



Success Story

Streamlining software development for a leading social media company

Our client, a renowned social media company, engages millions of users daily. For an enterprise of this magnitude, a high-functioning software build system is essential. However, their developers worked with outdated tools and cumbersome processes, hindering productivity and performance. This is when the company sought [VirtusLab](#)'s expertise to transition to a more effective build system and process, leading to elevated developer morale and productivity.



The Challenge

The software engineers at our client's company were working with the build system Pants, which failed to meet their needs, causing delays in the development process and frustration. The developers faced stability and performance issues with IntelliJ, their main IDE, limiting their productivity and the company's swift innovation due to the excessively long compile times. Additionally, the team required the integration of custom Python development practices. However, the current tools, such as VS Code caused support challenges.

Our client recognised the necessity for updated tools that met their current needs and were agile enough to incorporate improvements seamlessly. The decision fell immediately on Bazel as a replacement, a build system celebrated for its speed and robustness. Given the challenges were interconnected with each other, they required a holistic solution to enhance the overall development experience for their engineers. At this crucial juncture, they sought assistance from VirtusLab.



The solution

VirtusLab helped with the strategic migration to Bazel. This migration minimized disturbance to the company's operations. Our team provided enhanced IDE support, transforming IntelliJ into a more dependable environment for the developers. Through tailored extensions and plugins, we configured VS Code to support Python development, adhering to the company's specific build protocols.

Our commitment to the company's objectives led us to create [IDE Probe](#), an automated testing framework, and Bazel IDE, a command-line utility, to simplify project setups. These pioneering solutions were integrated with the current technology stack to improve the developers' experience and efficiency.

We continually refined the build system's performance and integrated feedback to polish our solutions. This approach ensured compliance with the company's exacting standards and promoted ongoing enhancement.



★ The results

Through our partnership, the client transitioned from a development environment that was once a friction to one that now propels innovation. The outcomes were striking:

- Improved IDE performance and developer experience due to faster compile times and better tooling.
- Received customised IDE integration with Bazel.
- Successful integration of Python support for developers and data scientists.
- Creation and integration of IDE Probe for automated testing.
- Migration of some developers to faster build tools like Bloop, drastically reducing wait times for code compilation.
- Continuing improvement in IDE stability and feature set.

The tech stack

/ Build Systems:

- Pants
- Bazel

/ IDEs:

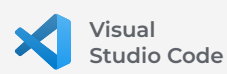
- IntelliJ IDEA
- Visual Studio Code

/ Languages:

- Scala
- Python

/ Additional Tools:

- IDE Probe
- Bazel IDE
- Bloop



About VirtusLab

At VirtusLab, we aim to lead in software technology, working consistently to enhance efficiency. Our profound commitment to research and development and a dedicated focus on emerging trends and inspirations fuels an innovative culture. This ethos precisely guides advancing our cutting-edge solutions, inviting collaboration to expand the boundaries of software technology collectively. We welcome you to be a part of this transformative journey.

Let's connect

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