



Committer Community Issues

Eclipse Committer Representatives

June 20, 2007



Committee Issues

- **IP Policy**
- **Committee meetings**
- **Committee diversity**



IP Policy

- **Serious commitment to an IP policy**
 - Attracts companies, projects and people to Eclipse
- **Platform Ant experience**
 - Committers representative blog.



Platform Ant Experience

- **Historically moved to new Ant versions within 1 month**
 - Bug reports fixed and Ant maintenance versions produced for Eclipse release
- **No time to work with the Apache Ant team to produce a fix for Eclipse 3.3**
 - Plug-in export does not work on Linux/Mac if installed in a path with spaces



Time Line

- **Dec 15, 2006** Ant 1.7.0 released
- **January, 2007** requested PMC approval
- **Jan 31:** IPZilla request entered for Ant 1.7.0
- **April 13:** IP approval received
- **April 17:** Ant 1.7.0 in an Eclipse 3.3 I-build
- **April 24:** Bug 42222 to Apache Ant
- **May 11:** Eclipse workaround for Windows
- **May 22,** Fix in Ant 1.7.1 stream; Ant team: no time for proper beta testing
- **June 2007** Eclipse 3.3 with major bug



Issues with the IP Policy

- **Time required for reviews**
 - Reduces code review / usage before shipping.
Bugs take time and exposure to find / fix.
 - Results in lag of adoption of new releases
 - Eclipse: major distribution / testing
- **Planning challenges**
 - Unsure of when decision will be reached
 - Committer time and planning to react to the decision
- **Technical advisement**
 - Pre-requisite determination
 - ALF experience
 - board and IP staff: misdirected time and effort

IP Process Improvement



- **Increase staffing**
 - Committer community money available as a stop gap until budget review
- **Improve tooling**
 - Bugzilla interface, definitions, dependency determination
- **Education for committers**
 - Committer meetings
 - Reuse of approved
 - Correct usage of IPZilla
 - Value to committers



Improvement cont'd

- **Dates and Deadlines for Planning**
 - Staged freeze for IP reviews
- **Work with OS communities (Apache) to ease pain**
 - Include IP, provenance and change log summary information in a standard format



Committer Meetings

- **Build on our successes**
 - Boot camp at EclipseCon
 - Committer meeting in Portland
- **Task the EMO to sponsor:**
 - committer and contributor meetings
 - code camps and plug-in fests



Committer Meetings

- Remove the burden of organization from committers
 - Set the time and place (provide some food)
 - Experienced committers enjoy talking about their passions
 - Limited preparation required
- Sept Members meetings, Eclipse Summit Europe, OS Summit Asia, JUGs, plug-in fests and code camps.
 - Keep developers excited about Eclipse: generate buzz!
- Plan track at EclipseCon 2008
- Get the Committer Representatives out to talk to the committers and contributors



Committer Diversity

- Working group
 - Movement towards additional resources for Debug
- Committer meetings
 - Find common problems with interactions
- Mentoring
 - Architecture council members