Adopting PhpStorm
Since 2014 the majority of developers in bitExpert use PhpStorm, before that they evaluated Eclipse PDT and Netbeans IDE. According to Stephan Hochdörfer, Head of Technology in bitExpert, the move to PhpStorm was mostly motivated by move from the company-wide coding standard to the PSR standards for PHP projects, where PhpStorm was the most helpful and powerful.

About bitExpert
bitExpert is a technology company focusing on building custom web and mobile application for their customers. bitExpert works for a wide range of clients from small start-ups up to global companies like BASF, Bosch or SAP. Up to now bitExpert totals 24 employees, about 15 of them are developers. As a technology company bitExpert uses a lot of different technologies. On the server-side, this means PHP, Java or Javascript (node.js), on the client-side HTML5, CSS3, and Javascript (Angular, Sencha ExtJS). bitExpert tries to pick the “right” (tm) technology for each project, depending on the project set-up, customer and requirements. The bitExpert headquarters is located in Mannheim, Germany.

Key benefits of using PhpStorm
According to Stephan Hochdörfer, PhpStorm is a great tool which offers a lot interesting features. The speed of PhpStorm IDE is especially appreciated by bitExpert development team as it helps them being productive. Among the key features which makes PhpStorm IDE of choice for bitExpert developers Stephan Hochdörfer mentioned:

• Plugin infrastructure, which makes it easy to add custom functionality (e.g Grunt support);
• Navigation through large codebases, which helps to cope with large codebases of existing customer projects;
• Debugger, which is very simple to set up, that gives a developer no excuse not to use it.

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