typical employee costs you somewhere around \$1 per minute. This means that if the tool you are considering buying can save your employee just two minutes per week then the product pays for itself just in costs alone. That is quite apart from the benefits for users in having a useful tool that will potentially increase the quality of what they do, as well as making the job easier.

Of course if you have a team of people and buy a Diamond licence then the costs per user drops still further. For example, suppose you have a team of 20 people, then a Diamond licence works out at just 58 cents per week per person, and for even larger teams it can become practically negligible.

Time Savings

So can a tool save you two minutes a week, and thus pay for itself? There are many examples of how each of the MQGem Software tools can become time-saving tools for your MQ administrators.

Look at MO71, our GUI Administrator for MQ. When you receive an alert from an IBM MQ queue manager

Highlights

- Cheaper than a cup of coffee a week
- Save yourself 2 minutes a week and it's paid for itself
- Gain longer term savings with improvements to quality
- Improve employee satisfaction

in the form of an event message, you are saved time because you can immediately view the formatted event message to understand exactly what it is telling you, instead of having to pick through a hex view of the message to extract the relevant information. The same is true for messages on the Dead-Letter queue, or indeed any IBM MQ built-in message format.

MO71 filters can also save you time by allowing you to issue more complex queries. For example, suppose someone asks you whether any of your queues are more than half full. This would take time with standard facilities, but is trivial using MO71 or MQSCX. Export-

ing the results of such queries to either text or CSV can also save huge amounts of time if you need to generate reports about your MQ estate.

With MQEDIT, knowledge of your own user formats can be added to the tool. This can make diagnosing a poison message that has halted an application, much faster.

Repeatable tasks make for great time savings. MQSCX, our extended MQSC scripting tool, allows you to generate reports about your queue managers by interrogating the queue manager using the commands IBM MQ provides and then combining the results in

"We LOVE MO71! It is not simply a utility we use occasionally - it is a vital tool for administering hundreds of Mainframe and Distributed Qmgrs that we, frankly, can't live without."

ways not possible with the IBM MQ product alone. You can build scripts that have conditional statements in them, removing the need for operations staff to know only to run this script if a certain condition is true – the script can check it and only run the commands needed when it is appropriate to do so. A simple example could be only to start the listener if it is not already running, but there are many other examples.

Quality Improvements

Ensure that human error doesn't creep into your IBM MQ object definitions by allowing MO71 to enforce your naming conventions for object definitions. Compare what you already have across test and production to find discrepancies between objects that already exist which should be defined with the same attributes.

MQEDIT can make generating test data, both correctly formatted, and perhaps more importantly, incorrectly formatted, much simpler. How much time can you save in the future if your application starts life more resilient to badly formed messages because it was easier for your development team to generate them in the first place?

Use MQSCX to make deploying the objects needed for a new application, accurate and error-free by generating the script to define them in development, and testing it, along with the application, in each stage of your environment. Through the use of parameters passed into the script for strings like the queue manager name, which change at each environment stage through development, test, QA and production, you can be sure that the script will work without any untested changes by the time it reaches production.

Employee Satisfaction

A much less quantifiable factor is that of employee satisfaction. The improvement in employee satisfaction when using a well written, useful tool to do the tasks that need to be done cannot be underestimated. By contrast, trying to do a job without a suitable tool for the task can be both time consuming, frustrating and morale sapping. You often

also find that the solution is less maintainable and more error prone.

“Do yourself a favor and get MO71 from MQGem. Even if you have to pay for a single user license from your own pocket. It will make you a better MQ Admin - promise.”

Because of this a number of people have bought single user Emerald licences out of

their own pocket in order to be able to do their job well. The following year, after the benefits of the product have become clear, the business has been more than happy to purchase the licence for all their MQ staff to use.

Customer Comments

Don't take our word for it though, read the comments from our customers by visiting:

<http://www.mqgem.com/customers.html>

... and then try any of our products out for free with a no-obligation, one month trial licence. Email support@mqgem.com for yours.

For more information

To learn more about how MQGem Software products such as MO71, MQSCX, QLOAD and MQEDIT can help your MQ staff manage your queue managers, contact us by email on support@mqgem.com, or visit:

<http://www.mqgem.com/products.html>



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