

BPEL Designer 1.0 Release Review



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Communication Channel: bpel-dev@eclipse.org

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Introduction

- WS-BPEL (Web Services Business Process Execution Language), is a vendor-neutral XML language developed by OASIS to specify business processes as a set of interactions between web services.
- The BPEL Designer adds comprehensive support to Eclipse for the definition, authoring, editing, deploying and testing of WS-BPEL 2.0 processes.
- The project website can be found here:
<http://eclipse.org/bpel/>

Features

- Juno Release Train: BPEL Designer is getting on the train and will be part of the SOA suite of products for the upcoming Juno release of Eclipse
- Reorganized Update Sites: This release will see a reorganization of the update site and offer platform-specific builds to support older versions
- UI Feature Enhancements: New File Wizard supports creation of a BPEL process from a WSDL (“top-down” approach)
- Minor plug-in refactoring to improve API reusability
- Please refer to the project website “New & Noteworthy” section for more details.

Non-Code Aspects

- User Guide is available as Eclipse Help documentation
- Cheatsheets are provided as a quick-start tutorial
- BPEL Designer is actively being translated via Eclipse Babel
- Plugin extension and BPEL project examples are available from the Eclipse Git repository

APIs

- APIs are stable and have not changed from previous release.
- APIs are consumed by 3rd parties and Eclipse projects.
- APIs are of sufficient quality but lack external documentation.

Architectural Issues

- Overall architecture is stable as of this release.
- Some BPEL components have been refactored to improve API reusability
- Project components include BPEL model, UI as well as support for deployment of process artifacts to Apache Ode and JBoss Riftsaw execution engines
- APIs exist to support extensions for other BPEL engines

Tool Usability

- BPEL Designer is currently being integrated into several SOA development suites as the primary web services orchestration tool
 - JBoss Tools
 - PetalsLink Petals Studio
 - WSO2 Carbon Studio

End-of-Life

- No features or APIs are EOL as of this release

Bugzilla

- ▣ 350 bugs reported since project inception
 - 298 bugs closed
 - 52 bugs unresolved
 - 17 enhancement requests
 - 2 minor
 - 28 normal
 - 4 major
 - 1 critical

Standards

- BPEL Designer supports the full WS-BPEL 2.0 (OASIS) spec. including extensions
- Supports WSDL 1.1 standard (W3C)
 - WSDL version 2.0 support is planned for a future release
- Supports XPath 1.0 standard (W3C)
 - XPath 2.0 support is planned for a future release
- Supports XML Schema 1.0 (W3C)

UI Usability

- BPEL Designer
 - GEF-based graphical editor w/palette
 - Auto layout only (WS-BPEL 2.0 does not define a presentation model)
- Deployment Editor
 - Eclipse Forms-based
 - Multi-page, one for each discovered process
- Multiple language support via Babel language packs
- WSDL editing support via Eclipse WTP project
- XSD editing support via Eclipse MDT project

Schedule

Milestone	Description	Date	Comments
M1	View Only	March, 2006	On time
M2	Basic Editing	December 15, 2006	On time
M3	Full Editing	May 31, 2007	On time
M4	Deployment to reference runtime	September 1, 2010	On time
M5	Code Stabilization	September 15, 2011	On time
M6	1.0 Release and graduation	April 23, 2012 (planned)	Slipped ~1 yr
SR1	1.0.1 Service Release	Q4, 2012 (tentative)	Follow-on to Juno release

Communities

□ Users

- Lively community on mailing list and bugzilla
- Articles and blogs by community members

□ Developers

- 4 active committers
- 8 contributors

□ Integrators

- <http://www.jboss.org/tools>
- <http://www.petalslink.com>
- <http://wso2.org>

□ Academia

- BPEL Designer is a common thesis topic at many universities

IP Log

- The project leadership verifies that the Eclipse IP policies and procedures have been followed.
- IP Log can be found here:
 - http://www.eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=soa.bpel