



Albireo (Swing/SWT Integration)

Project Creation Review

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Albireo Overview



- Proposed Eclipse Technology project
- Simplifies Swing/SWT Integration
 - in particular, the addition of Swing components to SWT and RCP applications
- Builds on the standard integration support in SWT (the SWT/AWT bridge)
- Benefits:
 - Greatly simplifies reuse of Swing components
 - Enables smoother, incremental transition from Swing to RCP/SWT
 - Provides a better out-of-the-box experience for evaluators of Swing/SWT integration
 - Provides a community to help support the practice of Swing/SWT integration



Initial Scope

- Initial Platforms
 - Windows 2000/XP/Vista
 - Linux/GTK
 - Mac OS X 10.4
 - X11/Motif
- Supported JREs
 - Bulk of testing will focus on Java 5 and higher runtimes
 - Runnable on Java 1.4 where SWT/AWT bridge is available
- Supported versions of SWT
 - 3.3+



Relationship to Other Eclipse Projects

- SWT
 - Main dependency
 - SWT project leadership (Steve Northover) supports the Albireo project
- Platform UI
 - JFace may be used by higher level features
 - These features will be isolated, so that JFace will not be required by clients



Mentors

- Steve Northover, IBM
 - SWT architect and project lead
- Jochen Krause, Innoopract
 - Rich Ajax Platform project lead



Initial Committers

- Gordon Hirsch (project lead)
 - SAS Institute Inc.
- Bruno Haible
 - ILOG S.A.



Initial Committer: Bruno Haible

Bruno Haible is a member of the Java Visualization developers at ILOG since 1997. He is mainly working on the ILOG JViews product. He is the architect of ILOG's enhancements to the SWT_AWT bridge. He has experience with AWT/Swing since 1997 and with SWT since 2005. He is familiar with open source development, having contributed to the Linux kernel, to X11, and to GNU. He loves portability and hates quick hacks.



Initial Committer: Gordon Hirsch

- Technical lead for SAS Institute's transition to the Eclipse Rich Client Platform.
- Developer of Eclipse Rich Client Platform and Eclipse IDE plugins since 2004
 - Developed Swing/SWT integration support during this period
- Wrote "Swing/SWT Integration" article on eclipse.org
- Java application and tool developer since 1997
- Member of Sun JDK development team 1997-2000



Community Interest

- Genuitec, LLC
 - Todd Williams
- Instantiations, Inc.
 - Eric Clayberg
- From the `eclipse.technology.albireo` newsgroup:
 - “We are very interested in seeing the difficulties between SWT and Swing resolved. It would be quite nice to have both of them play well together.” – James Peltzer (canadianguy@gmail.com)
 - “I think this will be a great and very useful project” - chriskwonlewis@msn.com



Initial Contributions

- SAS Institute
 - code from the “Swing/SWT Integration” Article
- ILOG S.A.
 - ILOG's enhancements to the SWT_AWT bridge



Maturity Plan

- Initial release planned for soon after Eclipse 3.4 release
 - Milestones will be released sooner
- After the initial release...
 - Additional releases, depending on community needs
 - Ultimately a merge into the Eclipse platform might make sense, but only if there is
 - sufficient additional interest from the community to merit a platform component
 - a high-quality implementation for all necessary platforms