Nebula Restructuring

This document describes the restructuring of Eclipse Nebula. We solicit additional participation and input from the Eclipse community. Please send all feedback and requests for participation to nebula-dev-mailing list.

Background

The Nebula project was created to provide an incubator for the development of new and feature rich widgets with the indent to move them to SWT after having been matured. This initial indent though did not get realityand in reality many produced in by the Nebula-Project - though stable and production ready - have never been move to SWT.

Objective

In the last few month many external parties asked for a stable release of Nebula-Components so that they can be used for downstream adoption but because of the different maturity level of the widgets found in Nebula we've not been able to provide such a release.

The objective of the restructuring of the Nebula project into 2 seperate projects gives the mature components the the possibility to work towards a 1.0.0 release whereas new contributions can profit from parallel IP.

Overview

We expect the following project structure after the review:

Project	Summary	Project Type
Nebula	Project with mature widgets working towards a 1.0 release	Standard Eclipse project
Nebula Incubator (subproject)	Perpetum Incubator with widgets not ready for prime time	Eclipse Incubator project

Nebula

Mature widgets found in Nebula who are production ready, IP clean and **have at least one active committer** are hosted in this project. The main target of this project is to maintain and release 1.0 and maintenance releases.

Proposed widgets

- **Grid**: An custom table/tree widget which provides Excel like features and an JFaceViewer integration
- **Pshelf**: The PShelf widget is a composite widget that is similar to a tab folder. It contains items which can be selected to show their client areas.

- **Pgroup**: The PGroup widget is a expandable/collapsible composite widget with attractive styling and an extensible design.
- **Gallery**: This SWT widget displays images or items in a grid-like presentation. Gallery is very useful to display images in a photo viewer or files in an explorer-like view.
- **CompositeTable**: CompositeTable is a custom SWT grid control using native widgets
- **XViewer**: The purpose of the XViewer is to give the application developer a more advanced and dynamic TreeViewer that has the filtering and sorting
- **Calendarcombo**:The Calendar Combo Widget is a combo box widget that opens a calendar when dropped down.
  (needed by XViewer – does Emil maintain it? Would XViewer devs maintain it?)

Existing committers

- Tom Schindl – Project lead
  - Grid
  - Pgroup
  - Pshelf
- Nicolas Richeton
  - Gallery
- Donald Dunne
  - XViewer
- Elias Volanakis
  - CompositeTable

Nebula-Incubator

The purpose of the perpetum incubator is to stage component contributions until they are ready to move to Nebula.

Proposed widgets

- cwt
- stw
- paperclips
- bidilayout
- cdatetime
- collapsiblebuttons

- datechooser
- formattedtext
- radiogroup
- tablecombo
- oscilloscope
- nebulatoolbar
- ctree
- ganttchart

Existing committers

- Tom Schindl – project lead
- Ahmed Mahran
  - STW
- Matt Hall
  - Paperclips
  - RadioGroup
- Emil Crumhorn
  - Collapsiblebuttons
  - GanttChart
- Ira Fishbein
  - Bidilayout
- Marty Jones
  - TableCombo
- Wim Jongman
  - Oscilloscope
- Lukasz Milewski
  - NebulaToolbar
- Eric Wuillai
  - Formattedtext
  - Datechooser