

Meeting OW2 Board meeting - Minutes - Summary

Date 22 November 2010, Telephone and Face-to-face meeting
Location

1. Chairman's Welcome Remarks

2. Introduction of New Directors

- Introduction of Yongwang Zhao of BUAA.
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3. Quorum

With 9 Strategic Members, 9 Corporate Members representatives and 1 Individual Member representative for a total of 19 Board members, 10 members constitute the quorum.

With 11 members present or represented at this meeting, the quorum is achieved. Super majority of two thirds of members present or represented is at 9.

Attending (and initials if ever used in the rest of the minutes):

1. BUAA, Hailong Sun (HS)
2. Bull, Jean-Pierre Laisné (JPL)
3. CVIC-SE, represented by BUAA Yongwang Zhao (YZ)
4. Engineering, Gabriele Ruffatti (GR)
5. France Telecom, Valère Robin (VR)
6. Fraunhofer Fokus, Gert Schuerman (GS)
7. INRIA, Patrick Moreau (PM)
8. ISCAS, Wang Wei (WW)
9. NUDT represented by Wang Wei (WW)
10. PetalsLink, Pierre-Yves Gibello (PYG)
11. PKU, Minghui Zhou (MZ)

Member of the board without voting right: CEO, Cédric Thomas (CT)

Attending at the invitation of the board: OW2 CTO Alexandre Lefebvre (AL), OW2 China LC Coordinator Cherry Bian (CB), BI Initiative lead Stefano Scamuzzo

Excused: Jaspersoft, Talend, CSTC,

Absent: Ingres, Neociclo, O-Engine, XWiki, François Letellier

(Minutes taken by VR, AL)

4. Agenda Review and Approval of Agenda

- The agenda is reviewed and a modified version is approved:
 - Item added by PM to be discussed in "Other business"
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5. Minutes of the previous meeting

- The minutes of the previous meeting are approved without comments
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6. CEO Report on Operations.

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Management Office situation

- Ed Daniel (British leaving in France), hired for 6 on ChoreOS and CompatibleOne funding (on dissemination tasks of the projects), to help launch the projects and develop the community through the web sites and social networks.
 - Alexandre Lefebvre is now 40% as CTO while Cherry Bian will be less available for OW2 tasks.
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Finance and Admin

- Budget to be discussed at next board meeting.

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Membership

- NUAA and Xiamen university have expressed interest in joining OW2. We expect new members, in particular coming from the Trustie community.
- Mpotential new members in India, Brazil, only one member for the moment, Brazil where there are enough opportunities to do a road show in several towns, North America through our members.
- Progress can be made in Europe, in particular with Germany and Italy. In Spain, opportunity to collaborate with Morfeo.
- In conclusion, there has been some but not many new members in 2010, and we should try to develop this.

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Activities

- Projects
 - New projects from Trustie.
 - Downloads are on a steady growth path, with differences in projects. We note that statistics are difficult to consolidate given that some projects have their code base (SVN) or their downloads elsewhere.
 - Open source community experts think that the number of downloads isn't the only factor of success: the density and activity of the community may be more relevant.
 - Finding other metrics is difficult because the situation is very different between projects (on mailing lists, on SVN, on version control, ...).
 - It may be a good case for the BI initiative to process the raw data from OW2 sites and see what reports can be generated, this could be an interesting case study for the BI initiative. Interest from the Trustie side as well.
- China Local Chapter
 - We had a new event this year: OW2 Open Source Corporate Networking Meeting. It can be seen as a business extension to the programming contest.
 - For 2011, we will need to start the organization in January (in 2010, the organization started in July which proved to be too late). We should be able to open it up, even opening to other open source communities and attract other companies beyond the Trustie circle. Objective is to make it a unique Open Source event in China.

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Technology Council

- Workshop planned between MO and the new TC chairman Guillaume Sauthier on 30 November.

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MarCom

- OWF
 - This was a successful event. The Open Cloud workshop was successful, and we have a potential alliance with Free Cloud Alliance. This would open OW2 code base to other technologies than Java. OW2 should try in keeping its special role in the organization and participation in this event.
 - Participation of OW2 among its peers : Apache, OpenOffice, Eclipse.
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Keynote speech conclusion by Mike Milinkovich from Eclipse : join a tribe, don't start one, join Linux Foundation, Eclipse, Apache, Mozilla and OW2.

- Open Source World Conference cancelled
 - CEO explained the possible reasons why this event did not happen, only partly due to the economical situation in Spain.

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Infrastructure

- Concern on the TCK renewal. Sun/Oracle has presented the delay in the process as due to the Oracle takeover since September 2009.
- OW2 is the last community whose TCK is not paid by a big company (Geronimo = IBM, JBoss = RedHat)
- AL: France Telecom
- Discussion whether OW2 members could send an official letter expressing their concern or whether OW2 should be more vocal on its unique position including a more independent way of organizing the TCK. We need to have a real dialogue with Oracle.
- OW2 to get in touch with other organizations and check out their position.
- If the OW2 scholarship was closed, then the scholarship system does not exist. Oracle claim they are "open", if they were not to be open any more, OW2 could communicate about it.
- Motion on being more proactive with regard to the TCK under the scholarship and openness of the JCP proposed by Jean-Pierre Laisné and seconded by Pierre-Yves Gibello.
 - motion adopted unanimously among the board members attending or represented.

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OW2 Summary

- Finance: over 300k€ in the bank, this includes advanced funding for collaborative projects to be spent over the next 3 years
- Legal: stable, no progress
- Communities: Ecosystem Council and Operation Council not operational
- Communication: lack of communication to leverage on the brand we have now
- Collateral: members must develop datasheets
- Strategic action plan: Good plan, moving in the right direction, but progress on each item are slow

7. OW2 in Collaborative Projects

- ChoreOS :
 - Ultra-large-scale coordination of web services: investigating the choreography paradigm (distribution of control) as opposed to orchestration (centralization of control)
 - Duration 3 years, funding to organize dissemination including organizing conferences
 - CHOReOS will provide for the launch of the "Future Internet Initiative", a provisional name that should be discussed in the next 6 months: could very well be the called instead "Choreography initiative"
 - Compatible One :
 - The project will provide part of the code to support the OSC Initiative
 - It is complementary to OSCi, which is wider than CompatibleOne, in particular for international partners and contacts.
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- Duration 2 years, OW2 with provision for organizing the conference and dissemination
 - Participation in these two projects secures some of our finances. They also come with commitments, and thus consume resources.

8. OW2 technology positioning discussion

- There has been discussion about the tagline and technology positioning of OW2.
 - An evolution in the communication was needed because "middleware" was considered to be restricted for the communication
 - A proposition is "infrastructure software"
- Proposed tagline "The open source community for infrastructure software", printed on a brochure for the Annual Conference.
 - This includes a focus on the people, leverage our image as one of the top four organizations in the world, and removes the ambiguity of "open source middleware".
- Comments on the "infrastructure" word which has a special meaning, for example, in cloud, it represents a piece of code that we do not supply in OSCi (except maybe around Entropy).
- In Telco, "infrastructure" is very much related to hardware and network, even though "software infrastructure" does have a meaning. "Software infrastructure" does not have the audience it deserves and needs to be more widespread.
- The board debated about the positioning, software, middleware, generic software, generic applications, etc.
- Question whether we should have kept "middleware". We don't bring general purpose software.
- Open source software is too generic and needs to be specialized.
- We need to differentiate OW2 from other communities. The description of the "code base" in the leaflet cover well the scope of OW2, the difficulty is to find a good "tag line" for the consortium.
- The board is invited to continue this debate on the mailing list, in order to provide a better version of the tagline. Anybody can contribute to a good headline for the consortium.

9. SQuAT feedback from the TC

- As per previous board request, SQuAT has been officially presented to the TC with a positive feedback.
 - Will require a "dashboard" tool to help projects launch the various tools, retrieve the reports and publish them on their dashboard.
 - There will be an obligation of information for Mature Projects (and of course available to all projects).
 - OW2 helps the project to provide information to their users, however OW2 does not deliver any kind of certification or label (other than "Mature" project).
 - After the Forge migration, most of our infrastructure work will be dedicated to implementing these tools. We will then integrate them into our governance (incl. project lifecycle) the requirements for mature projects to produce those reports.
 - Proposed timing:
 - now -> January 2011 implement the tools
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- As from January 2011, implement the project lifecycle.
 - The TC will drive feedback and requirements on the tools.
 - This will have numerous implications on how we use our resources. This is why the support of the board is required to launch the SQuAT action track.
 - The board expressed its approval.
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11. 2011 Event Schedule

- Call for comments on the events list presented, will be completed with budget in January for board decision
 - Some of the 2011 events may be (partially) covered by the CHOReOS or CompatibleOne projects.
 - Question on Solution Linux in France where OW2 had a booth (OW2 village) and organize conferences. Discussion about the opportunity of continuing our Solutions Linux presence. The interest of Solutions Linux is in question.
 - CEO to launch a call for comments on the board mailing list for these events.
 - CEO will present a budget for those events in January.
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11. Other business

- Question of the contribution and fees of the strategic members as the situation is diverse among all the strategic members. He would also like to take into consideration manpower allocated in kind to OW2.
 - VR: The decision on in-kind contributions, fees, differentiation according to the region of the world were made last year for one year.
 - VR: as far as Orange is concerned, Orange was ready to start 2011 with the same level of commitment as 2010.
 - PM: it is the same for INRIA. Proposal by PM to close the point, and to concentrate on attracting more strategic members.
 - CT: indeed, membership development currently concentrates on recruiting corporate members, but we should target efforts towards the recruitment of a "level 1 PPP" (Europe or North America) strategic member.
 - CT encourages the board to propose and identify possible strategic members.
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12. Planning and organization of next board of directors meetings

- Next board meeting in January 2011
 - MO will submit date for selection via Doodle
 - It will be a phone board, centered on budget discussion + identification of discussion topics for the next board meetings.
 - Preparing a board meeting is time consuming for the MO, should the board be reduced to quarterly meeting? On one hand, one every quarter is enough (4 times a year, as long as business needs allow it. On the other, board meetings are a way to keep in touch and gather information on the life of the consortium; if meetings were too spaced out, we may lose contact. Proposal for monthly meetings.
 - Suggestion to resume the discussion on the board mailing list.
 - Question to open the March board to a wider audience and specific subject:
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OW2 positioning

9. Chairperson's concluding comments

11. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 1pm CET