

SpikeSource opens up Europe

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SpikeSource, a US-based open-source application provider, last week announced a series of new partnerships as it completed the official launch of its European operations.

SpikeSource unveiled resale agreements with seven European systems integrators, including UK-based LinuxIT, and inked a major alliance with open-source software distributor Interactive Ideas.

The firm has also extended its portfolio of business applications, confirming a new partnership with Alfresco, a UK-based vendor of open-source enterprise content management (ECM) software.

Alfresco's ECM suite has been certified on SpikeSource's SpikeIgnite Platform, joining other open-source applications such as Centric



Polese: Automated capabilities make it easier for firms to deploy open source

CRM, Open-Xchange's email suite, Drupal's web content management toolkit and JasperSoft's business intelligence tools.

SpikeSource chief executive, Kim Polese, said the company is looking to certify more apps on the SpikeIgnite platform. She said the platform helps companies to use open-source application suites by automating the interoperability testing, patching, integration and governance processes required to deploy and manage the software.

"We provide an automated test framework that runs 100,000 tests

on a nightly basis," Polese said. "It enables firms to take advantage of open source, but to do so in a more cost-effective way."

The platform is also supported by a subscription-based SpikeNet service that provides customers with regular patches, updates and security alerts, Polese added.

Joaquin Ruiz, vice-president of marketing and product management at SpikeSource, said that the SpikeIgnite platform makes it simpler, especially for smaller organisations, to realise the cost savings promised by the open-source model.

The company also announced a major hardware alliance with Japanese giant NEC. Under the agreement, NEC will provide funding for the privately-held company, while also bundling Ignite with the NEC Express Server line.

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