

Case Study

During my time as a developer I have made some interesting observations regarding the use of RedBeanPHP. This report describes my findings when developing a very similar e-commerce solution for two companies. Company A uses Java/Hibernate and company B uses PHP/RedBeanPHP. In fact, company A recommended to use the same tooling for B, instead I opted for RedBeanPHP. In addition I added a 3rd company using Laravel/Eloquent. Names of the companies cannot be revealed due to NDAs.

Results:

	Company A	Company B	Company C
Stack	Java/Hibernate	PHP/RedBeanPHP	PHP/Laravel/Eloq
Application	e-Commerce	e-Commerce	Portal
Complexity	Medium	Medium	Low
Developers	10	2	5
Development time	3 months	1 month	6 months
Est. Total Cost	150k	7k	70k
Lifetime	1-2 years	Still running (4+ years)	Unknown

Notes:

Reasons from lead developers for not choosing RedBeanPHP:

- Company A: “PHP is not a serious platform”, apparently, being ‘serious’ is worth 100k (!), because the projects of A and B were very similar the lead developer recommended Company B to use the same tools, however Company B refused and selected RedBeanPHP instead.
- Company C: “RedBeanPHP is not an official part of Laravel, sticking with industry standards is important”, in this case ‘Industry Standards’ was worth 63k (!).