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HiT Software and Altova Unify XML and Relational Database Application Development

New product integration facilitates bi-directional mapping and persistence of XML data stored in relational databases.

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HiT Software Inc. and Altova today announced a new product integration between Altova's XMLSPY 5, the industry standard XML Development Environment, and HiT Software's winAllora Xpress, a powerful bi-directional data mapping utility that facilitates conversion of XML and relational data. When used together, the two products allow software application developers to utilize the advanced relational database-to-XML mapping utilities of HiT Software's winAllora Xpress, directly from within the XMLSPY 5 development environment. The winAllora plug-in for XMLSPY 5 is available immediately for download.

XML is today the standard format for expressing and exchanging business data, yet the vast majority of corporate data still resides in relational databases. Today's enterprise applications require support for both XML and relational database technologies, leveraging the open, integration-friendly nature of XML in conjunction with the performance and efficiency of the relational database storage model. Realizing such hybrid relational database and XML integration applications require developers to implement significant amount of mapping code – a complex and time consuming process due to differences between the relational and XML data storage models. Now developers can use the XMLSPY 5 XML Schema editor to model data elements, then use graphical tools in winAllora Xpress to define XML Schema to relational database mappings, or, inspect existing database tables and relationships and auto-generate an XML Schema with winAllora Xpress, and refine the XML Schema in XMLSPY 5.

"The winAllora Xpress plug-in for XMLSPY 5 provides a unified, database-independent means for integrating XML data with relational databases", said Alexander Falk, President & CEO of Altova Inc. "This XML-centric view of relational data greatly simplifies application messaging and integration."

"XMLSPY's XML Schema editor and winAllora Xpress' data mapping utilities substantially reduce the amount of time a software developer must spend to implement XML-enabled applications that use relational data", said Giacomo Lorenzin, CEO of HiT Software. "The combination of XMLSPY and winAllora Xpress offers developers a powerful XML development environment with a common interface regardless of the relational database where the data is stored. This results in simplified application architectures and minimizes development and maintenance costs over a project's lifetime."

Pricing and Availability

A free trial version of XMLSPY Enterprise Edition 5 can be downloaded from www.altova.com/download. For a complete price listing of Altova products, visit the Altova Online Shop at www.altova.com/order.

A free trial of winAllora Xpress 3.1 can be downloaded from http://www.hitsw.com/products_services/xml_platform/winallora_xp.html and includes the XMLSPY integration module.

About HiT Software:

Founded in 1994 and based in San Jose, California, HiT Software provides relational database access middleware for Windows and Java applications. HiT Software products include Allora XML middleware, SQL middleware, DB2Motion replication, and the HiT SSL Server. These products help organizations "Open Up their Data" for maximum value.

HiT products are sold and serviced worldwide by the HiT direct sales, international subsidiaries and authorized channel partners. HiT Software is a member of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). Additional information is available at www.hitsw.com, by sending e-mail to info@hitsw.com, or by calling (408) 345-4001.

About Altova:

Altova is a leading provider of XML software development tools with offices in Beverly, MA and headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The privately held company was founded in 1992 and has been actively involved in the XML market from the early conception of XML. Altova's XMLSPY 5 is the leading choice of all Fortune 500 and Global 1,000 companies, with over a million registered users worldwide. Altova is a member of the **World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)** and the **Web Services Interoperability Consortium (WS-I)**. Visit Altova on the Web at <http://www.altova.com>

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