



Eclipse Foundation: Access to IP Due Diligence

June 6, 2011

IPZilla Overview



- Eclipse Development Process requires all 3rd party libraries used in Eclipse Projects be approved by Eclipse Foundation
- Eclipse Foundation performs recursive analysis of libraries for pedigree, license compatibility, code scans for incompatible code and other possible problems, etc.
- This process is managed by a tool known to Eclipse Committers as “IPZilla”.

The screenshot shows the IPZilla web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Eclipse logo and the text "IPZILLA". Below this is a search bar with the text "IPZilla - Search for CQs". The interface includes several search filters and options:

- Summary:** contains all of the words/strings
- Product:** IP, modeling, rt, stp, technology
- Component:** IP_Discussion, birt, birt.ece, datatools.connectivity, datatools.enablement
- Target:** 2008-05, 2008-06, 2008-07, 2008-08, 2008-09
- A Comment:** contains the string
- The URL:** contains all of the words/strings
- Keywords:** contains all of the keywords
- Status:** UNCONFIRMED, NEW, ASSIGNED, REOPENED, RESOLVED, VERIFIED, CLOSED
- Resolution:** FIXED, INVALID, WONTFIX, DUPLICATE, WORKSFORME, MOVED, ---
- State:** approved, awaiting_analysis, awaiting_board_approval, awaiting_committer, awaiting_project, awaiting_pmc, awaiting_emo
- Priority:** P1, P2, P3, P4, P5

IPZilla By The Numbers...



- Over 2000 libraries reviewed
 - “approved” or “rejected”
- Dozens of new projects reviewed each month
- Kinds of Libraries:
 - Libraries included with Eclipse Projects will be EPL compatible, typically Apache, BSD, MIT or other “permissive” or “weak copyleft” style licenses. For example:
 - Apache Axis 1.4 - axis.jar Version: 1.4
 - Commons Codec Version: 1.3
 - jaxrpc.jar version: 1.1
 - jaxen Version: 1.1
 - Dojo Toolkit Version: 0.4.2-ajax
 - Xerces Version: 2.9.0

Example – Jaxen-1.1.1



Details

Summary: jaxen-1.1.1

CQ#: [1645](#) **State:** rejected

Product: technology **Priority:** P2

Component: technology.alf **Target Milestone:** 2007-12

Status: RESOLVED

Resolution: WONTFIX

URL:

Keywords: far, nonepl

License:

Orbit Bundle:

PMC approver:

Depends on:

Blocks: [1643](#) [1736](#)

[Show dependency tree](#)

People

Reporter: emo-ip-team@eclipse.org

Assigned To: [\[redacted\]](#)

Add CC:

CC:

- tim.buss@eclipse.org
- genie.eclipse@eclipse.org
- tim.buss@eclipse.org
- genie.eclipse@eclipse.org
- tim.buss@eclipse.org
- genie.eclipse@eclipse.org

Remove selected CCs

Flags

PMC_Approved ()

Attachments

jaxen-1.1.1 License (1.54 KB, text/plain) 2007-12-12 17:33, Tim Buss	Details
AutoScan results for LICENSE.txt (30.31 KB, application/octet-stream) 2007-12-13 00:00, Genie Eclipse	Details
Add an attachment (proposed patch, testcase, etc.)	View All

- The Library is submitted for consideration for an Eclipse Project...

Example – Jaxen-1.1.1



----- Comment #1 From [redacted] 2007-09-04 21:02:12 [reply] -----

The jaxen project is a Java XPath Engine. jaxen is a universal object model walker, capable of evaluating XPath expressions across multiple models. Jaxen provides a single point for XPath expression evaluation, regardless of the target object model, whether its dom4j, JDOM, DOM, XOM, JavaBeans.

Given the issues that Janet reported with a different version of Jaxen in [CG 1369](#), we may see whether later versions of Jaxen (e.g. 1.1.1) could be used, as the project seems to have taken better care of providing the source and documenting dependencies (e.g. a POM file).

----- Comment #2 From [redacted] 2007-09-28 10:10:24 [reply] -----

Hi Brian: Do you have any news for us concerning a later version of Jaxen that you may be able to use based on your Comment in #1? Thanks, Sharon

----- Comment #3 From [redacted] 2007-10-31 19:47:01 [reply] -----

I spoke with [redacted] last week about the need for Axis2 to use a more recent version of the Jaxen jar. [redacted] has been working on Axis2 and noted that Axis 1.3 incorporates jaxen-1.1.1.jar. [redacted] noted that here were no API changes in jaxen and so we should be able to use the jaxen-1.1.1.jar.

jaxen 1.1.1 is the current recommended version at jaxen.org, and there ar signs (see: <http://jaxen.org/team-list.html>) that the project is taking greater care in documenting who has contributed to the project.

We will test jaxen-1.1.1.jar with Axis 1.2 to make sure it works as a replacement for jaxen-1.1-beta-10.jar.

-- [redacted]

- A documented conversation takes place... Note that it's not uncommon to document conversations with the original authors of a 3rd party library

Example – Jaxen-1.1.1



----- Comment #15 From [redacted] 2007-12-18 13:48:17 [reply] -----

Unfortunately, we were not able to confirm pedigree of the Jaxen code.

We approached Jaxen to determine whether they could help us clarify it, and they gave a fairly clear signal that they are not willing to go to that effort.

As a result, we won't be able to approve it for inclusion in Eclipse.

Regards,

[redacted]

- After much interaction occurs and after much research, a conclusion is reached.

Example Notes



- Even though a library is rejected for use in Eclipse Projects, it is not to say the library couldn't be used safely. It is merely a data point to IP Analysts considering using that library that more due diligence or risk must be considered.
- When a library is approved for use in Eclipse, it is a useful data point for IP Analysts, but there is also much data in the conversations about the library that can help organization adverse to risk.

Business Opportunities



- Can we expand access to IPZilla to create a revenue opportunity for the Eclipse Foundation?
- Option 1: Outsource IP Audits
 - Provide outsourcing services for organizations that want to have open source projects audited.
- Option 2: OEM IPZilla Data
 - Provide the data from IPZilla to companies that might be interested in bundling/reselling the results
- Option 3: Sell Direct Access to large enterprise
 - Large companies that are concerned about open source governance and IP cleanliness might want to have access.