President's Message

I'm excited to announce the Alliance has approved and implemented a transparent specification process that allows non-members real-time visibility into Request For Comments (RFC – a design document) and Requests For Proposal (RFP – a requirements document) updates, while preserving member-exclusive rights to write, edit and approve OSGi specifications.

Members' OSGi implementations serve as proof points and best practices, encouraging OSGi adoption. We expect this transparent spec process will increase third-party validation of OSGi specifications, prompting a ripple effect into verticals and communities – especially open source communities -- that may now follow and support the specification more quickly.

We now mirror our RFCs to a world-readable repository so the public sees updates immediately. These documents can now be found at https://github.com/osgi/design. While the specification process benefits from more industry insight, OSGi members still preserve the right to exclusively make decisions on the specification work itself.

CALL TO ACTION

Sponsor and attend OSGi Community Event 2013, co-located with EclipseCon Europe 2013

Promote your OSGi offerings with a product spotlight, success story, technical use case or business reference by contacting Alisa Pfeil, Alliance marketing and public relations manager, or Susan Schwarze, Alliance vice president of marketing.

Help align Alliance event priorities with your priorities and interests

Users' Forum Japan

The seventh annual OSGi Users' Forum Japan workshop in May drew more than 100 people to the all-day event. Professor Shiro Sakata, the chairman of Users’ Forum Japan, invited the OSGi Alliance Board of Directors to participate.

The meeting covered many aspects of OSGi,
Comments on RFCs are submitted through the OSGi public bugzilla system, just like comments on early drafts and RFPs.

Our expert groups may now also include Intellectual Property contained in comments from the public during technical design when the comments are submitted through the the OSGi public bugzilla system. This should promote greater cooperation with other standards organizations and open source communities and increase OSGi adoption.

Please review the news announcement and let me know if you have any questions about the increased transparency process.

Also, I’d like to welcome a new Strategic Member, Salesforce.com, and two new Principal Members, IS2T and Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd., to the Alliance. We look forward to working with them.

Finally, I would like to announce that the Board named Ryutaro Kawamura of NTT Laboratories an OSGi Laureate this spring. Ryutaro served as a board director from October 2003 to January 2013, and was one of the most active and generous directors to serve the Alliance. It was an honor to work with him.

Best Regards,
Dan Bandera
President
OSGi Alliance

OSGi Community Event

OSGi Community Event 2013, “Tap into the Broader Ecosystem,” will help attendees understand how others are using OSGi to compete in their own from embedded to enterprise, and included presentations from OSGi Alliance board members on OSGi strategy, and updates on the Enterprise Expert Group and Core Platform Expert Group, including plans for the R6 specification. Users’ Forum Japan, the first and one of the largest OSGi users’ forums, continues to grow from strength to strength.

OSGi Alliance President Dan Bandera announced longtime board member Ryutaro Kawamura, NTT, was named an OSGi Laureate for his outstanding contributions to OSGi, the OSGi Alliance and the OSGi Users’ Forum Japan. He presented Mr. Kawamura with a plaque to commemorate his service.

Expert Group Updates

Core Platform Expert Group
The Core Platform Expert Group recently completed and approved the Compendium Release 5 specifications, reference implementations and compliance tests. These are currently out for member review and approval. Once approved by the members, the specification will be made available to the public and the RI and CT available to members. Compendium Release 5 includes a number of new specifications from Enterprise Release 5 and also errata fixes.

Upcoming changes for the OSGi enterprise specification
InfoQ, May 30, 2013

Interview with Neil Bartlett about OSGi and the new Bndtools 2.0 release
InfoQ, March 21, 2013

Tendril Partners With Hitachi for Smart Home
GreenTech Grid, Jan. 24, 2013

Help shape Alliance event priorities
The OSGi Alliance prefers
to participate in industry events that interest our members and to advocate OSGi to audiences you consider valuable. We are refining our event list and would like to poll Alliance membership on events you or your companies plan to attend — or would like to attend.

The primary reason for the request is to determine targets for speaking opportunities; in cases where the Alliance already has a member attending or speaking at an event, your participation could also inspire additional speaking opportunities, including panel recommendations for the Alliance and members.

The Alliance will collect and aggregate your shared event lists anonymously in case there are any privacy concerns on your company’s event plans. Please send your company’s (or relevant division’s) event calendar to the Alliance’s marketing and public relations manager, a neutral third party.

Ian Robinson, an IBM Distinguished Engineer and the Chief Architect of the WebSphere Application Server, will present the keynote address, "Travelling Light for the Long Haul." The Alliance interviewed Mr. Robinson recently and he provided a preview of his presentation:

"I’ll be talking about the experiences the IBM WebSphere team has had over many years with OSGi: what our original motivations and goals were, the extent to which we achieved those, what we did wrong along the way, and where we’re going with our OSGi use now."

Read the complete interview with Mr. Robinson here.

For the first time, your company can now elect to sponsor the OSGi Community Event itself or choose a dual sponsorship of both events to demonstrate support of both OSGi and Eclipse communities. Review the complete sponsorship prospectus here.

Work is ongoing for Core Release 6 and Enterprise Release 6 as well as the next residential specification. Core Release 6 includes some new features like Data Transfer Objects (RFC 185), Service Scopes (RFC 195) and an update to HttpService (RFC 189), as well as a number of other improvements and new features. We are currently targeting completion of Core Release 6 in 1Q2014.

Residential Expert Group
The Residential Expert Group continues to grow and is happy to welcome IS2T as a new member. REG has been very actively working on RFCs for Device Abstraction Layer, ZigBee Device Service, EnOcean Device Service, Resource Management and USB Device Category. The expert group plans to have a public draft specification later this year and schedule another workshop with other standardization organizations to receive additional feedback.