



Press announcement

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Apache Felix graduates as a top level project

Open-source software for implementation of OSGi standard is to launch official release

After an incubation period of well over a year, the Apache Felix project was recently given top-level status by The Apache Software Foundation. This allows developers to shortly launch an official release: a great step forward in the implementation of the OSGi standard. The Dutch-based luminis® company is closely involved in this project and will be offering commercial support based on the official release.

Felix

Felix implements the OSGi standard for component-based software. The final objective of the community is to achieve an implementation that fully meets all specifications of the OSGi R4.1 Service Platform. Fred Verstraaten, director of luminis® iQ Products: 'Felix is a worthy successor of the former Oscar OSGi platform. The developers have worked very hard on Felix for a full year and have made various improvements while retaining footprint and performance.'

Apache top-level status

Felix is an open-source software package developed by a diverse community of volunteers under the Apache Software Foundation umbrella. In line with Apache guidelines, Felix started in an incubation phase, which is required to resolve all legal issues. During this phase, the project was monitored for matters such as activity, community building, and its capacity for making software releases. After the incubation period, the Apache board – consisting of experienced and prominent members of the Apache community – decided to promote the project to top-level status. Verstraaten: 'Now that Felix has attained this status, the developers will shortly launch an official release. On the basis of this release, luminis® will be offering commercial support in order to offer to clients the operational safety they require.'

OSGi

This technology is an international open standard for the life cycle management of software. This enables service providers to make software components and services that communicate with each other in a dynamic environment and that can be managed from a distance. Verstraaten: 'OSGi was originally used for embedded devices and home services gateways, but it is highly suitable for any project that is component- or service-oriented. OSGi has an increasing number of users and a vigorous open-source community that makes an important contribution to the standard.' The OSGi Alliance is an independent not-for-profit organization, consisting of technological innovators and developers, focussing on the operational interaction between applications and services.

Community

Felix has a thriving community, amongst whom are 21 committers. With two of their staff being involved, luminis® is making an important contribution to this product. 'These two are luminis® staff members Marcel Offermans, Technical Manager, and Karl Pauls, Lead Software Engineer. They are actively involved in the community and are on the Felix Project Management Committee. Karl Pauls is also the Felix release manager. luminis® is proud to give a positive impetus to the open source community in this way.'

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Not for publication

Would you like to know more about Apache Felix, OSGi, or luminis® iQ Products? Please go to <http://felix.apache.org/>, to <http://www.apache.org/> or to <http://www.osgi.org/>. Or contact Fred Verstraaten: phone +31 (0) 651 453 569, info@luminis.nl. We will be pleased to inform you.