

# Eclipse Survey Highlights

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# About the study

- Fifth annual study (2004-2008)
- Survey universe is SD Times readers
  - “Software Development Managers”
  - Not primarily coders, but decision-makers
- May show bias toward Eclipse usage
  - Heavy Eclipse promotion in SD Times readership, due to EclipseWorld, EclipseSource
- Different audience than, say, EclipseCon or Evans
  - Or Eclipse Foundation-driven studies

# 1. Developer penetration

- Challenge is not to get organizations to “try” Eclipse, but to evangelize and standardize on Eclipse-based tools internally. I.e., go deeper.
  - All developers use Eclipse  
2004, 13.2%; 2008, 15.5%
  - Most developers use Eclipse  
2004, 15.9%; 2008, 19.4%
  - Some developers use Eclipse  
2004, 53.9%; 2008, 64.7%

# 24. Multiplatform world

- Temper the above comments with the realization that today's organizations are multi-platform, and multi-tool. You're doing great against Microsoft!
  - Eclipse-based  
2005, 59.0%; 2008, 67.8%
  - Visual Studio  
2005, 57.0%; 2008, 62.2%
  - NetBeans/Sun  
2005 19.5%; 2008, 21.6%

## 2. Upgrades to latest version

- Got to get people to upgrade. Many months after Ganymede rollout, a lot of users are not on it. This is a consistent pattern but a challenge that should be faced. Will get harder over time, as delta benefits decrease.
  - 2008: 31.1% on 3.4, 26.7% on 3.3
  - 2007: 38.3% on 3.3, 29.6% on 3.2
  - 2006: 48.7% on 3.2, 31.9% on 3.1
  - 2005: 48.4% on 3.1, 24.7% on 3.0
  - 2004: 41.5% on 3.0, 23.9% on 2.x

# 5. Once they try it!

- Kudos! Dev teams show a very strong desire to keep using Eclipse, once it has been deployed:
  - Increasing usage  
2007, 35.6%; 2008, 29.3%
  - Maintaining  
2007, 26.8%; 2008, 33.7%
  - Decreasing/stopping  
2007, 2.5%; 2008, 3.7%

## 6. IBM still rules the roost

- Commercial Eclipse distros are still widely seen as IBM-dominated (it comes up in conversation all the time), and despite growth from Genuitec and Adobe, that continues to be the case. Adobe shows impressive growth.
  - IBM WSAD  
2006, 30.5%, 2008, 39.8%
  - IBM SDP  
2006, 17.3%, 2008, 28.1%
  - Adobe  
2007, 12.7%, 2008, 23.3%
  - Genuitec  
2006, 19.8%, 2008, 22.9%
  - Everyone else: Low

# 9. Eclipse is not all Java

- Eclipse used to be seen as only a Java IDE — and is still perceived as primarily a Java IDE. That is a challenge, especially since increasing it's used for many other types of development. It is unclear if there is a dominate “type” of app.
  - Java apps  
2005, 84.8%; 2008, 57.9%
  - Web apps  
2005, 57.0%; 2008, 42.1%
  - Web Services  
2005, 43.3%; 2008, 36.9%
  - Server apps  
2005, 34.7%; 2008, 26.2%
  - AJAX/RIA apps  
2006, 27.4%; 2008, 22.5%
  - Desktop apps  
2005, 25.8%; 2008, 18.8%
  - Rich Client  
2006, 23.9%; 2008, 17.3%
  - C/C++ apps  
2005, 15.5%; 2008, 14.4%

# 11. Open source, plug-ins

- The primary attractors for Eclipse are still that it's open source, and there are lots of plug-ins. The responses over time are remarkably consistent. That's great — unless you want to expand beyond that base. These are consistent:
  - It's open source  
2004, 65.5%; 2008, 66.7%
  - Lots of plug-ins  
2005, 58.2%; 2008, 66.7%
  - Dev team prefers it  
2005, 30.8%; 2008, 31.1%

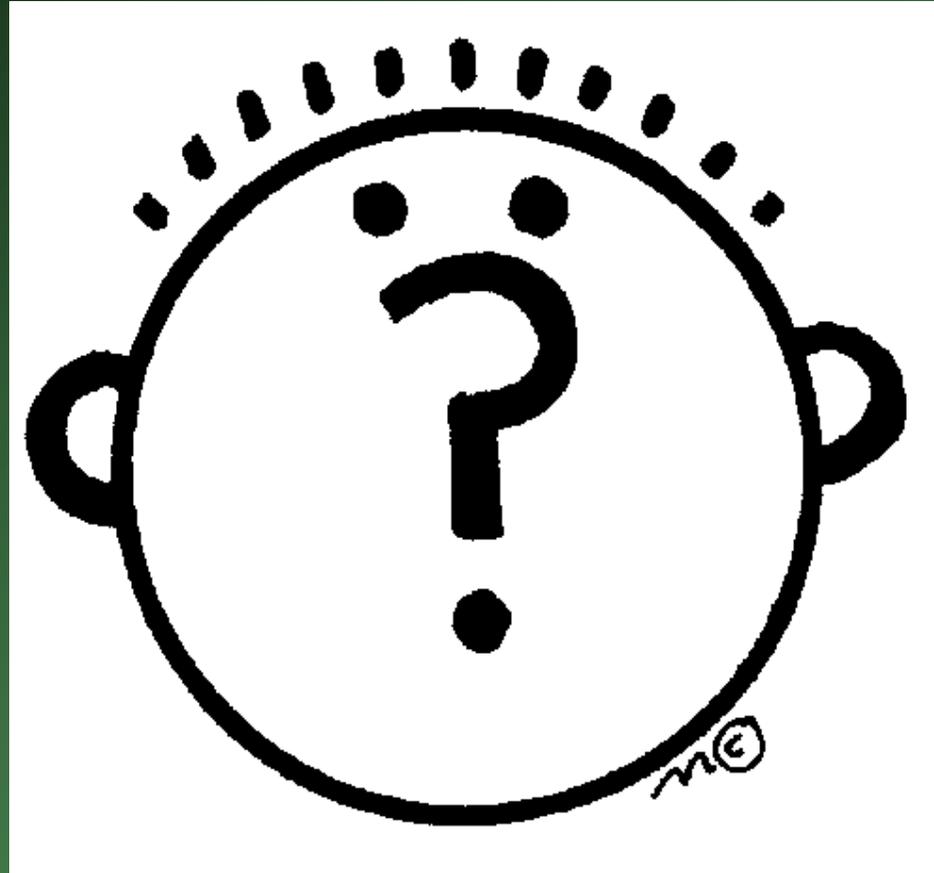
# 11. Cross platform?

- Some traditional reasons to favor Eclipse are no longer as relevant. That may be due to both changing macro conditions as well as the competitive situation. Examples:
  - Cross-platform  
2004, 53.2%, 2008, 37.4%
  - Easy to learn  
2004, 42.6%, 2008, 31.3%
  - No vendor lock-in  
2005, 39.0%, 2008, 30.2%
  - Multiple target platforms
  - 2005, 33.4%, 2008, 27.9%
  - Technologically superior  
2005, 30.6%, 2008, 22.9%
  - Write own plug-ins  
2005, 27.8%, 2008, 21.4%
  - Good license model  
2004, 34.0%, 2008, 15.6%
  - Can modify platform  
2005, 20.4%, 2008, 13.4%

# 21. Consistent bits

- The Eclipse bits that people are using is also fairly consistent — which shows that usage really hasn't changed all that much, with some exceptions.
  - Consistent: C/C++ IDE, RCP, BIRT, Equinox
  - Increasing: PHP Dev
  - Decrease Some: Java Dev Tools, Web Tools Project/Standard
  - Decrease a Lot: Web Tools Project/Java EE, Eclipse Modeling Framework, GEF, TPTP, Data Tools

# Discussion



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# Thank you

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