ECF Project 3.0 Release Review

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Home Page: http://www.eclipse.org/ecf

Highlights

3.o new features:
- Major Enhancements and Additions:
    - Implementation of OSGi R4.2 RFC119
    - Discovery API
    - R-OSGi protocol implementation
    - Filetransfer (using Apache httpclient 3.1 as provider)
    - Real-Time Shared Editing/Team Provider for Immediate Resource Sharing

- New API and Impls
    - Sync API – Distributed model synchronization (cola operational transformation)
    - Storage API – Secure storage/preferences for ECF IDs
    - User Search and Message Search (in presence API)
    - NIO provider for Datashare API
    - Discovery View

API quality:
- Major release, so breaking API changes.
- Some new API provisional
- Some deprecation (e.g. discovery)

End-of-life issues:
- None

IP Clearance and Licenses:
- All licenses and about files are in place as per the Eclipse Development Process, the Due Diligence Process was followed for all contributions

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Highlights

Community and Committer Diversity:
- – 13 committers, 8 active in past 9 months
- – Organizations: EclipseSource (2), Individuals (6)
- – Consumed by Eclipse Platform project (P2), Buckminster

- – Consumed by Coffee Project: http://www.coffee-soft.org/

- – Many contributors from diverse orgs: IBM, Cloudsmith, Siemens, numerous small companies, individuals

Other Adopters: http://wiki.eclipse.org/ECF/Adopters

Themes and Plan Items

- **Model Synchronization**
  - Provide generalized synchronization API →
    Sync API
- **RT Collaboration for IDE**
  - Distribute resource changes to peers in RT

- **ECF For Runtimes**
  - Better support for proxies in filetransfer

- **Remote OSGi Services**
  - Provide transport-independent runtime API
    (ECF RS) and support/implement emerging
    standards (RFC119)

- **IM/Chat Features**
  - Fixed number of issues with XMPP provider,
    Skype provider
- **Application Integration**
  - Plan items deferred

- **Packaging and Deployment**
  - Deploy as p2 repo
  - Create new automated continuous build/test

- **Support for P2/Platform Robustness**

http://www.eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=rt.ecf

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Deferred 3.0 Plan Items

- VNC-based Screen Sharing based upon Bundles in DSDP-Tml Project
  - https://bugs.eclipse.org/bugs/show_bug.cgi?id=239854
- Supporting N-Way Messaging in Docshare
  - http://bugs.eclipse.org/240290
- Supporting proxy settings for XMPP/other providers

Non-Code Aspects

- The 3.0 release will contain updated User and ISV documentation

- Community is very active
  - Mailing lists and newsgroups have steady activity
    - ecf-dev@eclipse.org
  - Blogs dedicated to Eclipse are active e.g.
    - http://www.planeteclipse.org
  - Wiki content is growing
    - http://wiki.eclipse.org/ECF
  - 'Community Created Book' Effort to Begin
  - Many non-committer contributions
    - Filetransfer API improvements: Cloudsmith and IBM
    - TwitterHub RCP Twitter Client
    - Example Remote Services and Docs

Non-Code Aspects

- Articles, examples, and tutorials
    - Webinars, Interviews, Podcasts by multiple committers
    - Example code library in ECF repo
    - Tutorials given at EclipseCon, and presentation at OSGi conferences

Standards

- ## OSGi RFC119

    - Service Platform Core Specification, Release 4.2

    - RFC119 closely watched and highly anticipated

    - ECF's implementation transport independent, so other providers (e.g. Riena) can easily be added for immediate support of RFC119

Architectural/Standards Issues

- RFC119 is not complete for 4.2 specification and so will undergo change. This likely means API changes for ECF's implementation.

- Good news is that ECF's Remote Service API will not change. Layered approach (i.e. RFC119 impl ->ECF RS->RS Providers) allows isolation of RFC119 changes.

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End of Life Issues

ECF project has some deprecated API (~10 methods). Need to be consistent with other projects on how this is handled in ECF 4.0 (assuming 4.0 is in 2010).

Bugzilla – Past Year

Status

	RESOLVED	VERIFIED	CLOSED	Total
blocker	4	.	1	5
critical	9	.	.	9
major	30	1	.	31
normal	213	2	1	216
minor	11	.	.	11
trivial	4	.	.	4
enhancement	64	.	1	65
Total	335	3	3	341

Severity

Bugzilla – 3.0 Release

Status

	NEW	ASSIGNED	Total
critical	.	1	1
major	1	.	1
normal	4	6	10
enhancement	2	1	3
Total	7	8	15

Severity

IP Issues

- All significant and third party contributions have been reviewed and approved by Eclipse legal.

- About files and license files are complete and correct.

- Draft IP log:

  - http://www.eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=rt.ecf

UI Usability

- Few UI changes in ECF 3.0

- Strings externalized to support translation into other languages

- Not aware of any non-compliance with accessibility standards in the user interface

Schedule

- Milestones every 6 weeks

    - API Frozen for Core on March 13 (M6+0), all non-core bundles on May 5 (M7+2)

    - UI Frozen on May 19 (RC1+2)

- Ramp-Down Policy: http://wiki.eclipse.org/ECF_3.0.0/ Galileo_Ramp-Down_Policy

Process

- Everything Open

  - Bugzilla

  - Bi-Monthy Conference Calls w Minutes

  - IRC

  - Mailing List

  - Book Development (!)

Community

- **ECF** team members active in Bugzilla, newsgroups, and mailing lists
- ECF committer Jan Rellermeyer active in distributed systems research community and invited member of OSGi Enterprise Experts Group
- Siemens Contributors
- Blogs started by Equinox committers are active
  - http://www.planeteclipse.org
- Using the eclipse-ecf IRC channel
  - irc://irc.freenode.net/#eclipse-ecf
- The ECF team participates in code camps, conference presentations, and tutorials, including
  - EclipseCon, Eclipse Summit Europe, 2008 OSGi Community Event
- The ECF team interacts with other open source projects, standards bodies, researchers, and other projects on eclipse.org, including
  - Equinox, Riena, OSGi EE, Apache, Buckminster, CoFFEE, DSDP-TML, others

ECF Has Open, Participative, Diverse, Growing Community

Project Plan for ECF 4.0/Helios

- Remote Services/RFC119
- More providers: Discovery, RS (JMS, Riena), Presence (twitter), VOIP (SIP)
- ECF on Equinox Servers
- Testing Distributed Applications
- Other Plans and Priorities under Consideration