

Microsoft Election Position Paper

Microsoft strives to empower any developer, on any platform through the investment in developer tooling, cloud services, end-user software and hardware. Microsoft is committed to continuing its investments and participation in standards bodies and open-source foundations.

Microsoft deploys over 2 million internal JVMs across its businesses and runs Java on behalf of our customers on Azure. For example, the Microsoft build of OpenJDK powers LinkedIn services and Mojang's Minecraft Java Edition for millions of gamers worldwide.

Microsoft has been investing significantly in Open-Source tools, and services for Java developers. Over the past few years, Visual Studio Code, with nearly 2 million active Java developers using it, has become the 3rd most used IDE / Code Editor for Java Development. Extensions developed by Microsoft and other vendors and independent developers leverage a variety of projects from well-known OSS Foundations. Java language support for Visual Studio Code relies on the Eclipse JDT project, which Microsoft actively collaborates with Red Hat.

Our Java investments also expand through specific big data projects (Apache Lucene, Hadoop, Apache Spark, Apache Zookeeper, Apache Kafka, et al.) critical to Microsoft's core business, including the Bing Search Index, Azure Control Plane, and Azure Big Data Services.

Windows remains the most used Operating System by Java Developers. Microsoft wants to ensure that the developer experience on Windows remains productive, fast, and delightful.

Azure customers and Microsoft have cross-platform requirements, and Microsoft wants to continue promoting Java's WORA promise. Azure provides Linux and Windows servers and Mac OS X-based servers to build pipelines. Recently Microsoft provided the Windows on Arm Java port and its porting expertise to help complete the Apple Silicon Java Port.

As a cloud vendor, Microsoft also sees Java as a fundamental technology in the cloud space. We believe in giving back to the Java ecosystem by supporting the JCP's efforts to standardize Java technology as it evolves into a more cloud native platform.

Microsoft has a large organization of technologists with deep runtime and languages expertise including .NET, C++, Python and Typescript. It also has a dedicated Java Engineering Group which contributes directly to OpenJDK as well as Jakarta EE (the successor to Java EE). This deep expertise allows us to assess the technical merits of each JSR and help ensure that it is fit for purpose for the Java ecosystem. Since we seek to represent a broad cross-section of our internal and external customers, our voting decisions are based not on the opinions of one person, but a cross section of Java users and developers.