

Tomitribe statement – JCP EC 2015

Tomitribe is a proud supporter of Java EE and Open Source. Founded in 2013 by David Blevins, Java Champion, former IBM, co-founder of Apache TomEE and previously Apache Geronimo, on the belief that everyone has a role with open source and open standards. Tomitribe is dedicated to supporting both Apache TomEE, the greater Java EE ecosystem and participates on a variety of JCP specifications including:

- JSR 365: Contexts and Dependency Injection for Java™ 2.0
- JSR 366: Java Platform, Enterprise Edition 8 (Java EE 8) Specification
- JSR 367: Java™ API for JSON Binding (JSON-B)
- JSR 368: Java™ Message Service 2.1
- JSR 375: Java™ EE Security API

Awards

- Nominated for JCP Member/Participant of the Year 2015, David Blevins
- Winner Oracle Duke's Choice 2014 Award, Apache TomEE
- ZeroTurnaround Geek's Choice Award 2014, Apache TomEE

Focus on JCP Progress Towards Openness

Tomitribe is deeply passionate about the JCP, its importance to our industry and the opportunity and responsibility we have as participants and users towards its and our continued success.

The Java Community Process is a unique gem and lynchpin of the Java industry. No other language or platform has managed to create for itself such a wide set of

complementary and interlocking APIs with a diverse set of implementations. The standards process allows for enough stability that higher level APIs such as JAX-RS can be created while the base APIs such as Servlets can still change and mutate. This careful mix of stability, vendor competition, customer investment, evolved standards and selected inclusion of proven technologies is what propels the Java ecosystem and allows of the vast cornucopia of solutions, tools, training, books, conferences, platforms and services to exist.

While some may dislike individual specifications, there is no denying all our fates in the Java industry are perched atop the success and vibrance of the specifications in the JCP.

With this in mind we must acknowledge that the investment of the industry built on top of our standards far exceeds the investment of the leads who create the standards. While significant and game changing progress has been made in the openness of the JCP and JSR process, further issues and considerations must be addressed:

- **TCK Improvement.** Once a TCK is released there is only a process for challenging tests, not adding them. The released TCK, minus the growing list of tests the vendors who certify have successfully challenged is what must be passed to claim certification. This results in a lowest common denominator level certification. Challenging as it may be, there must be a consumer-driven process for tests to be added after release. While Open Source TCKs would solve the issue across the board, pragmatically any process that allows the level of test coverage to increase and can be driven, at least in part, by users is a major step forward.
- **TCK Availability.** While across-the-board openness of Expert Groups in the JCP is a monumental achievement, the TCKs resulting from that open and collaborative process are still allowed to be completely closed. In the early days

of the JCP the vast majority of Expert Group members were vendors with full access to the respective TCKs. As Expert Groups opened to more non-vendor participants and eventually to the public itself, access to TCKs has not kept up. The result is an imbalance that was not there before and is now. The correlation of this imbalance and the overall slowed progress and diminished vendor choice in our standards space cannot be ignored. While vendor loss in the standards space is often due to acquisitions and other factors out of JCP control, the impact is still the same; fewer and fewer participants with TCK access. TCK Availability must become a primary concern of the JCP or we risk our standards dying despite our best efforts.