Managing Large Scale Eclipse Adoption

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Abstract

IBM has a large and growing number of products that incorporate Eclipse technology. Managing dependencies between large scale company owned technologies and products is hard enough but managing dependencies between those IBM products and a large and growing independent open source project like Eclipse presents an array of new challenges. These challenges can be legal, technical, temporal and normative. In this session we will explore several of these challenges and talk about how IBM manages them. Hopefully you will be able to take away ideas on how your company can better manage some of these aspects of developing or using products on the Eclipse platform.
Disclaimer

Steve and Marie are not lawyers and can not provide legal advice. There are legal issues discussed in this presentation that we, along with IBM counsel, have worked through on behalf of IBM and the Eclipse foundation. However, no part of this presentation is to be interpreted as providing legal advice on the part of IBM, the Eclipse Foundation, Steve or Marie.

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Agenda

- Project Overview
- Adding Commercial Value to Open Source
- Legal
- Technical
- Temporal
- Normative
- Summary
Project – Definition

- Enable IBM commercial product teams to be successful with Eclipse
  - By managing the issues and processes to be discussed in this presentation
  - Mechanisms
    - Delivery of a bundle containing versions of Eclipse projects built and managed for redistribution in commercial IBM offerings.
  - Communications
    - Web site
    - Regular team updates
    - …
- Act as a focal point for IBM contributions to Eclipse
- Participate in the business operations of the Eclipse Foundation
  - Representation on Eclipse committees (EclipseCon, Marketing, Requirements)
  - Work with the Eclipse legal committee on intellectual property issues and policy
- Has managed the large scale Eclipse adoption within IBM for approximately four years
IBM’s Eclipse-based products use combinations of these projects:

- Eclipse SDK
  - Platform (IDE)
  - Platform (RCP)
  - Eclipse Help System
  - Java Development Tools (JDT)
  - Plug-in Development Environment (PDE)
- Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF)
- eXtensible Schema Definition (XSD)

- Graphical Editing Framework (GEF)
- Hyades / TPTP
- C/C++ Development Tools (CDT)
- UML 2.0 Metamodel (UML2)
- Visual Editor (VE)
- Web Tools Platform (WTP) *

* Tentative
Project – Eclipse Timeline

- 2001
  - Nov: Eclipse 1.0
  - June: Eclipse 2.0
  - Sept: Eclipse 2.0.1
  - Nov: Eclipse 2.0.2
  - Mar: Eclipse 2.0.3 & 2.1
  - June: Eclipse 2.1.1

- 2002
  - Oct: Eclipse 2.1.2
  - Feb: Eclipse 2.1.3

- 2003
  - June: Eclipse 3.0
  - Sept: Eclipse 3.0.1
  - Mar: Eclipse 3.0.2

- 2004
  - June: Eclipse 3.1

- 2005
  - 2Q05: Eclipse 3.1

* Tentative
** Planned
## Project – Use History

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Adding Commercial Value to Open Source

- Commercial offerings add value to open source in several ways
  - Additional function
    - E.g. by developing additional plug-ins and offering these only in commercial products
  - Deeper integration
    - Eclipse enables integration
    - Inter-tool integration requires work between the tool providers
  - Test and QA
    - Testing and providing patches to harden an open source base for commercial use
  - Support
    - Acting as a proxy for customers
- Eclipse-based offerings from IBM do this
  - Currently over 190 products using or in plan to use Eclipse technology
Legal

- IBM Open Source Review Process
  - Provide guidance to teams
    - Open-source summaries
    - Third party code license details
  - Inbound
    - Execute the IBM Open Source Review process
    - Pedigree review
  - Outbound
    - Act as a focal point for Eclipse project proposals
    - Patent review
    - Pedigree review
- Licensing
  - Produce a common set of Eclipse terms for IBM Product licenses
  - Other licenses that appear in the about.html files
- Branding
  - Eclipse attribution
- DOU
  - IBM donating projects to Eclipse
  - Products consuming Eclipse projects
Technical

- Consultation (usage and best practices)
  - Encourage leverage of existing open source communication channels
  - Get involved directly with new projects or uncharted areas
- Builds of aligned features
- Testing
  - Platforms
  - IBM JREs
- Bugs
  - Prioritization and competing needs
- Requirements
  - Prioritization and competing needs
Technical

- **Globalization** *(Definitions from IBM developerWorks)*
  - The process of developing, manufacturing, and marketing software products that are intended for worldwide distribution. This term combines two aspects of the work:
    - **Internationalization** – The process of producing an application that can be localized for a particular country without any changes to the program code. Internationalized applications store their text in external resources, and use locale-sensitive utilities for formatting and collation.
    - **Localization** – The process of converting a program to run in a particular locale or country, so that all text is displayed in the native language, and native conventions are used for sorting, formatting, etc.
  - Benefits to IBM product teams and Eclipse
    - Consultation
    - Enablement testing
    - Translation
    - Translation testing
Temporal

- Schedules and Eclipse independence
- Product alignment
  - With Eclipse
    - Prefer shipping on Eclipse releases
    - Sometimes schedules and bugs do not aligned sufficiently
      - Derivative works comprised of critical fixes
      - As allowed by EPL
      - All fixes contributed back to Eclipse as required by EPL
  - Product families based on Eclipse want to align on a common base
    - We help enable alignment by timely provision of our Eclipse bundle
Normative

- Consistent application of Technical and Legal issues already discussed
- Consistent go to market messages around IBM’s Eclipse based offerings
  - Press and analyst activity
  - Implementing Eclipse attribution
- Help System
  - Common IBM help system based on Eclipse
  - Not just Eclipse based products
  - Eclipse, Standalone and Info Center
- Lotus Workplace Client Technology
  - A common platform for developing, deploying, and maintaining server managed client software
  - Includes an Eclipse RCP based client-side framework
Normative

- Standards enablement
  - Accessibility
  - Usability
  - Government regulations – for example…
    - Export compliance – US encryption policy for products
    - GB18030 – China codepage certification for Eclipse
    - Italian privacy laws – processing personal information (n/a)
- Process improvement
Summary

- **Our project**
  - Enable IBM commercial product teams to be successful with Eclipse
  - Act as a focal point for IBM contributions to Eclipse
  - Participate in the business operations of the Eclipse Foundation

- **Our tasks**
  - Manage the Legal, Technical, Temporal and Normative issues and processes engendered in large scale eclipse adoption
Questions?