

Virtualized Build and Test Automation

DYNAMICALLY PROVISION VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS USING ELECTRICCOMMANDER

"In recent research, we found that organizations reported an average reduction in their development and testing costs by as much as 50% per project through the use of virtual machines. Our research in software production management shows that productivity was increased by as much as 12 times when using software production management tools. Every organization needs to include virtualization and software production management in their lifecycle strategy."¹

— **Theresa Lanowitz,**
Industry Analyst, Voke

Most enterprise software build and test infrastructures are ripe for automation and virtualization:

- Multiple, disconnected build and test systems across locations
- Dedicated, underutilized hardware
- Home-built systems that are inflexible and don't scale
- Slow overall release cycles

ElectricCommander® is the perfect complement to virtual machines, making software production processes and tools as easy to configure, flexible, and self-service as the virtualized environments on which they run.

ElectricCommander can run build-test-deploy procedures on any type of resource, whether physical servers, virtual machines, or cloud-based resources. Since Commander views these resources as equivalents, a mix of physical or virtual resources can be used on the same project or procedure, as needed.

ElectricCommander also features integrations with VMware® Lab Manager and Microsoft® System Center Virtual Machine Manager for dynamic resource provisioning.

When used in conjunction with a virtual infrastructure, ElectricCommander provides a "self-service" virtual lab that:

- Dramatically reduces server sprawl through consolidation
- Cuts the effort required to configure and run environments
- Improves quality through frequent compiling and testing
- Reduces the development organization's dependence on IT operations
- Reduces development and testing costs as much as 50%

1. From Voke Market Snapshots "Virtual Lab Automation," and "Software Production Management," Theresa Lanowitz and Lisa Dronzek.

These integrations allows ElectricCommander users to create simple steps in their build and test procedures which will automatically trigger the virtual lab system to provision virtual servers and clean them up. For example, users can request a particular configuration from a library, have that configuration set up, run an automated build and smoke test, and then tear down the configuration—with no manual intervention. The experience is seamless from within the ElectricCommander interface.

This capability gives developers the ability to build and test across multiple platforms and configurations prior to code check-in. QA has the ability to automatically snapshot virtual environments for troubleshooting if there's a failure. For IT operations, this translates to fewer dedicated hardware resources, and fewer ad hoc resource requests from development.

For software development organizations overall, this equates to reduced infrastructure costs, lower administrative overhead, better test coverage across platforms, and better software quality.

ABOUT ELECTRICCOMMANDER

ElectricCommander is the only enterprise-class solution for automating and managing software build-test-deploy processes. It is language- and tool-agnostic, so in any environment it will make software production tasks more repeatable, more visible, and more efficient. ElectricCommander distributes individual jobs in parallel across multiple physical or virtual servers (or pools of servers) for faster throughput and efficient resource utilization.

ElectricCommander has an extensible architecture that can scale to manage many projects across the organization. It provides the reporting and visibility you need for compliance efforts and release planning, plus unprecedented dynamic resource provisioning for either physical or virtual resources. Teams can integrate and validate against all target platforms and configurations, improving software quality.

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Whether an organization wants to implement Continuous Integration, provide on-demand developer builds and tests, or tie together disparate ALM tools for a complete, automated release process, ElectricCommander can simplify and automate these typically manual tasks.

ABOUT ELECTRIC CLOUD

Electric Cloud® is the leading provider of Software Production Management (SPM) solutions. Electric Cloud solutions automate, accelerate, and analyze software build-test-deploy processes to optimize both physical and virtual IT environments. The company's patented and award-winning products help development organizations to speed time to market, boost developer productivity, and improve software quality. Leading companies across a variety of industries, including semiconductors, enterprise IT, ISVs, mobile devices, and transactional web sites rely on Electric Cloud's Software Production Management solutions to transform software production from a liability to a competitive advantage. For customer inquiries please contact Electric Cloud at (408) 419-4300 or www.electric-cloud.com.