Open Source Software Governance Model
The Eclipse Way!

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Agenda

- Eclipse IP Management
- Enhanced Approach
- License Compliance Model
- Trusted Sources
- Automation
- Demo
- Best Practices
- Q&A
Eclipse Intellectual Property (IP) Management

> Risk Mitigation
  • Avoid Infringement
  • Gain/ensure necessary rights
  • License Compatibility with EPL / Project Licenses

> Enable Commercial Adoption
  • Inclusion in proprietary products

> Vendor Neutral Collaboration
  • Co-Developed
  • Use by Everyone
Eclipse Intellectual Property Management

> Consume with Confidence for Commercial Adoption

> Board Approved IP Policy


> Due Diligence Review Process
  • Full review of project code (license, provenance, scanning for anomalies)
  • License compliance model review for leveraged third party libraries

> Legal Agreements for committers, contributors and working group participants

> Formal Contribution Mechanism
Enhanced Approach 2019/2020

Streamlined / Redined our approach to review of third party content to a license compliance model to support:

- Agile development
- New technologies
- Project success:
  - Lightweight / automation
- Software development activity
- Faster Service / Increase project velocity
- Provide greater flexibility/predictability for projects
- Reduce administrivia

While remaining Risk Focused!
License Compliance Model - Third Party Content

> License compatibility and licensing compliance focus for third party dependency libraries

> Driven by Board approved licenses

  https://www.eclipse.org/legal/licenses.php

> Eclipse Projects enabled to self validate during development (trust but verify)

> Full IP clearance required prior to formal releases

> Leverage and trust other sources of license information
Trusted Sources of License Data

> Eclipse Database (IPzilla)
  - Painstakingly built database over the lifespan of the EF
  - Deeply vetted
  - Vast amount of data (>20,000 records)

> ClearlyDefined (OSI Initiative)
  - License data including source location and attribution
  - Harvested and curated data
  - Crowd Sourced

> Eclipse works closely with ClearlyDefined
  - Curation (Spirit of Contributing Back)
  - Participation
Automated Tooling

License Tool (Prototype at https://github.com/eclipse/dash-licenses)

> Eclipse created an open source tool using CLI which generates a dependency file that maps against two sources of truth to resolve license information:

   • IPzilla (own database)
   • ClearyDefined’s service (score + approved license(s))
   • If dependencies are resolved as approved, no further action required by project
   • Unresolved license information or “restricted” content only requires closer scrutiny by the Eclipse IP Team

> ScanCode Toolkit, Fossology and ClearlyDefined are also utilized directly by the IP Team
Demo of Dash License Tool in Action

License Compliance
Process Overview

1. Develop and Build
2. IP Team Resolution and Verification
3. Self service validation
4. IP Team Certification
   - Release
Best Practices

> License compliance as part of the open source software development process

> Software Bill of Materials
  • Contains all software components
  • Software Versions
  • Licenses that govern components

> Document license information
  • SPDX Identifiers usage
  • Copyright and License headers in source files
  • Readme, Notice and License File(s) included in repositories

> Crowd Source with the greater open source community
Open Source Governance

Open Source governance is a key component of open source adoption and enabling commercial ecosystems around products and services is something the Eclipse Foundation remains committed to.
Links

Questions - license@eclipse.org


Dash License Tool - https://github.com/eclipse/dash-licenses (EPL-2.0 Licensed)


Eclipse Legal - https://www.eclipse.org/legal/

ClearlyDefined - https://clearlydefined.io/about

Scan Code Toolkit - https://github.com/nexB/scancode-toolkit

Fossology - https://github.com/fossology/fossology