Marketplace: exchanging experience about open source software development
A colloquium science meets practice

Goal: Practitioners interested not only in the technological aspects of (open source) software development but in scientific knowledge too on the one hand and scientist with a need for knowledge that is thoroughly based in practice on the other hand meet during a colloquium and exchange their knowledge. There should be low entry barriers for the gathering, but the knowledge exchange should be both intensive and efficient. Therefore, the participants do not have to prepare, but they have to be curious and interested in broadening their horizon. Furthermore it's important that the participants are able to reflect their work and ready to open their wealth of experience for the other participants.

Course: Planned are four sessions during about 50 minutes. Each session is introduced by a participant introducing the session's discussion topic (the "research question"). This introduction should contain the following points:

- The question: a clear and concise formulation of the issue.

- The subjective rationale: why is the person presenting the topic interested in having the question answered.

- The objective rationale, i.e. the relevance: What is the relevance of the question for the community or the society? What is the value of answering the question?

- Any background information needed for that the other participants not sharing the same mind set as the speaker can properly understand the question.

After this short introduction, there will be a free discussion. The aim is to leverage the knowledge and the experience of all participating persons. To achieve this, there will be only one track. All participants will be in the same room all the time. The discussion should be focussed and intense. There will be no teacher hearer gradient. Instead, all participants will unfold their expertise and each participant will give and take as much as she or he wants.

Organization: Persons interested in attending the colloquium have to register. Participation is without fee, however, there is limited place.

Participants with a special interest are invited to send their discussion topics, i.e. their "research question" to the colloquium organization (see "Call for Discussion Panels"). The organizers will select four discussion topics that will initiate the colloquium's four discussion sessions.

Colloquium date: Friday, April 27, 2007, 2pm to 6 pm.

Colloquium place: Zurich, Switzerland, ETH main building (Rämistrasse 101),

Room HG E 41.

Registration: please send a mail until Friday, April 20, 2007, to
benno.luthiger@id.ethz.ch

Benno Luthiger, benno.luthiger@id.ethz.ch, April 1, 2007

Call for Discussion Panels

For the planned *science meets practice* colloquium we're looking for discussion topics.

The colloquium shall be characterized by low entry barriers. This should be true not only for participants, but for the persons presenting a discussion topic too. Therefore, no big preparation is needed. People giving an input will have the benefit that they can guide the discussion to a certain extent. Thus, there will be higher probability that the discussion tackles questions of special interest for the presenter.

Topic submission should contain the following points:

- The question: a clear and concise formulation of the issue (one or two sentences).

- Additional information explaining the question or the terms used in the question (if needed) for that the people attending the colloquium can understand the question.

- Additional information: What is the relevance of the question for the community or the society? What is the value of answering the question?

At the beginning of the session, the person who initiated the discussion topic will have about 15 minutes to present this information to the audience. For this short presentation, the speaker is requested to add the following information:

- The subjective rationale: why is the speaker interested in having the question answered.

After this introduction, there will be free discussion, structured mainly by the input given.

If more then four discussion topics are sent to the organizer, an informal colloquium board will select the four session issues out of the submitted topics.

Submission deadline: Friday, April 20, 2007

Please send your discussion input to
benno.luthiger@id.ethz.ch

Benno Luthiger, benno.luthiger@id.ethz.ch, April 1, 2007