Abridged Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Eclipse Foundation, Inc.
December 8, 2004

Attendees

Michael Bechauf (SAP)
Mark Cogins (Actuate)
Bjorn Freeman-Benson (Committer representative)
Boris Kapitanski (Serena)
Rich Main (Add-In Provider representative)
Joel Clinkenbeard representing Jonathan Khazam (Intel)
Dave Thomson (IBM)
John Wiegand (Committer representative)
Todd E. Williams (Add-In Provider representative)
Mike Milinkovich (Executive Director)

Not in attendance

Dan Dodge (QNX)
Par Emanuelsson (Ericsson)
Michael Rank (HP)
Jim Ready (MontaVista)

Location: American Airlines Admiral Club at O'Hare Airport.

Board Items:

A number of resolutions were reviewed and approved by the Board. These resolutions included:

- The minutes of the September 30th meeting and the November 17th phone call were approved.
- The Board replaced the "Legal Advisory Committee" with a new "IP Advisory Committee" chaired by Dave Thomson of IBM and including Rich Main (SAS) and Michael Bechauf (SAP).
- Mark Coggins (Actuate) will replace Dave Thomson (IBM) on the Finance Committee.
- Eclipse will issue trademarks and related usage guidelines for Eclipse Foundation Member, Built on Eclipse, Eclipse Ready.
- The CPL to EPL conversion process continues. But not unexpectedly the Foundation has been unable to locate each and every contributor to the projects over the past three years. In order to ensure the intellectual property of Eclipse is of the highest quality, the EMO will require the PMCs to re-implement any functionality which the EMO is unable to have explicitly re-contributed under the Eclipse Public License.

Eclipse Working Groups

There have been a number of requests to the EMO to create ad hoc working groups of the members. The Board authorized the EMO to support the creation of Eclipse Working Groups under the following guidelines:

- Any member can request the creation of a working group
- The EMO will facilitate the request where and as possible (e.g. we may have resource constraints)

- Upon the request of the initiating Member(s) the EMO will host the phone calls or other meetings
- Each WG must have a defined scope and purpose
- All meetings must be documented with abridged minutes and minutes are to be made available to any interested Member
- The membership of any WG must be open to all Members and their employees, etc.
- WG's are not empowered to act for the Foundation or to speak on its behalf without the permission of the EMO
- WG's must comply with the Foundation's Bylaws and policies (including IP and anti-trust)
- WG's can refer to themselves as "Eclipse Working Group for XXX" or "XXX Working Group"

Committer Community Issues and Update

Bjorn Freeman-Benson and John Wiegand raised a number of issues of interest to the Committer community at Eclipse.

- Although the infrastructure is improving, the transparency of the EMO plans is not sufficient. Although there is recognition that the EMO is making improvements in various processes (e.g. creating a project, provisioning a committer), the EMO has not provided status reports or progress reports, and the documents are not available in the newgroups and mailing lists.
- It is not sufficient for the EMO to just get these processes in place. How it gets done is just as important.
- Bjorn Freeman-Benson requested input from the committer community and has created a prioritized list of committer requests for improvement in the Eclipse infrastructure. This list can be found at http://www.eclipse.org/webtools/committers/list.html.

Committer Community
Community Infrastructure Requests

- We asked the community for a prioritized list of requests and we received responses from more than 1/3rd of the committers. The list and the results can be found at http://www.eclipse.org/webtools/committers/list.html.

- Number one on the list, by a large margin, was self management of infrastructure. Infrastructure administration channels are defined by the Eclipse development process. The committers and PMCs would like to automate these processes to streamline the interactions (and facilitate record keeping):
  – Self administration of project-specific bugzilla features including adding and removing components, changing component owners, deciding whether to use NEW or UNCONFIRMED, etc.
  – Self administration of mailing lists including creating and removing lists, enable moderation, etc.
  – Self administration of project-specific CVS including creating top-level directories.
  – Self management of project website including the removal of frames, the use of server-side dynamic content (PHPs/JSPs), wikis, and hierarchical blogs for promoting news.

Committer Community

Community Infrastructure Requests

- Numbers two through five on the prioritized list are approximately equal in importance.
  - Additional system administration resources
  - Project dashboard
  - Bugzilla improvements
  - Faster response times (a.k.a., more faster hardware)

- System administration that works for developers who are not located in the Eastern Timezone.
  - Denis Roy is a great addition to the EMO, and the committers have been universally positive about him. However, his EST working schedule means he is available four hours a day for typical West Coast developers, only two hours a day for Europeans and **zero** hours a day for Japan/Korea.
- More transparency of the system administration.
  - Allow committers to track their specific requests and to monitor the overall sysadmin workload (thus allowing the committers to have more realistic expectations of the time-to-complete their specific requests).
  - Uptime and real time monitoring of the Eclipse.org servers. For example, if a committer is having connectivity problems, he or she can verify the state of the servers (up/down/response time) as part of his or her problem resolution.
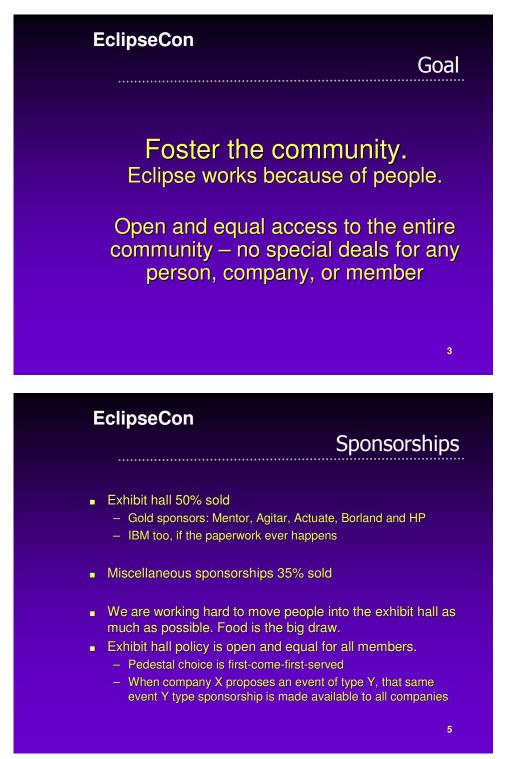

Committer Community

Community Infrastructure Requests

- The current bug tracking mechanism/tool imposes lots of work on the committers doing the bug triage. Given that most committers spend a noticeable amount of time in Bugzilla there should be improvements to make committer's live easier.
  - Bugs are often incomplete or duplicates of existing bugs. Other projects for example have mandatory fields (e.g. the build id, log entries, reproducible steps, …) and show a list of possible related bugs which the bug reporter can check for duplicates before reporting a new one.
  - Searching is also a problem since stack traces are often in attachments which aren't searched. Stack traces are good means to find duplicates. However stack traces are often attached. So search in attachments must be supported as well.

EclipseCon 2005 Update

Bjorn Freeman-Benson (who is also the Organizing Chair) provided the Board a status update on EclipseCon 2005 and suggestions for EclipseCon 2006. The key points are captured in the slide below:

EclipseCon

Goal

Foster the community.
Eclipse works because of people.

Open and equal access to the entire community – no special deals for any person, company, or member

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EclipseCon

Sponsorships

- Exhibit hall 50% sold
  - Gold sponsors: Mentor, Agitar, Actuate, Borland and HP
  - IBM too, if the paperwork ever happens

- Miscellaneous sponsorships 35% sold

- We are working hard to move people into the exhibit hall as much as possible. Food is the big draw.
- Exhibit hall policy is open and equal for all members.
  - Pedestal choice is first-come-first-served
  - When company X proposes an event of type Y, that same event Y type sponsorship is made available to all companies

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EclipseCon

Program

- Keynotes chosen
- Tutorials chosen
- Technical program almost chosen
- Sprints, BOFs, posters still open
- Academic/Industrial exchange being put together

- The program policy is open and equal for all members.
- The program is separate from sponsorship.
  - Had to explain to a number of companies the meritocracy and the open and equal access policies, i.e., that speaking slots cannot be bought.

EclipseCon

EclipseCon 2006

- To make EclipseCon 2006 work, we have to start now.

- Contract a meeting planner
- Sign a contract for a site
  - Suggest: Santa Clara Convention Center
- Begin the logistics planning for 2006

- This will allow us to provide the 2005 attendees and exhibitors with a brochure for the 2006 show before they walk out the door.

Membership Update

Mike Milinkovich provided the Board a status update on the membership. Growth in membership continues to be strong.

New Members 2004

- Acucorp
- Actuate
- Aonix
- Compuware
- PureEdge
- Kinzan
- Thales
- Mentor Graphics
- SoftLanding Systems
- JBoss
- Agitar Software
- M1 Global

- Motorola
- SocialPhysics **
- Panscopic
- Tsinghua University (Being)**
- Texas Instrument
- Aldon
- BZ Media **
- OpenSystems Publishing**
- NTT Comware
- OC Systems
- Computer Associates
- ENEA
- AvantSoft

**** Associate Member**   **New Member Since Last Report**

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Financial Update

Mike Milinkovich provided the Board an update on the finances of the Foundation.

Financial Summary

- We now have working financial systems!
- Recognized revenue adversely affected by January 28th incorporation date
  - Zero revenue recognized in January
  - All Members who joined on or before January 31st will have their membership start on February 1st
  - Note that this does not affect our cash situation
- Spending below plan, primarily due to:
  - Late hiring
  - Tight control on marketing spending
  - IT spending under plan
- Over-spending on meetings primarily due to EclipseCon spending
- Next major objective: appoint auditors
  - Proposals coming from E&Y, D&T and KPMG
  - Note that big firms are more expensive

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Major Expenditures Summary

- IBM connectivity (Sprint)
  - $25K/month
- Magma bandwidth, hosting, backup
  - ~$14K/month
- Facilities
  - $2.5K/month
- Salaries and Benefits
  - ~$38K/month
- Consulting
  - ~23K/month
- Note that currency exchange is hurting!
  - CAD has appreciated 11% since July 1st

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