Variants Management

- Manage multiple product variants efficiently
- Reuse specifications and artifacts to avoid rework & ensure compliance
- Define, manage and monitor the development of several product variants in a product line
- Ensure gapless traceability across the lifecycle for any number of product variants
Overview

In today’s market environment characterized by increasing granularity and the need to address this by mass-customized products to satisfy different user needs, efficiently managing multiple product variations is a challenge. Variations of your product may share certain features, and differ in others to fulfill different customer requirements. Responding to these needs quickly and efficiently can help your company gain a competitive advantage over other players in the market.

Reducing redundant work (rework) by reusing components, and dynamically adjusting the requirements of each product variant according to its planned features and components helps reduce time to market, and control development costs.

codeBeamer’s Variants Management functionality allows you to keep track of multiple product variants, and helps you manage the development of each product feature variant in an efficient manner. Its advanced features and capabilities let you define features, variants, and manage & oversee the development of each product variant from requirements all the way to release.
Main Features

Traceability

codeBeamer’s Variants Management functionality not only helps you control the development processes involved in creating the specification of, and building multiple product variants – in doing so, it also helps you maintain gapless end-to-end (bi-directional) traceability throughout the development lifecycle. Specific preconfigured workflows automatically establish links between certain work items, but other relationships may also be conveniently added & managed. Changes to all your work items are logged automatically, and may be reviewed at any point in time.

Feature Model

The Feature Model is basically a pool of all the possible features that contribute to all of the product variants in your product line. A property will have to be assigned to each feature, defining whether the feature is:

- Mandatory: should be included in all product variants
- Optional: the feature can be freely included or excluded in variants
- Alternative: exactly one feature from this group will have to be included in the product variant
- Or: at least one feature from this group will have to be included in the variant
Master Specification Document

As the name implies, the Master Specification Document is a comprehensive document that contains all the components and artifacts such as requirements, test cases, risks, etc. of all the products in your product line. codeBeamer’s Variants Management feature set allows you to specify different types of requirements (for instance, functional, non-functional, system, or software requirements, and more).

Product Variants

Product variants may be defined by simply assigning features from the Feature Model based on the feature properties defined earlier. For example, mandatory features will have to be included in all product variants. Assigning the related artifacts to your product variants enables you to move on to the actual development lifecycle, managing the entire process through codeBeamer’s integrated architecture.
Variants Specification Documents

Once you have all your features listed in the Feature Model, their relevant work items (artifacts) defined in the Master Specification Document, and the features for each product variant laid out, you can move on to creating Variants Specification Documents. These documents contain all the work items relevant to that specific product variant. codeBeamer ALM allows you to automatically filter adequate feature specifications and to export them to various formats (Excel, Word, ReqIF, etc).

Reusability

Features, variants, specifications and artifacts (requirements, source code, test cases, etc.) may be simply reused for further product variants, greatly reducing the time and effort needed to plan and develop additional product types. What’s more, reusing “proven” or certified artifacts (work items that have proven to be compliant with regulations and standards) facilitates compliance audits for each new product variant.
codeBeamer Variants Management Feature List

- Gapless end-to-end traceability from product idea through product variants specifications, artifacts, testing, and release
- Feature Model with property logics to collect all possible features of all product variants in a product line
- Master Specification Document to store and manage all components and artifacts of all products pertaining to a product line
- Ability to define Product Variants conveniently, and to start their development right away while maintaining traceability
- Exportable Variants Specification Documents contain all the artifacts of each product variant
- Reuse features, variants, specifications and artifacts in further product variants to avoid redundant work

For a detailed overview of codeBeamer’s features and license types, please see our website's Features page.

Our Customers

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