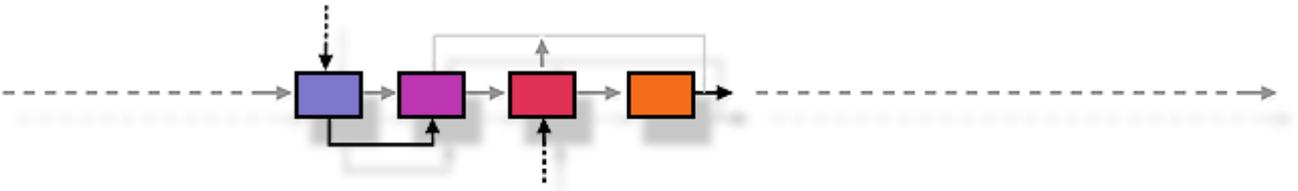




Java
Community
Process



Merging the ECs

January 2011

Background



- Currently we have two separate ECs, one for Java ME and one for Java EE.
- The ECs have agreed that since *Java is One Platform*, and since we expect ME and SE to converge over time, we should merge the two ECs into one.
 - We will soon file a JSR focused on making this change.
- We will reduce the number of seats, and keep the same ratio (2:1) of ratified and elected seats.
 - Oracle will give up one of its permanent seats.
 - No other member may hold more than one seat.
- The change will be initiated during the 2012 elections, but may need to be implemented over time.

Current composition of the ECs



Seats expiring in 2012	
Ratified (SE/EE)	Credit Suisse, Fujitsu, HP, IBM
Ratified (ME)	AT&T, Siemens, T-Mobile, Vodafone
Elected (SE/EE)	London Java Community
Elected (ME)	CableLabs
Seats expiring in 2013	
Ratified (SE/EE)	Goldman Sachs, Red Hat, SouJava
Ratified (ME)	RIM, Samsung, TOTVS
Elected (SE/EE)	Eclipse, Google
Elected (ME)	Stefano Andreani, Aplix
Seats expiring in 2014	
Ratified (SE/EE)	Ericsson, Intel, SAP
Ratified (ME)	IBM, Nokia, SK Telecom
Elected (SE/EE)	Twitter, Azul
Elected (ME)	ARM, Werner Keil

Decisions



- How many members should the merged EC have?
- When and how should seats be eliminated?
- Should we switch to a two-year election cycle?
- Other possible changes:
 - Reduce the quorum from 3/4 to 2/3?
 - Should not be necessary since non-attendees lose their votes, and don't count towards quorum?
 - *Super-majority* voting rules?
 - Currently 2/3 of votes cast must be *yes* (this is ambiguous; do abstentions count?) May be difficult to achieve with a large EC if some members do not feel interested/qualified to vote on a particular JSR.

Two or three year election cycle?



- With a smaller number of members we might want to switch to a two-year election cycle.
- Benefits:
 - Greater competition in elections.
 - Easier to remove non-participating members.
 - By not re-ratifying, or by voting them out.
 - More turnover would bring fresh ideas into the EC.
- Disadvantages:
 - Potential loss of continuity and “institutional memory.”

Potential configurations



- 25 members: 1 Oracle, 16 ratified, 8 elected.
 - Eliminate 4 ratified seats and 2 elected seats.
 - 3-year cycle: 5/3, 5/3, 6/2.
 - 2 year cycle: 8/4, 8/4.
- 22 members: 1 Oracle, 14 ratified, 7 elected.
 - Eliminate 6 ratified seats and 3 elected seats.
 - 3-year cycle: 5/2, 5/2, 4/3.
 - 2 year cycle: 7/4, 7/3.
- 19 members: 1 Oracle, 12 ratified, 6 elected.
 - Eliminate 8 ratified seats and 4 elected seats.
 - 3-year cycle: 4/2, 4/2, 4/2.
 - 2-year cycle: 6/3, 6/3.

Guidelines for eliminating seats



- The process should be seen as fair.
- All members should have an equal chance of losing their seat through elimination.
 - This should not vary depending on when their term expires.
- If the reduction is done over time, the percentage of seats eliminated and the ratio of ratified to elected seats should be consistent in each phase.
- Oracle should have the greatest possible flexibility in reallocating ratified seats to ensure balance.
- The process should be completed as soon as possible.

Cohorts and terms of office



- Members whose terms expire in 2012 expect to run again in that year.
- Members whose terms expire in 2014 (who were elected in 2011) were given advance notice that “In the near future the EC intends to merge the two ECs, and modify the number of members and possibly their terms of office.”
- Members whose terms expire in 2013 were elected on the understanding that they would serve three years.
 - We should not retroactively change this.
 - We would need their explicit approval (through voluntary resignation) to shorten their terms.

Option 1: eliminate all seats in 2012



- The fairest approach (if the 2013 cohort agrees.)
- Play *musical chairs* - all remaining seats are up for re-election in 2012.
- *Reset the clock* on all members' terms.
 - Rank newly-elected members according to the total number of votes received to determine the length of their initial term.
- This option is ruled out, since several of the 2013 cohort did not agree to relinquish their seats in 2012.
- Alternatively (Option 1a) – wait until 2013 to make the changes in this manner.

Option 2: two phases – 2012 and 2013



- Eliminate seats from the 2012 and 2014 cohort in 2012.
- Permit the 2013 cohort to serve out their term of office.
- 2012+2014: 14 ratified and 6 elected seats expire.
 - 70% of the ratified seats and 60% of the elected seats.
- 2013: 6 ratified and 4 elected seats expire.
 - 30% of the ratified seats and 40% of the elected seats.
- Of the seats to be eliminated...
 - Eliminate 70% of the ratified seats and 60% of the elected seats in 2012.
 - Eliminate the remainder in 2013.

Option 2a: reduce to 25



- Eliminate 4 ratified seats and 2 elected seats.
- Reduction in 2012: 70% of 4 ratified seats (2.8) and 60% of 2 elected seats (1.2)
- Rounding: in 2012 eliminate 3 ratified and 1 elected; in 2013 eliminate 1 ratified and 1 elected.
- The chance of losing a ratified seat in 2012 would be 3/14 (21%); in 2013 the chance would be 1/6 (17%)
- The chance of losing an elected seat in 2012 would be 1/6 (17%); in 2013 the chance would be 1/4 (25%)
- Between 2012 and 2013 we would have 17 ratified seats and 9 elected seats (a slight temporary advantage to elected members.)

Option 2b: reduce to 22



- Eliminate 6 ratified seats and 3 elected seats.
- Reduction in 2012: 70% of 6 ratified seats (4.2) and 60% of 3 elected seats (1.8)
- Rounding: in 2012 eliminate 4 ratified and 2 elected; in 2013 eliminate 2 ratified and 1 elected
- The chance of losing a ratified seat in 2012 would be 4/14 (29%); in 2013 the chance would be 2/6 (33%)
- The chance of losing an elected seat in 2012 would be 2/6 (33%); in 2013 the chance would be 1/4 (25%)
- Between 2012 and 2013 we would have 16 ratified seats and 8 elected seats (exactly the preferred 2:1 ratio)

Option 2c: reduce to 19



- Eliminate 8 ratified seats and 4 elected seats.
- Reduction in 2012: 70% of 8 ratified seats (5.6) and 60% of 4 elected seats (2.4).
- Rounding: in 2012 eliminate 6 ratified and 2 elected; in 2013 eliminate 2 ratified and 2 elected.
- The chance of losing a ratified seat in 2012 would be 6/14 (43%); in 2013 the chance would be 2/6 (33%).
- The chance of losing an elected seat in 2012 would be 2/6 (33%); in 2013 the chance would be 2/4 (50%).
- Between 2012 and 2013 we would have 14 ratified seats and 8 elected seats (a slight temporary advantage to elected members.)

The current working-group consensus



- Reduce the size of the merged EC to 25 members.
- Merge the ECs after the 2012 election and eliminate Oracle and IBM's second seats at this time.
- Allow the 2013 cohort to serve out their terms, and then eliminate the remaining seats and require everyone to stand for re-election in 2013 (option 1a.)
- Switch to a two-year rather than a three-year election cycle.

Proposal and implementation (1)



- Hold the 2012 elections as usual but inform candidates that they will serve only a one-year term if elected.
- Merge the two ECs immediately after the 2012 election and eliminate Oracle's and IBM's second seat.
 - The merged EC will therefore have 30 members, minus those who lose their votes due to non-attendance.
- Eliminate three ratified and two elected seats in the October 2013 elections, reducing the EC to 25 members.
 - All remaining seats (including those who were elected in 2012) will be up for re-election in 2013.

Proposal and implementation (2)



- After 2013 we will reset to a two-year election cycle.
- Rank members elected in 2013 to determine whether their initial term will be one or two years.
 - The 50% in each of the group of ratified and elected members who receive the most votes will serve an initial two-year term, while the others will serve an initial one-year term.
- All members elected in 2014 and subsequently will serve a two-year term.

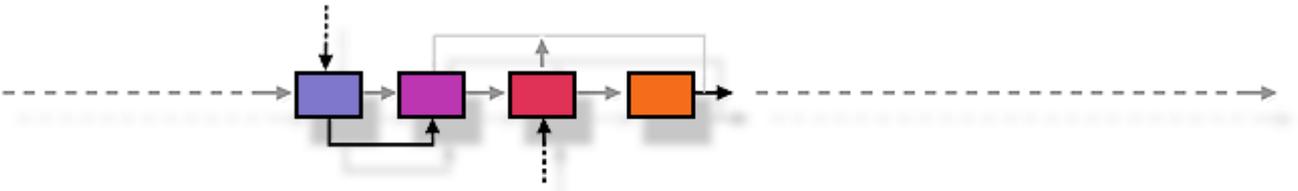
Next steps



- File the JSR (see draft circulated separately.)
- Form the Expert Group.
- Do it!



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Thank You!

<http://jcp.org>