Architecture Council Update

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Accomplishments

- ***Practical Process***: Helped better organize the eclipse committers mailing list through discussion and arguments. Turning the list into a moderated one makes it a lot more useful. [250320]

- ***Escalation***: Called for help when a project didn't respond to Community need for a maintenance release. Persuaded the project leads through arguments and authority. [251304]

- ***Information Broker***: Helped bringing an unorganized E-Mail storm into an organized and useful discussion about Repository Best Practices along with links for participants to find information. [249745]

More community solicited discussions currently ongoing…

In Progress

- ***Top Ten List (wiki):*** A list of top ten patterns, do's and don'ts in software architecture and process specifically for Eclipse.

- ***Links Collection (wiki)***: Collection of URL's to sites with useful information on Software Architecture.

- ***Biweekly Info-mails***: Important information that all committers should know but tend to forget or ignore, brought into a short snippet of 1-paragraph "Here's something you should know" E-Mail to be sent out bi-weekly.

- ***Architectural Walkthrough***: Similar to the very successful UI Walkthroughs offered by the UI-Best-Practices Working Group, offer Projects to make a walk through their (proposed or actual) architecture together with AC members.

In Progress

- ***IPZilla ("ask Mike") initiative***: A proposal in progress for allowing the Foundation to give out unofficial (IANAL) advice on licensing questions.
- **AC panel at EclipseCon**: Discuss contributions, IP, mentoring, dev process, future of Eclipse, …

Participation

- **Over 50 members**
    - **20 are active - a significant recent improvement**

- *PMC representation could be better*
    - Bylaws: each PMC must have 1 rep on the AC
    - Not the case for several projects: BIRT, TPTP, Tools, Eclipse, WTP PMC.
        - BUT: Tools, Eclipse, WTP do have appointed reps that are very active, they just aren't PMC members
    - Possible resolution from the Board: *"All PMC's are strongly encouraged to ensure that one delegate participates in the AC and PC meetings"*

How can the Board help?

- ***Money/Staffing for common initiatives.***
    - Galileo needs
        - integration testing
        - accessibility implementation and testing – needs a specialist
        - BIDI implementation and testing – needs a specialist
        - usability testing and recommendations
    - Testing is mostly cross-project in nature – who should do?
    - Need an initiative to fund this through the Foundation.
    - *Recommendation: Suggest the creation of a working group to discuss what the Foundation can and can't fund in terms of engineering work.*

How can the Board help?

- **LGPL dependencies (bug 246945).**

  - Many projects need LGPL code to be competitive, but LGPL is prohibited as a matter of policy.

  - *Recommendation: The AC would like to see this policy re-examined by the IP Advisory Committee.*

- **Serving a git Repository (bug 249745).**

  - Distributed Version Control System – alternative to CVS/SVN.

  - Lots of uptake in other open source communities, and big support from many of our committers.

  - Distribution could create legal challenges in the case of purging content.

  - EGit Proposal in the works.

  - *Recommentation: Approve the creation of a sandbox to start working with git and find administrators in the community to help setup.*

How can the Board help?

- **Serving JIRA as an option (bug 253889)**
  - Atlassian JIRA has been requested as an alternative to Bugzilla.
  - JIRA is licensed free of charge to Open Source communities.
  - Bugzilla, is deeply entwined with Eclipse Foundation processes as well as its legal terms (e.g. contributions can only be accepted if submitted through bugzilla, thanks to the Website Terms of Use).
  - The AC isn't requesting a JIRA setup or migration at this time, but they would like the Foundation to prepare for the possibility.
  - *Recommendation: make the legal connection to Bugzilla in the IP docs more generic, such as "the Eclipse Foundation Issue Tracking Systems"?*

- **FYI: Copyright Headers for generated sources (bug 249959)**
  - How to treat Copyright Headers for generated checked-in sources?
  - IP process?