Elevating Developer Experience with Compass: Boden's story

How e-commerce giant Boden simplified operations and empowered developers through Compass

BODEN

Compass

When most people think of an online retail company, they don't often see it primarily as a technology company. However, technology is core to Boden's operations.

Software is critical to every major element of Boden. The e-commerce platform is their "front door" meaning a significant amount of engineering goes on around it to ensure a positive customer experience – and to scale when they have events like Black Fridays or Cyber Mondays.

James Crowe
HEAD OF SOFTWARE
DEVELOPMENT, BODEN

Recently, Boden's Head of Software Development, James Crowe, sat down with Atlassian for a Team '24 session on how Compass has helped Boden empower its developers by freeing them from the tedious tasks of research and context-switching.

How did Boden choose its developer experience solution?

Before adopting Compass, Boden had to balance "hundreds of services" which were all managed by six engineering teams. With difficult-to-decipher dependencies, especially event-driven architectures, and APIs, it was difficult for developers to get up to speed as they had to waste time hunting for the documentation of each service.

James saw Compass as a comprehensive developer experience solution that could provide visibility into service details using:

- Relevant APIs
- Libraries, documentation
- Key health metrics
- Latest deployment activities
- On-call schedules
- Other additional features

These capabilities would allow developers to spend less time searching for the right information and more time coding.
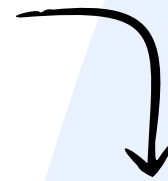
Compass

How Compass improves developer experience at Boden

Compass has improved developer experience at Boden in three key ways:

1

Streamlined planning, deployments, and troubleshooting with a software component catalog

Boden's first massive win was consolidating services into one **software component catalog** using Compass. This catalog offers a much clearer idea of who owns services, how to communicate those services with teams, and where the best documentation lives.

2

Smarter decision-making and reduced cognitive load with insights into metrics across tools

According to James, Compass's greatest benefit is that it consolidates everything into a "single pane of glass" for every service. **Compass integrates with other tools** such as GitHub, PagerDuty, and SonarCloud – centralizing key metrics all in one place.

3

Faster setup and service patterns with software templates

With Compass, Boden can **create software templates** to jump-start service patterns and add webhooks to each template.
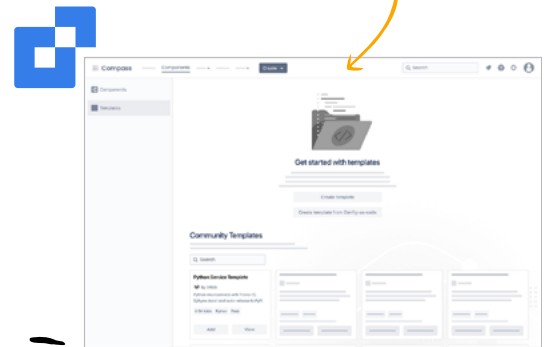
What's next for Boden?

James sees Compass as a tool that Boden can continue to grow with, and he sees a few exciting advancements on the horizon. According to James,

" We're looking at bootstrapping some of the initial setup so people can create services and get started writing that code quicker.

Learn more and try Compass for free.

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