JSDT Project Creation Review

Introduction

The JavaScript Development Tools (JSDT) project aims to evolve and better promote JavaScript-based development technologies within the Eclipse community. It will do so by providing a rich set of tools for the development of non-trivial software using JavaScript, including facilities for editing, validating, refactoring, and debugging, as well as frameworks for vendors and other projects to enhance and build upon.

Scope

The JSDT project will include support for the core language as standardized by Ecma International and developed by the Mozilla Foundation, and for client-side JavaScript within web pages as specified by the Mozilla Foundation and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). While intended to be usable by itself, it will continue to integrate with and provide support for JavaScript within WTP's web page editors.

Code Contribution

The initial contents of the JSDT project will consist of the following CVS modules taken from WTP Source Editing:

- org.eclipse.jsdt.astview.feature
- org.eclipse.jsdt.jeview.feature
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.astview
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.core
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.core.tests.compiler
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.core.tests.model
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.doc
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.feature
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.manipulation
- ora.eclipse.wst.isdt.support.firefox
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.support.ie
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.ui
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.ui.tests
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.unittests
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.core
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.core.tests
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.feature
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.support.jsp
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.ui
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.web.ui.tests
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt sdk.feature
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt tests.feature

Combined with the following from e4 Languages:

- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.connect
- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.jsdi
- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.jsdi.rhino

- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.model
- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.rhino
- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.test
- org.eclipse.e4.languages.javascript.debug.ui

Which will themselves become:

- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.debug.rhino
- org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.debug.core
- · org.eclipse.wst.jsdt.debug.ui

Community & Collaboration

This project came about as a result of discussions around incorporating e4's debugging support into the existing JSDT component. The e4 JavaScript team has been collaborating with the Rhino and Firebug communities to help standardize the protocols for JavaScript debugging. ATF committers have also expressed interest in refactoring ATF so that its UI can be used with both the e4 and ATF debug mechanisms, as there is value in both approaches.

"Its goals seem to be very comparable to the Symbian goals of ensuring that mobile web developers have excellent open source tools." -Symbian Foundation

Zend Technologies is already reporting and fixing problems, as well as providing improvements to JSDT's extensibility. They have driven the addressing of performance issues in the past.

Maturation Plan

The project will issue milestone builds coinciding with the Web Tools Platform, while incubating, and include its first proper release, Javascript Development Tools 1.2, within WTP 3.2 and various Helios packages. Since the project includes components already shipping in WTP, it will continue to be built as part of WTP.

March 12, 2010

 WTP and e4 plug-ins and features moved into new CVS locations and part of WTP M6 milestone build.

April 30, 2010

- e4 plug-ins refactored into their intended new names and part of WTP M7 milestone build.
- June 23, 1010 Graduation/Release
 - Graduation. Release as part of WTP 3.2.

Mentors

- David Williams, IBM
 - WTP PMC Lead, Orbit Project Lead
- John Arthorne, IBM Canada
 - Eclipse Platform and e4 Project Committer

Initial Committers

- · Nitin Dahyabhai, Project Lead, IBM
 - WTP Source Editing Project Lead and Component Lead for the incoming WTP contribution.
- · Christopher Jaun, Committer, IBM
 - Having worked within IBM on Java EE and JPA tools, Chris began working on WTP's JSDT component in earnest in late 2008. He had the 4th most contributed and approved patches in the IP Log at Eclipse for 2009, a number which would only have been higher he had not become a Committer in June of that year.
- · Simon Kaegi, Committer, IBM Canada
 - Simon is a member of the Eclipse core team and committer on equinox and e4, where he focuses on JavaScript modularity and debugging.
- · Michael Rennie, Committer, IBM Canada
 - Michael is a member of the Eclipse Platform/JDT Debug team and a committer on PDE API Tools, Platform Ant and Platform / JDT / PDE doc.

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