



*Paris,
France*

Town Hall: Business Implications of Open Source OSGi Implementations

Moderator: BJ Hargrave
OSGi Alliance Fellow & CTO
IBM Senior Technical Staff Member



Panel Topic

- In the year since the last OSGi World Congress and Open Source panel, there has been lots of progress:
 - OSGi Alliance has made interim drafts of R4 available
 - OSGi Alliance has now released the R4 companion code to the specification under an open source license
 - Apache Felix and Eclipse Equinox projects formed
- Given this improved relationship between OSGi Alliance and open source projects:
 - What has been good and what has been bad?
 - What more should be done?
 - How is this relationship between a specification body and open source projects beneficial for both?
 - How should companies' business models adapt to the availability of open source OSGi implementations?



Panel Format

- Brief opening remarks from each Panelist
- Questions from the Moderator
- Questions from the Audience

Let's Meet the Panelists

- **Richard S. Hall** - Researcher, LSR Laboratory, Grenoble University and Oscar/Felix Lead Developer
- **Jeff McAffer** - Eclipse Architect, IBM and Eclipse Equinox Project Lead
- **Christer Larsson** - CEO, Gatespace Telematics AB, Knopflerfish Supporter
- **Enrique Rodriguez** - PMC Member, Apache Software Foundation
- **Mike Milinkovich** - Executive Director, Eclipse Foundation
- **Peter Kriens** - OSGi Evangelist, OSGi Fellow and President, aQute



Richard S. Hall

- A Open source approach is good for OSGi technology
 - Increases awareness and participation
 - Provides real-world use cases as well as research-oriented ones
 - Quicker to innovate and to experiment
- Shortcomings
 - Open source approach does not necessarily take into account embedded device domain
 - Too costly and difficult, in general

Jeff McAffer

Eclipse/OSGi membership overlap*

- Computer Associates+
- Ericsson
- ETRI
- Hitachi
- IBM+
- Intel+
- Motorola
- NEC
- Nokia+
- Oracle

* As of Oct 2005

+ Eclipse Strategic Developers



Challenges to the Alliance

- Engage the open source community
 - Test suites/certification
 - Enable parallel development of spec and impl
- OSGi is not just for embedded any more
 - Desktop, Rich Client, Server

Challenges to Open Source

- Avoid Containerisms

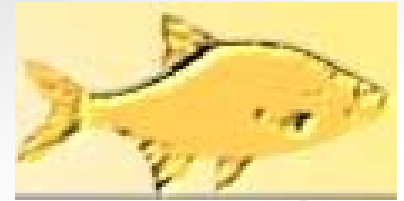
Challenges to All

- JSR 277

Christer Larsson

Gatespace Telematics

- OSGi based platform technology
- leading expertise in
 - Java / OSGi
 - Distributed systems design
 - Embedded systems
- Complete systems specifically targeted for telematics and mobile solution
- OSGi member since 1999 (since the inception)
- Based in Gothenburg, Sweden



Knopflerfish

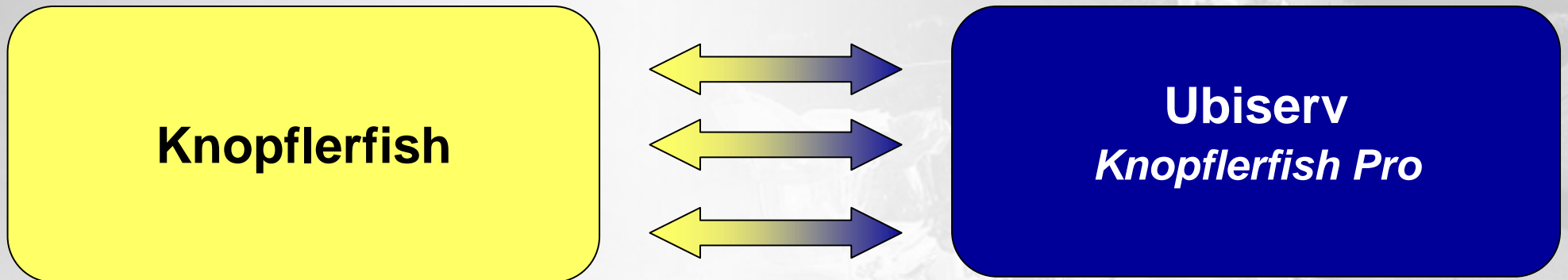
Knopflerfish and Ubiserv

- Knopflerfish

- Open src OSGi dist.
- BSD license
- Maintained by GSTM

- Ubiserv

- Commercial product
- Fully supported (SLA)
- "Knopflerfish Pro"
- Insurance!



Open Source Business Model

- The product is freely available, no run-time licenses
- Revenues are generated from
 - Support (SLAs)
 - Professional Services
 - T-shirts...
- SLAs give companies the assurance they need to actually use open source software in commercial products
- Open licensing: BSD
 - GPL, no or little acceptance from industry
 - Dual-licensing creates a tricky relationship between the company and a community.

The OSGi Alliance and Open Source

- The Technology is now larger than the Alliance!
 - Mail lists on Knopflerfish / Oscar have become, or are becoming a "CPEG lite"
- But,
 - the OSGi Alliance is important as the maintainer of the specs.
 - forking is (hopefully) prevented by the Alliance
- Compliance and TCK
 - Available to open src communities or not?



Final Comments

- Open source is key to spread the OSGi gospel
- Business Models
 - It will change the business model on the client side
 - It will not necessarily change the business model on the back-end server / provisioning side
- Final wish, a complete open src client stack!
 - OS (Linux)
 - JVM (), - Mika! Kaffe, J9?
 - OSGi (Knopflerfish, Oscar, Equinox)



Enrique Rodriguez

- Why OSGi
 - Customers
 - Developers
 - Vendors
- The Good
 - High-quality
 - Investment protection
- The (not so) Bad
 - Home
 - Embedded



Apache

- Getting Involved
 - Individuals, not companies
 - The ASL License
 - Incubation
 - Committers
- Why Contribute
 - Infrastructure
 - Brand Name/ Recognition
 - Community
 - Lower cost

Mike Milinkovich

- The Good
 - Open source implementations are helping to drive widespread adoption
 - Building the Eclipse implementation in parallel with R4's evolution shows the mutual advantages of open standards and open source
- The Bad
 - Need to focus Eclipse's eRCP project on OSGi requirements, as well as eSWT
- The Ugly
 - JSR277
 - Competition between Eclipse and Apache



Peter Kriens

Why Open Source Software Sucks

- Open source is not controlled
 - The drudgery parts are not done: 80% rule
 - Quality is extremely inconsistent
 - Dead projects stay around forever
 - Not user friendly
 - Version Management ignored
 - Many are run by a single person
- Too many parties, zero cost of entry
 - Confusing: soooo many different Linux distributions
 - No tunneled market feedback
- Intellectual property rules are not clear
 - Patent issues are wide open in open source software



OSGi
Alliance

Peter Kriens

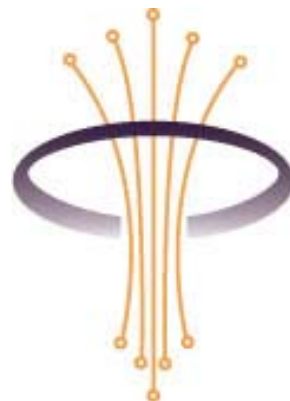
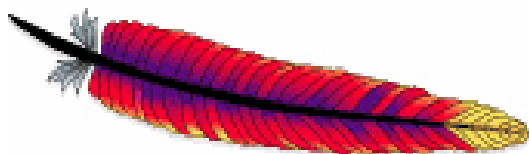
Why Open Source Software Sucks

- No convergence on a small number of solutions
 - Any fool can fork an open source project
 - KDE, Gnome, Motif, ...
 - Fragmentation
- Liability
 - The authors disclaim all liability
- Abused by companies to disrupt markets
 - Open office
- Open source needs standards
 - But who pays for the standards?
 - A certain amount of freeloading?

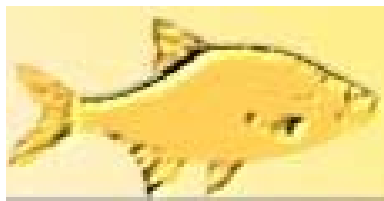


OSGi Open Source Panel

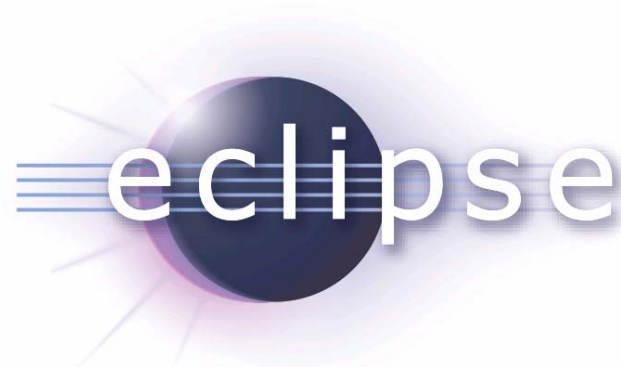
The **Apache
Software
Foundation**



**OSGi[™]
Alliance**



Knopflerfish



Oscar