IBM to Bring Swift to the Cloud to Radically Simplify End-to-End Development of Apps

Preview showcases new Swift on the server capabilities, designed to simplify the way developers build the next generation of enterprise apps.

IBM INTERCONNECT 2016, LAS VEGAS - 22 Feb 2016: IBM (NYSE: IBM) today announced the next phase of its roadmap to bring Swift to the Cloud with a preview of a Swift runtime and a Swift Package Catalog to help enable developers to create apps for the enterprise. IBM is the first cloud provider to enable the development of applications in native Swift – a powerful and intuitive programming language – unlocking its full potential in radically simplifying the development of end-to-end apps on the IBM Cloud.

Today's announcement is a key next step in IBM and Apple's shared journey to help enterprises advance their mobile strategy with innovative app design, analytics, process transformation and integration required for a mobile first experience. As one of the largest users of Swift for mobile app development, IBM has a deep understanding of the advantages of Swift and the knowledge to assist enterprises in maximizing the true potential that server-side Swift will provide.

Introduced in 2014, Swift is one of the fastest growing and most widely used programming languages. In just over two months since Apple open sourced the Swift language and IBM released its Swift Sandbox for early exploration of server-side programming in Swift, more than 100,000 developers from around the world have used the IBM Swift Sandbox and more than half a million code runs have been executed in the Sandbox to date.

IBM is committed to maturing the use of Swift as a server-side language for enterprise development. Traditionally, different technologies are used to develop the application on the client and the business logic on the server. By bringing Swift beyond the client to the server, IBM is breaking down barriers between front-end and back-end development, which can provide enterprises a single language to build rich experiences and back-end business logic. Enterprises can benefit from increased speed and efficiency while simultaneously taking advantage of growing availability of Swift skills. Using Swift on the server also introduces a simpler, more secure toolchain for end-to-end application development.

"Modern digital apps require a modern programming language. Swift is easy-to-learn, reliable, fast and interactive, the key traits that CIOs look for when building the next generation of enterprise mobile apps," said Michael Gilfix, Vice President, IBM MobileFirst Offering Management. "Swift on the Cloud is an opportunity for enterprises to radically simplify the development of end-to-end applications and therefore reach new levels of productivity."

IBM Swift engineers are also working with the growing Swift.org developer community and are most notably focused on contributing to concurrency on multicore hardware, which is critical for enterprise-scale workloads. IBM is excited to announce the release of a number of resources that will further enable the community to

explore, build and share Swift assets.

Developers can start exploring the benefits of Swift on the IBM Cloud in three ways,

- **Experiment in the Swift Sandbox:** Quickly experiment with open sourced Swift, ramp up your skill set and learn what Swift can do for your enterprise by checking out new enhancements to the Swift Sandbox.
- **Develop and Deploy:** Start building end-to-end applications on Bluemix and quickly deploy them with Kitura, a new open source web server released by IBM, on both OSX and Linux.
- **Share Swift Resources:** Leverage code across projects by creating packages and submitting them to the Swift Package Catalog on Bluemix to encourage sharing of new Swift resources with the global developer community.

For more information and to get started with Swift on the Cloud, please visit http://www.ibm.com/cloud-computing/bluemix/swift/.

About IBM MobileFirst
IBM's 6,000 mobile experts have been at the forefront of mobile enterprise innovation. IBM has secured more than 4,300 patents in mobile, social and security, which have been incorporated into IBM MobileFirst solutions that enable enterprise clients to radically streamline and accelerate mobile adoption, help organizations engage more people and capture new markets. For more information on IBM MobileFirst, visit the press kit or www.ibm.com/mobilefirst. Follow @IBMMobile on Twitter, and see IBM MobileFirst on YouTube, Tumblr and Facebook.

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