Collaboration and IP management

Jeff McAffer, Code 9

Collaboration and IP management

- Eclipse projects are increasingly interacting with non-Eclipse projects

    - Equinox ↔ OSGi

    - p2 ↔ SAT4J team

    - DSDP examples

    - Upcoming OSGi EEG work

    - Apache interactions

- This is **great**!

    - Increased participation, increased relevance, increased adoption

- But…

The problem

- To fully participate there must be a "free" flow of code and specs into Eclipse projects
- Inbound IP is often incomplete, not final
- Frequent consumption required
- Low-latency facilitates full participation
- Without full participation
  - Eclipse technology will find it hard to compete
  - People/effort will go elsewhere

Current state

- Ganymede experience was not fun
- Lots of confusion
    - Which version to check, is it final, does it supercede another, which CQ, flow into and role of Orbit,…
- IP and project teams under conflicting pressures
    - IP team seeking rigor
    - Project teams seeking enablement
- Sets up a bad interaction

Solution

- None in hand
- NOT arguing for a "free for all"
- Must balance against risk
- Risk related to
    - Inbound IP license and source
    - Type of consumption
- Can incubation play a role?
    - Not all consuming projects are incubating

- Need to come up with a solution soon
    - Some projects are in limbo now

Related issues

- Need to scope out clearances required between Eclipse projects
  - Equinox needs to consume portions of ECF on a frequent but irregular basis
  - Others will need to consume Equinox in a similar fashion