Eclipse Requirement Council Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2004
Miami, Florida

Attendees

Paul Clenahan, Actuate
John Kellerman, IBM
Anurag Gupta, Intel
Derrick Keefe, QNX
Philip Ma, HP
Par Emanuelsson, Ericsson
Karsten Schmidt, SAP
Mike Milinkovich, Eclipse Foundation
Ian Skerrett, Eclipse Foundation

Meeting Minutes

Review of Add-in Provider Requirements Process

Ian Skerrett present the process used by the add-in providers to develop their requirements.   The group also reviewed the results of the process.

Strategic Members Requirements

Paul Clenahan did not provide any specific input because Actuate are early in the process.

SAP input is:
1. Need to make public more of the internal JDT api's and add new api's in other areas, ex. Update manager.
2. Need more model driven development support instead of file based. For example it would be nice to have multiple editors working against the same file, at the same time.
3. EMF should support MOF 2.0.
4. Need to simplify the support of large scale use and deployment of Eclipse.

Ericsson input is:
1. The Abstract Language Development toolkit is important so that Ericsson can more easily support specialized languages such as TTCN.
2. Performance and scalability is important to support large scale development.
3. Embedded development requires better support for C/C++ and different target operating systems that are independent of Eclipse.
4. Need to solve the integration problem of multiple vendors. The vendors make it more difficult because most vendors don't sell plug-ins but complete integrated solutions.

IBM input is focused on the following general themes:
1. Scalability, to improve Eclipse use as development environment scale
2. Enterprise Development, to improve Eclipse usability as development organizations scale
3. Expanding the breadth of Eclipse solutions
4. Community outreach
5. Release engineering.

QNX input is focused on performance and scalability. Requirements come from their customers that have large distributed development teams, sophisticated build environments and configuration management environments. For partners, they need to have a better mechanism to communicate the maturity and evolution of the public API's.

HP input is from the development teams that are developing HP Eclipse plug-ins.
1. Improve Eclipse development process by making roadmaps more visible, with longer timeframes.
2. Have a more open process to make it easier to make contributions back into the platform.
3. Need a certification mechanism to ease the pain of integration for different plug-ins.
4. Swing and SWT interoperability is not seamless and the documentation could be better.
5. JMX is important as a standard for Java management capability. Need wizards to make it easy to instrument Java applications for systems management.

Intel input is consolidated from three Intel product groups.
1. Compiler team would like more open and mature api's.
2. Focus on performance and scalability.
3. Support for cross development of embedded C/C++ applications.

A common thread was in regard to improving the communications around the APIs, especially the maturity and consistency of each API. One example discussed was the approach used by the Platform team where one senior architect is specifically responsible for reviewing all the API's.

Market View of Eclipse

Mike Milinkovich and Ian Skerrett presented a sample of the analyst and press comments of Eclipse.

Review of Current Draft Themes and Priorities Document

The council spent a considerable amount of time reviewing a draft version of the themes and priorities document. The emphasis was on restructuring some of the themes and prioritizing the requirements within the themes.

Next Steps

- Finalize a draft version of the Themes and Priorities document for review by the community.
- Post the draft document on the discussion groups.
- Incorporate feedback into the document.
- Final draft ready for Board approval by Feb. 15/2005