Supplemental Widgets for SWT (Nebula)
Creation Review
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Nebula Goals

- Provide custom/emulated widgets for features not provided by the native operating systems SWT supports.
  - Focus on custom widgets not provided by SWT
  - Support high fidelity RCP development
Nebula Goals (cont)

- Incubator for SWT custom widgets
  - Encourage contributions from the community
  - Manage contributions through a 3 tiered system
    - 1\textsuperscript{st} tier - initial contributions, not officially supported, seeking commitment from contributor and interest from the community
    - 2\textsuperscript{nd} tier – Widget is supported (though not necessarily API frozen), active contributor, significant community interest
    - 3\textsuperscript{rd} tier – ready for inclusion in SWT
  - More formal guidelines to be established
- Widgets packaged and downloadable separately
Principles

- SWT-friendly (fits like a glove)
  - Follow SWT patterns and paradigms
  - Mimic SWT API
  - Adhere as closely as possible to SWT requirements
    - CLDC
    - Accessibility
Community Response

- From eclipse.technology newsgroup:
  - “Having a house for components in eclipse will largely increase its potential as a candidate for UI/RCP development.” (guy.nirpaz@gmail.com 11/10/05)
  - “I also feel that there is a need for a project like this..” (brian.hudson@ngisystems.com 9/19/05)
  - “I'd like to contribute …” (roland@videobet.com 12/2/05)
  - “I also would like to express high interest in Nebula” (dsp@bdal.de 2/15/06)
  - “For me it is some kind of "Pimp up your SWT Widget" (michael.krkoska@gmail.com 9/29/05)

- From SWTPlus.com (http://swtplus.com/wordpress/?p=5#comments)
  - “Great widgets! A BIG Thanks from all us Eclipse coders out (t)here.”
  - “Cool widgets!!! I hope it become soon open source!”
Initial Contribution

From Chris Gross (personal) and IBM:

- Grid/Spreadsheet
  - Pluggable rendering, hierarchical, row headers, column spanning, more
- Shelf (like GEF Palette, Outlook Bar)
- Pluggable Combo (Tree Combo, Color Combo, etc)
- Attachable auto-complete component
- Expandable Group
Committers

- Chris Gross (IBM)
- Steve Northover (IBM, existing SWT committer)
- Veronika Irvine (IBM, existing SWT committer)

- Will actively encourage community participation
- On-going discussions regarding contribution of existing open source SWT widgets
Timelines

- Fluid timelines
  - Widgets packaged and downloadable separately
  - Nebula project itself is not versioned, only individual widgets

- Official inclusion into SWT proper is the goal of all widgets in Nebula
Thank you

- Questions…