



# OSGi<sup>TM</sup> Alliance

## **Connect**

Final

32 Pages

## **Abstract**

OSGi Connect provides a mechanism to create and launch an OSGi Framework instance that can install bundles which use content managed outside of the Framework itself. For example, to provide things like resource loading, class loading, bundle entry content and the bundle manifest headers. Among other things this allows for bundles to exist and be installed into the framework from the flat class path, the Java Platform Module System module path, a jlink image, or a native image.

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# 0 Document Information

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## 0.3 Feedback

This document can be downloaded from the OSGi Alliance design repository at <https://github.com/osgi/design>  
The public can provide feedback about this document by opening a bug at <https://www.osgi.org/bugzilla/>.

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## 0.5 Terminology and Document Conventions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY" and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in 10.1.

Source code is shown in this typeface.

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## 0.6 Revision History

The last named individual in this history is currently responsible for this document.

Revision	Date	Comments
Initial	14 Aug 2019	David Bosschaert, initial content copied from RFP
Update	10 Dec 2019	Thomas Watson, initial content of technical solution

Revision	Date	Comments
Update	12 Dec 2019	Thomas Watson, Edits after CPEG meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FrameworkFactory is no longer modified, created ConnectFrameworkFactory and renamed ConnectFactory to ConnectFramework</li><li>• Updated methods where possible to allow the chain patterns</li><li>• Modified getModule to throw a BundleException directly</li><li>• Clarify that ConnectContent getHeaders returns the raw unlocalized headers.</li><li>• Mandate that BundleWiring.getClassLoader always returns a BundleReference implementation for connect bundles</li><li>• Added tags attribute to osgi.identity namespace to tag connect bundles at runtime</li></ul>
Final	27 May 2020	BJ Hargrave

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# 1 Introduction

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This RFC discusses the need for an OSGi Framework that can integrate externally defined modules which are outside of the control of the framework. In other words, to connect the OSGi Framework to code and services from the outside world like jars on the class path or the Java Platform Module System (JPMS) module path.

Parts of this work were first explored in RFP-143 OSGiConnect. Although RFP-143 got accepted it never made it into an RFC. This RFC is taking the basic idea and generalizes it to allow for an adjusted set of use cases as well as focusing on a design that could possibly be driven by a launcher that uses a FrameworkFactory to create instances of a Framework that handle bundle content provided outside of the Framework.

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# 2 Application Domain

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The OSGi framework consists of a number of layers where the module layer is by far the largest and most complex. This layer has proved to be very useful for large and complex applications that require side by side

versioning and encapsulation of their classes.

The OSGi module layer takes care of the class loading for each bundle and isolates bundles in their own class loader, minimizing global space. The consequence of the module layer being responsible for class loading, prevents or at least makes it very difficult to use classes or services that are already present on the class path and whose class space is managed outside of OSGi.

At the same time, functionality running outside of OSGi is not easily able to benefit from the rich service model of OSGi in a standardized way.

Finally, the OSGi framework assumes it is in control of the actual deployment units i.e., the jar files that get installed as Bundles. There is no way to represent outside content as bundles where the framework hasn't been given the deployment unit.

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## 2.1 Terminology + Abbreviations

OSGi Connect – Working name given to this effort.

Connect Content – Provides a Framework access to content from outside the Framework that can be used to represent an installed bundle in the Framework. A connect content provides things like the class loader for the bundle, access to entries in a bundle (e.g. reading service component XML), and the bundle manifest headers. A bundle representing connect content might have some limitations with respect to class loading and isolation.

Connect Module – Provides the current connect content available for a bundle installed or updated in the Framework. If the connect content for a bundle is constant then the connect module may return the same connect content instance for the lifetime of the Framework.

Connect Framework – Hooks into the initialization of the OSGi Framework and provides a lookup of connect module instances for bundles installed in the Framework.

Connect Framework Factory – A factory similar to the launch FrameworkFactory that is used to create OSGi Framework instances that use a Connect Factory

Connect Bundle – A bundle installed in the Framework that has its content being provided by a Connect Content.

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## 3 Problem Description

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Code running outside of the OSGi framework is hard to use from the inside. The framework can delegate some of it via the system bundle exports but for “normal” Java applications that is often not enough and somewhat tedious in any case as the delegation is rather static. Furthermore, it isn't possible to represent logical units on the outside (like JPMS Modules, OSGi bundles on the classpath, or other components) inside the framework (as the only delegation method is packages exposed via the system bundle).

That makes it hard and in some cases impossible to create hybrid solutions that can be used inside OSGi as well as in other contexts and that would still work if the two are used within the same application. In other words, there

is a need for a solution that allows to bridge part of the outside world into the OSGi framework in such a way that normal OSGi mechanisms apply to it.

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## 4 Requirements

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### 4.1 Basic

- BA0010 – It must be possible to install Connect Bundles.
- BA0020 – It must be possible for Connect bundles to participate in the Service Layer as usual for Bundles.
- BA0030 – It must be possible to use OSGi services implementing an API provided by a Connect Bundle outside of the OSGi framework.

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### 4.2 Connect Bundle

- CB0010 – It must be possible to provide the class loader for a connect bundle.
- CB0020 – It must be possible to influence the wiring of a connect bundle similar to existing resolver hooks.
- CB0030 – It must be possible to provide the manifest headers of a connect bundle.
- CB0040 – It must be possible to provide the resources/entries of a connect bundle.
- CB0050 – Connect bundles must be treated and behave like any other bundle except for a limited set of functionalities that are explicitly not supported.
- CB0060 – Connect Bundles must be subject to the standard OSGi resolution rules.
- CB0070 – All existing lifecycle methods must be well-defined wrt. Connect Bundles.
- CB0080 – Installed Connect Bundles must be able to be persisted across restarts.

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## 5 Technical Solution

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A new package `org.osgi.framework.connect` is defined that has the Connect API. The `org.osgi.framework.connect.ConnectFrameworkFactory` interface provides a factory for creating new OSGi framework instances that support installing connect bundles. The following method is used to create the framework:

```
Framework newFramework(Map<String,String> configuration,  
    ConnectFramework connectFramework);
```

This method will create a new Framework instance that uses the specified `ConnectFramework`.

---

### 5.1 Storage

If the framework supports persistence then the framework determines the path used for the storage area according to the launch property `org.osgi.framework.storage`. Once the framework instance has determined the storage area it must call the `ConnectFactory` method:

```
ConnectFactory initialize(File storage, Map<String,String> configuration);
```

**TODO: SHOULD Path be used here? Or String that the value of storage property? File seems flexible enough.**

The storage `File` is the storage area used by the Framework and may be `null` if persistence is not supported. The config `Map` is the unmodifiable map of framework configuration properties that were used to create the new Framework instance.

The `ConnectFactory initialize` method is called once for the life time of the framework instance and it must be called before any other method on the `ConnectFactory`. If the framework instance is stopped and started again the `ConnectFactory initialize` method is not called again because it is not possible to change the storage or the configuration without constructing a new framework instance.

---

### 5.2 Activation

A `ConnectFactory` may hook into the lifecycle of the framework itself. This is done by the `ConnectFactory` providing a `BundleActivator` instance.

#### 5.2.1 Start

When the framework is initialized the system bundle enters the STARTING state. At this point a valid `BundleContext` exists for the framework. Before calling any extension bundle activator `start` methods the framework must call the `ConnectFactory` method:

```
Optional<BundleActivator> createBundleActivator();
```



If the `ConnectFactory` provides a bundle activator then its `start` method must be called before any extension bundle activator `start` methods are called and before returning from `Framework.init` method.

The activator allows for the `ConnectFactory` hook into the lifecycle of the framework itself. For example, this allows the `ConnectFactory` to register services, add listeners, install other bundles etc. before other bundles installed in the framework do, including framework extension bundles. This is important to allow for a `ConnectFactory` to influence behavior of the framework by registering various framework hooks like a `org.osgi.framework.hooks.resolver.ResolverHook`. A `ResolverHook` is useful for cases where it does not make sense to allow the wiring of a connect bundle to wire to capabilities provided by a normal bundle installed in the framework. In that case the `ConnectFactory` can register a `ResolverHook` to limit what a connect bundle wiring gets wired to.

---

## 5.3 Shutdown

When the framework is stopped it eventually reaches start level 0 and the framework checks to see if there are any framework extension activators to call the `stop` method on. After calling `stop` on framework extension activators the framework must call `stop` on the activator provided by the `ConnectFactory` at framework initialization.

---

## 5.4 Connect Content Install

When a bundle is installed a bundle location and optionally an input stream to the content is provided to the framework. Before the framework reads the content of the bundle, the framework must call the `ConnectFactory` method:

```
Optional<ConnectModule> getModule(String location) throws BundleException;
```

The `getModule` method is given the bundle location used to install the bundle. The `getModule` method must do one of the following:

1. Throw a `BundleException` if the installation of the bundle is to be prevented. In this case the `BundleException` is thrown from `install`. Any other exception thrown by the `getModule` method must must propagate to the caller of `install`.
2. Return an empty `Optional` indicating that the Framework must handle reading the content of the bundle itself.
3. Return a present `Optional` indicating that the `ConnectModule` present must be used to access the content of the bundle.

If a `ConnectModule` is found for the bundle location then the following method is called by the Framework to get the current `ConnectContent` for the bundle:

```
ConnectContent getContent() throws IOException;
```

If an `IOException` is thrown it must result in a `BundleException` with the thrown `IOException` as the cause. Any other unchecked exception thrown by the `getContent` method must also result in a `BundleException`.

The `ConnectContent` is then used by the framework to access content of the bundle's current `BundleRevision`.

---

## 5.5 Connect Content Update

If one of the `Bundle.update` methods is called for a bundle that has a `ConnectModule` present for the bundle location then the `ConnectModule.getContent` method must be called to get the current `ConnectContent` for the bundle. A `ConnectModule` is allowed to return the same `ConnectContent` or a different one each time `getContent` is called.

If an `IOException` is thrown it must result in a `BundleException` with the thrown `IOException` as the cause. Any other unchecked exception thrown by the `getContent` method must also result in a `BundleException`.

The `ConnectContent` is then used by the framework to access content of the bundle's current `BundleRevision` after the bundle update.

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## 5.6 Reading Connect Content

The `ConnectContent` provides the framework with all the information and resources necessary to represent a `BundleRevision` in the framework.

### 5.6.1 Opening Connect Content

Before accessing the `ConnectContent` a framework must first open the `ConnectContent` with the following method:

```
ConnectContent open() throws IOException;
```

If an `IOException` is thrown while opening the content during install or update then it must result in a `BundleException` with the thrown `IOException` as the cause. A framework may open and close the content many times while the bundle is installed in the framework. For example, to limit the number of resources kept open concurrently by the framework. The framework must always ensure that the `ConnectContent` is open before calling other methods on the `ConnectContent`.

### 5.6.2 Bundle Manifest Headers

A `ConnectContent` may provide the bundle manifest headers to be used for the bundle. The framework must call the following method:

```
Optional<Map<String,String>> getHeaders();
```

If an empty `Optional` is returned then the framework must parse the bundle manifest itself by accessing the `META-INF/MANIFEST.MF` entry of the `ConnectContent`.

If the `Optional` returned has a `Map` present then the `Map` must be used to provide the raw unlocalized headers for the bundle. The headers must be used the same way the raw header values would have been used from a parsed `META-INF/MANIFEST.MF` entry. That is the header keys and values that have semantic meaning must be used by the framework for the bundle and the key/value pairs must be used for the `Dictionary` returned by `Bundle.getHeaders` methods. The `BundleRevision` associated with the `ConnectContent` must also have its capabilities and requirements defined by the contents of the `Map`.

### 5.6.3 Bundle Class Loader

A `ConnectContent` may provide the class loader to use for a bundle. Before creating a class loader for a bundle using a `ConnectContent` the framework must call the following method:

## `Optional<ClassLoader> getClassLoader();`

If an empty `Optional` is returned then the framework must create a class loader for the bundle. The class loader created by the framework must follow all the delegation rules defined by the OSGi module layer for a bundle class loader and it must implement the `BundleReference` interface. All resources found and classes defined by this class loader must have their content read using the `ConnectContent` entries. This is similar to how a bundle class loader works when the framework is responsible for ready bundle JAR files directly.

If the `Optional` returned has a `ClassLoader` present then that `ClassLoader` must be used for the class loader of the `BundleWiring` associated with the `ConnectContent`. The `ClassLoader` provided by the `ConnectContent` is not required to implement the `BundleReference` interface and is not required to follow the delegation rules defined by the OSGi module layer. If the `ClassLoader` does not implement `BundleReference` then the framework must wrap the `ClassLoader` with another `ClassLoader` that does implement `BundleReference` which returns the bundle associated with the `BundleWiring` from the `getBundle` method. This wrapper loader simply delegates all loading to the `ClassLoader` provided `ConnectContent`. A framework is free to always return a wrapper loader regardless of if the `ConnectContent` loader implements `BundleReference` or not.

A `ConnectFactory` is not required to provide a unique class loader for each `ConnectContent`. That is the same class loader can be used as the class loader for multiple `ConnectContent` objects and therefore get used by multiple bundles installed in the framework. If the connect bundle exports packages then the `ConnectContent` class loader will be delegated to by other class loaders managed by the framework which do not have an associated `ConnectContent`. In other words, a bundle installed with no `ConnectContent` associated with it may import packages from connect bundles and the OSGi module layer will do the correct delegation of class loads to the connect class loader as defined by the OSGi module layer for exported packages.

### 5.6.4 Connect Content Entries

A `ConnectContent` provides access to connect entries to be used by the framework for two purposes:

1. To provide content for the framework `Bundle` and `BundleWiring` methods which introspect bundle entries. For example, the `Bundle.getEntry`, `Bundle.getEntryPaths` and `BundleWiring.findEntries` methods.
2. To provide content when the framework is responsible for creating the class loader for the module.

A resource in a `ConnectContent` is identified by a path name that is a '/'-separated path string. A `ConnectContent` may treat directories as resources, but it is not required to. Where a `ConnectContent` does contain a directory that can be located then its path name must end with a slash ('/'). The directory can also be located with a path name that drops the trailing slash.

#### 5.6.4.1 Discover Connect Entry Names

All `ConnectEntry` names provided by a `ConnectContent` can be introspected by the `ConnectContent` method:

```
Iterable<String> getEntries() throws IOException;
```

The iterable provided is used to by the framework for both the `Bundle.getEntryPaths` and `BundleWiring.findEntries` methods.

#### 5.6.4.2 Connect Entry Lookup

The content of an entry contained in a `ConnectContent` can be introspected using the `ConnectContent.ConnectEntry` interface. A `ConnectEntry` can be found by its path name using the `ConnectContent` method:

```
Optional<ConnectEntry> getEntry(String path);
```

An empty `Optional` is returned if the entry does not exist with the specified path name. Otherwise the present `ConnectEntry` is returned. The `ConnectEntry` can be used by the framework to create URLs with the framework specific protocol for bundle entries. For example, the URLs returned by the `Bundle.getEntry` and `BundleWiring.findEntries` methods.

The framework must ensure that the path value used does not start with slash ('/'). That is any paths used for `Bundle.getEntry` and `BundleWiring.findEntries` must have the beginning slash removed before calling `ConnectContent.getEntry`

#### 5.6.5 Closing Connect Content

Once a `BundleRevision` which is backed by a `ConnectContent` is no longer in use by the framework then the framework must close the `ConnectContent` with the method:

```
ConnectContent close() throws IOException;
```

The framework is free to close the `ConnectContent` at any other time during the lifecycle of the framework, but it must always ensure `ConnectContent` is opened before calling other methods on it.

---

### 5.7 Launching From Persistent Storage

The framework must make a record of which bundles are installed using a `ConnectModule`. When the framework is stopped it must persist the state of all the installed bundles, including the ones using a `ConnectModule`. When a new framework instance is created using the persistent storage which recorded the use of a `ConnectModule`, the framework must verify that a `ConnectFactory` is available that can handle the bundle location.

If there is no `ConnectModule` present then the bundle installed must be discarded by the framework as if it is not installed and a warning framework event should be published or a warning should be logged.

---

### 5.8 FrameworkUtil Helper

The class `FrameworkUtil` has a number of static utility methods. The following method may be of interest to connect factory implementations:

```
public static Bundle getBundle(final Class<?> classFromBundle)
```

The classes from connect bundles, depending on if their class loader implements `BundleReference`, may return a null bundle from the `getBundle` method. To allow a connect factory implementation to hook into the `FrameworkUtil` class a new interface exists in the `org.osgi.framework.connect` package:

```
public interface FrameworkUtilHelper {
```

```
    default Optional<Bundle> getBundle(Class< ? > classFromBundle) {  
        return null;  
    }  
}
```

The `FrameworkUtil` class has been enhanced to to get a list of available `FrameworkUtilHelper` implementations using the `ServiceLoader`. The `FrameworkUtil.getBundle` method has also been enhanced to fall back to using the available `FrameworkUtilHelper` implementations when the class loader of the `classFromBundle` is not a `BundleReference`.

The immutable list of available `FrameworkUtilHelper` is determined during class initialization of the `FrameworkUtil` class and cannot change during the lifetime of the `FrameworkUtil` class.

---

## 5.9 Identify Connect Bundles

To allow the discovery and detection of connect bundles the `osgi.identity` namespace has a new attribute defined named `tags`. The `tags` attribute provides a versatile way to identify some aspect of a resource for any reason. The value of this attribute must be `List<String>`. For connect bundles installed in the framework the value `osgi.connect` must be added to the list of tags for the `osgi.identity` capability. For all other bundles the framework is free to omit the `tags` attribute from the `osgi.identity` capability.

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# 6 Data Transfer Objects

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No new DTOs required for this RFC

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# 7 Javadoc

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## OSGi Javadoc

12/16/19 3:17 PM

Package Summary		Page
<a href="#">org.osgi.framework.connect</a>	Framework Connect Package Version 1.0.	15
<a href="#">org.osgi.framework.namespace</a>	Namespace Package Version 1.2.	27

## Package `org.osgi.framework.connect`

`@org.osgi.annotation.versioning.Version(value="1.0")`

Framework Connect Package Version 1.0.

See:

[Description](#)

Interface Summary		Page
<a href="#">ConnectContent</a>	A connect content provides a <code>framework</code> access to the content of a connect <a href="#">module</a> .	16
<a href="#">ConnectContent.ConnectEntry</a>	Represents the entry of a connect module	19
<a href="#">ConnectFramework</a>	A connect framework provides access to instances of <a href="#">ConnectModule</a> that are used by a <code>org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework</code> instance to provide content and classes for a bundle installed in the Framework.	21
<a href="#">ConnectFrameworkFactory</a>	A factory for creating <code>org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework</code> instances.	23
<a href="#">ConnectModule</a>	A connect module instance is used by a <code>framework</code> to load content for a bundle revision installed in the framework.	25
<a href="#">FrameworkUtil.Helper</a>	A helper for the <code>org.osgi.framework.FrameworkUtil</code> class.	26

## Package `org.osgi.framework.connect` Description

Framework Connect Package Version 1.0.

Bundles wishing to use this package must list the package in the Import-Package header of the bundle's manifest.

Example import for consumers using the API in this package:

```
Import-Package: org.osgi.framework.connect; version="[1.0,2.0)"
```

# Interface ConnectContent

[org.osgi.framework.connect](http://org.osgi.framework.connect)

```
public interface ConnectContent
```

A connect content provides a `framework` access to the content of a connect [module](#). A framework may [open](#) and [close](#) the content for a connect module multiple times while the connect content is in use by the framework instance. The framework must close the connect content once the connect content is no longer used as the content of a current bundle revision or an in use bundle revision.

## See Also:

`org.osgi.framework.wiring.BundleRevisions`

## ThreadSafe

Nested Class Summary		Page
static interface	<a href="#">ConnectContent.ConnectEntry</a> Represents the entry of a connect module	19

Field Summary		Page
String	<a href="#">TAG_OSGI_CONNECT</a> The <code>osgi.identity</code> <a href="#">tags</a> attribute value used by the framework to tag connect bundle revisions.	16

Method Summary		Page
<a href="#">ConnectContent</a>	<a href="#">close</a> () Closes this connect content.	18
<code>Optional&lt;ClassLoader&gt;</code>	<a href="#">getClassLoader</a> () Returns a class loader for this connect content.	17
<code>Iterable&lt;String&gt;</code>	<a href="#">getEntries</a> () Returns an iterable with all the entry names available in this ConnectContent	17
<code>Optional&lt;ConnectContent.ConnectEntry&gt;</code>	<a href="#">getEntry</a> (String path) Returns the connect entry for the specified path name in this content.	17
<code>Optional&lt;Map&lt;String, String&gt;&gt;</code>	<a href="#">getHeaders</a> () Returns this connect content Manifest headers and values.	17
<a href="#">ConnectContent</a>	<a href="#">open</a> () Opens this connect content.	18

## Field Detail

### TAG\_OSGI\_CONNECT

```
public static final String TAG_OSGI_CONNECT = "osgi.connect"
```

The `osgi.identity` [tags](#) attribute value used by the framework to tag connect bundle revisions.



## Method Detail

### getHeaders

Optional<Map<String,String>> **getHeaders**()

Returns this connect content Manifest headers and values. The `empty` value is returned if the framework should handle parsing the Manifest of the content itself.

**Returns:**

This connect content Manifest headers and values.

**Throws:**

`IllegalStateException` - if the connect content has been closed

---

### getEntries

Iterable<String> **getEntries**()  
throws `IOException`

Returns an iterable with all the entry names available in this ConnectContent

**Returns:**

the entry names

**Throws:**

`IOException` - if an error occurs reading the ConnectContent

`IllegalStateException` - if the connect content has been closed

---

### getEntry

Optional<[ConnectContent.ConnectEntry](#)> **getEntry**(String path)

Returns the connect entry for the specified path name in this content. The `empty` value is returned if an entry with the specified path name does not exist. The path must not start with a "/" and is relative to the root of this content.

**Parameters:**

path - the path name of the entry

**Returns:**

the connect entry, or `empty` if not found.

**Throws:**

`IllegalStateException` - if the connect content has been closed

---

### getClassLoader

Optional<ClassLoader> **getClassLoader**()

Returns a class loader for this connect content. The `empty` value is returned if the framework should handle creating a class loader for the bundle revision associated with this connect content.

This method is called by the framework for `resolved` bundles only and will be called at most once while a bundle is resolved. If a bundle associated with a connect module is refreshed and resolved again the framework will ask the content for the class loader again. This allows for a connect content to reuse or create a new class loader each time the bundle revision is resolved.

**Returns:**

a class loader for the module.

---

## **open**

---

[ConnectContent](#) **open**()  
throws `IOException`

Opens this connect content. The framework will open the content when it needs to access the content for a bundle revision associated with the connect content. The framework may lazily open the content until the first request is made to access the bundle revision content.

**Returns:**

a reference to this object

**Throws:**

`IOException` - if an error occurred opening the content

---

## **close**

[ConnectContent](#) **close**()  
throws `IOException`

Closes this connect content.

**Returns:**

a reference to this object

**Throws:**

`IOException` - if an error occurred closing the connect content

## Interface `ConnectContent.ConnectEntry`

[org.osgi.framework.connect](http://org.osgi.framework.connect)

Enclosing class:

[ConnectContent](#)

---

```
public static interface ConnectContent.ConnectEntry
```

Represents the entry of a connect module

---

Method Summary		Page
<code>byte[]</code>	<a href="#">getBytes()</a> Returns the content of the entry as a byte array.	20
<code>long</code>	<a href="#">getContentLength()</a> Returns the size of the entry.	19
<code>InputStream</code>	<a href="#">getInputStream()</a> Returns the content of the entry as an input stream.	20
<code>long</code>	<a href="#">getLastModified()</a> Returns the last modification time of the entry	19
<code>String</code>	<a href="#">getName()</a> Returns the path name of the entry	19

### Method Detail

#### `getName`

```
String getName()
```

Returns the path name of the entry

**Returns:**

the path name of the entry

---

#### `getContentLength`

```
long getContentLength()
```

Returns the size of the entry. The value `-1` is returned if the content length is not known.

**Returns:**

the size of the entry, or `-1` if the content length is not known.

---

#### `getLastModified`

```
long getLastModified()
```

Returns the last modification time of the entry

**Returns:**  
the last modification time of the entry

---

## getBytes

byte[] **getBytes**()  
throws IOException

Returns the content of the entry as a byte array.

**Returns:**  
the content bytes

**Throws:**  
IOException - if an error occurs reading the content

---

## getInputStream

InputStream **getInputStream**()  
throws IOException

Returns the content of the entry as an input stream.

**Returns:**  
the content input stream

**Throws:**  
IOException - if an error occurs reading the content

## Interface ConnectFramework

[org.osgi.framework.connect](http://org.osgi.framework.connect)

```
public interface ConnectFramework
```

A connect framework provides access to instances of [ConnectModule](#) that are used by a `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instance to provide content and classes for a bundle installed in the Framework. A connect framework is provided when [creating](#) a framework instance. Because a connect framework instance can participate in the initialization of the framework and the life cycle of a framework instance the connect framework instance should only be used with a single framework instance.

**ThreadSafe**

Method Summary		Page
Optional< <a href="#">org.osgi.framework.BundleActivator</a> >	<a href="#">createBundleActivator</a> () Creates a new activator for this connect framework.	22
Optional< <a href="#">ConnectModule</a> >	<a href="#">getModule</a> (String location) Returns the connect module for the specified bundle location.	21
<a href="#">ConnectFramework</a>	<a href="#">initialize</a> (File storage, Map<String,String> configuration) Initializes the connect framework with the framework persistent storage file and framework properties configured for a <code>org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework</code> instance.	21

## Method Detail

### initialize

```
ConnectFramework initialize(File storage,
                             Map<String,String> configuration)
```

Initializes the connect framework with the framework persistent storage file and framework properties configured for a `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instance. This method is called once by a `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instance and is called before any other methods on this connect framework are called.

**Parameters:**

`storage` - the persistent storage area used by the `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` or null if the platform does not have file system support.  
`configuration` - The framework properties to used configure the new framework instance. An unmodifiable map of framework configuration properties that were used to create a new framework instance.

**Returns:**

a reference to this object

### getModule

```
Optional<ConnectModule> getModule(String location)
    throws org.osgi.framework.BundleException
```

Returns the connect module for the specified bundle location. If an empty optional is returned the framework must handle reading the content of the bundle itself. If a value is present in the returned optional then the value from the optional must be used to access the content of the bundle.

**Parameters:**

`location` - the bundle location used to install a bundle

**Returns:**

the connect module for the specified bundle location

**Throws:**

`org.osgi.framework.BundleException` - if the location cannot be handled

---

## **createBundleActivator**

`Optional<org.osgi.framework.BundleActivator> createBundleActivator()`

Creates a new activator for this connect framework. A new activator is created by the framework each time the framework is `initialized`. An activator allows the connect framework to participate in the framework life cycle. When the framework is `initialized` the activator `start` method is called. When the framework is `stopped` the activator `stop` method is called

**Returns:**

a new activator for this connect framework or `empty` if no activator is available

# Interface ConnectFrameworkFactory

[org.osgi.framework.connect](#)

@org.osgi.annotation.versioning.ProviderType  
public interface **ConnectFrameworkFactory**

A factory for creating `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instances.

If a framework supports [ConnectFramework](#) then the implementation jar must contain the following resource:

`/META-INF/services/org.osgi.framework.connect.ConnectFrameworkFactory`

This UTF-8 encoded resource must contain the name of the framework implementation's `ConnectFrameworkFactory` implementation class. Space and tab characters, including blank lines, in the resource must be ignored. The number sign ('#' \u0023) and all characters following it on each line are a comment and must be ignored.

Launchers can find the name of the `ConnectFrameworkFactory` implementation class in the resource and then load and construct a `ConnectFrameworkFactory` object for the framework implementation. The `ConnectFrameworkFactory` implementation class must have a public, no-argument constructor. Java™ SE 6 introduced the `ServiceLoader` class which can create a `ConnectFrameworkFactory` instance from the resource.

## ThreadSafe

Method Summary		Page
<code>org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework</code>	<a href="#">newFramework</a> (Map<String,String> configuration, <a href="#">ConnectFramework connectFramework</a> ) Create a new <code>org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework</code> instance using the specified <a href="#">connect_framework</a> .	23

## Method Detail

### newFramework

`org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework newFramework` (Map<String,String> configuration, [ConnectFramework connectFramework](#))

Create a new `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instance using the specified [connect\\_framework](#).

#### Parameters:

- `configuration` - The framework properties to configure the new framework instance. If framework properties are not provided by the configuration argument, the created framework instance must use some reasonable default configuration appropriate for the current VM. For example, the system packages for the current execution environment should be properly exported. The specified configuration argument may be `null`. The created framework instance must copy any information needed from the specified configuration argument since the configuration argument can be changed after the framework instance has been created.
- `connectFramework` - The connect framework that the new framework instance will use. The specified connect framework argument may be `null`.

#### Returns:

A new, configured `org.osgi.framework.launch.Framework` instance. The framework instance must be in the `org.osgi.framework.Bundle.INSTALLED` state.

#### Throws:

- `SecurityException` - If the caller does not have `AllPermission`, and the Java Runtime Environment supports permissions.

**Since:**

1.3

**See Also:**

[ConnectFramework](#)



# Interface ConnectModule

[org.osgi.framework.connect](#)

public interface **ConnectModule**

A connect module instance is used by a `framework` to load content for a bundle revision installed in the framework.

**ThreadSafe**

Method Summary		Page
<a href="#">ConnectContent</a>	<a href="#">getContent()</a> Returns the current content of this connect module.	25

## Method Detail

### getContent

[ConnectContent](#) **getContent()**  
throws `IOException`

Returns the current content of this connect module. The framework will get the content when it needs to access the content for the current `bundle revision` associated with this connect module. The framework may lazily open the content until the first request is made to access the bundle content.

**Returns:**  
the current content of this connect module

**Throws:**  
`IOException` - if an error occurred getting the content

# Interface FrameworkUtilHelper

[org.osgi.framework.connect](#)

public interface **FrameworkUtilHelper**

A helper for the `org.osgi.framework.FrameworkUtil` class. This helper provides alternative implementations for methods on `org.osgi.framework.FrameworkUtil`.

Method Summary		Page
Optional<org.osgi.framework.Bundle>	<a href="#">getBundle</a> (Class<?> classFromBundle) Return a Bundle associated with the specified class.	26

## Method Detail

### getBundle

Optional<org.osgi.framework.Bundle> **getBundle**(Class<?> classFromBundle)

Return a Bundle associated with the specified class.

This helper method is called by `org.osgi.framework.FrameworkUtil.getBundle(Class)` if the standard implementation of `FrameworkUtil` cannot find the bundle.

**Parameters:**

classFromBundle - A class associated with a bundle

**Returns:**

An Optional containing a Bundle for the specified class or an empty Optional if the specified class is not from a bundle.

## Package org.osgi.framework.namespace

@org.osgi.annotation.versioning.Version(value="1.2")

Namespace Package Version 1.2.

See:

[Description](#)

Class Summary		Page
<a href="#">IdentityNames pace</a>	Identity Capability and Requirement Namespace.	28

## Package org.osgi.framework.namespace Description

Namespace Package Version 1.2.

Bundles should not need to import this package at runtime since all the types in this package just contain constants for capability and requirement namespaces specified by the OSGi Alliance.

# Class IdentityNamespace

[org.osgi.framework.namespace](#)

```
java.lang.Object
└─ org.osgi.resource.Namespace
    └─ org.osgi.framework.namespace.IdentityNamespace
```

```
final public class IdentityNamespace
extends org.osgi.resource.Namespace
```

Identity Capability and Requirement Namespace.

This class defines the names for the attributes and directives for this namespace. All unspecified capability attributes are of type `String` and are used as arbitrary matching attributes for the capability. The values associated with the specified directive and attribute keys are of type `String`, unless otherwise indicated.

Each resource provides exactly one<sup>†</sup> identity capability that can be used to identify the resource.

The bundle wiring for the bundle revision provides exactly one<sup>†</sup> identity capability.

† A resource with no symbolic name must not provide an identity capability.

## Immutable

Field Summary		Page
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_COPYRIGHT_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute that contains a human readable copyright notice for the resource.	30
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_DESCRIPTION_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute that contains a human readable description for the resource.	30
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_DOCUMENTATION_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute that contains the URL to documentation for the resource.	30
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_LICENSE_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute that contains the URL to the license for the resource.	30
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_SINGLETON_DIRECTIVE</a> The capability directive identifying if the resource is a singleton.	29
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_TAGS_ATTRIBUTE</a> The attribute value that contains tags for the resource.	30
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute identifying the resource type.	29
static String	<a href="#">CAPABILITY_VERSION_ATTRIBUTE</a> The capability attribute identifying the <code>Version</code> of the resource if one is specified or <code>0.0.0</code> if not specified.	29
static String	<a href="#">CLASSIFIER_JAVADOC</a> The attribute value identifying the resource <code>classifier</code> as an archive containing the javadoc in the same directory layout as the resource.	31
static String	<a href="#">CLASSIFIER_SOURCES</a> The attribute value identifying the resource <code>classifier</code> as an archive containing the source code in the same directory layout as the resource.	31
static String	<a href="#">IDENTITY_NAMESPACE</a> Namespace name for identity capabilities and requirements.	29

static String	<a href="#">REQUIREMENT_CLASSIFIER_DIRECTIVE</a> The requirement directive that classifies the relationship with another resource.	31
static String	<a href="#">TYPE_BUNDLE</a> The attribute value identifying the resource <a href="#">type</a> as an OSGi bundle.	29
static String	<a href="#">TYPE_FRAGMENT</a> The attribute value identifying the resource <a href="#">type</a> as an OSGi fragment.	30
static String	<a href="#">TYPE_UNKNOWN</a> The attribute value identifying the resource <a href="#">type</a> as unknown.	30

#### Fields inherited from class org.osgi.resource.Namespace

CAPABILITY\_EFFECTIVE\_DIRECTIVE, CAPABILITY\_USES\_DIRECTIVE, CARDINALITY\_MULTIPLE, CARDINALITY\_SINGLE, EFFECTIVE\_ACTIVE, EFFECTIVE\_RESOLVE, REQUIREMENT\_CARDINALITY\_DIRECTIVE, REQUIREMENT\_EFFECTIVE\_DIRECTIVE, REQUIREMENT\_FILTER\_DIRECTIVE, REQUIREMENT\_RESOLUTION\_DIRECTIVE, RESOLUTION\_MANDATORY, RESOLUTION\_OPTIONAL

## Field Detail

### IDENTITY\_NAMESPACE

```
public static final String IDENTITY_NAMESPACE = "osgi.identity"
```

Namespace name for identity capabilities and requirements.

Also, the capability attribute used to specify the symbolic name of the resource.

### CAPABILITY\_SINGLETON\_DIRECTIVE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_SINGLETON_DIRECTIVE = "singleton"
```

The capability directive identifying if the resource is a singleton. A `String` value of "true" indicates the resource is a singleton; any other value or `null` indicates the resource is not a singleton.

### CAPABILITY\_VERSION\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_VERSION_ATTRIBUTE = "version"
```

The capability attribute identifying the `Version` of the resource if one is specified or `0.0.0` if not specified. The value of this attribute must be of type `Version`.

### CAPABILITY\_TYPE\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE = "type"
```

The capability attribute identifying the resource type. If the resource has no type then the value [unknown](#) must be used for the attribute.

**See Also:**

[TYPE\\_BUNDLE](#), [TYPE\\_FRAGMENT](#), [TYPE\\_UNKNOWN](#)

## TYPE\_BUNDLE

```
public static final String TYPE_BUNDLE = "osgi.bundle"
```

The attribute value identifying the resource [type](#) as an OSGi bundle.

**See Also:**

[CAPABILITY\\_TYPE\\_ATTRIBUTE](#)

---

## TYPE\_FRAGMENT

```
public static final String TYPE_FRAGMENT = "osgi.fragment"
```

The attribute value identifying the resource [type](#) as an OSGi fragment.

**See Also:**

[CAPABILITY\\_TYPE\\_ATTRIBUTE](#)

---

## TYPE\_UNKNOWN

```
public static final String TYPE_UNKNOWN = "unknown"
```

The attribute value identifying the resource [type](#) as unknown.

**See Also:**

[CAPABILITY\\_TYPE\\_ATTRIBUTE](#)

---

## CAPABILITY\_TAGS\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_TAGS_ATTRIBUTE = "tags"
```

The attribute value that contains tags for the resource. A tag is used to identify an aspect of the resource that is not otherwise expressed by the capabilities of the resource. The value of this attribute must be of type `List<Version>`.

**Since:**

1.2

---

## CAPABILITY\_COPYRIGHT\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_COPYRIGHT_ATTRIBUTE = "copyright"
```

The capability attribute that contains a human readable copyright notice for the resource. See the `Bundle-Copyright` manifest header.

## CAPABILITY\_DESCRIPTION\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_DESCRIPTION_ATTRIBUTE = "description"
```

The capability attribute that contains a human readable description for the resource. See the `Bundle-Description` manifest header.

## CAPABILITY\_DOCUMENTATION\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_DOCUMENTATION_ATTRIBUTE = "documentation"
```

The capability attribute that contains the URL to documentation for the resource. See the `Bundle-DocURL` manifest header.

## CAPABILITY\_LICENSE\_ATTRIBUTE

```
public static final String CAPABILITY_LICENSE_ATTRIBUTE = "license"
```

The capability attribute that contains the URL to the license for the resource. See the `name` portion of the `Bundle-License` manifest header.

---

## REQUIREMENT\_CLASSIFIER\_DIRECTIVE

```
public static final String REQUIREMENT_CLASSIFIER_DIRECTIVE = "classifier"
```

The requirement directive that classifies the relationship with another resource.

**See Also:**

[CLASSIFIER\\_SOURCES](#), [CLASSIFIER\\_JAVADOC](#)

---

## CLASSIFIER\_SOURCES

```
public static final String CLASSIFIER_SOURCES = "sources"
```

The attribute value identifying the resource [classifier](#) as an archive containing the source code in the same directory layout as the resource.

**See Also:**

[REQUIREMENT\\_CLASSIFIER\\_DIRECTIVE](#)

---

## CLASSIFIER\_JAVADOC

```
public static final String CLASSIFIER_JAVADOC = "javadoc"
```

The attribute value identifying the resource [classifier](#) as an archive containing the javadoc in the same directory layout as the resource.

**See Also:**

[REQUIREMENT\\_CLASSIFIER\\_DIRECTIVE](#)

---

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# 8 Considered Alternatives

---

In the early days of the Connect concept the idea was to produce a trimmed down Framework implementation that only understood how to load static things from the class path. An implementation of this idea was done in the Apache Felix project called PojoSR.

This approach is not used because may require forking the framework implementation for each Connect scenario. A better option is to add standard SPI to launch a standard Framework which allows for the Connect scenarios to work with compliant Framework implementations without modifying the Framework implementation itself.

---

## 9 Security Considerations

---

Connect content is managed from outside the Framework. The class loader used to load classes may not be provided by the Framework itself. The protection domain used for the classes from connect content also may not be provided by the Framework. This limits the ability to assign permissions to the classes from the connect content.

TODO should we clarify the permission admin specification??

A Connect Factory is passed the bundle location of all bundles installed in the framework. The bundle location may contain sensitive. Any Connect Factory uses must be trusted to handle such information in a secure way.

---

## 10 Document Support

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### 10.1 References

- [1]. Bradner, S., Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels, RFC2119, March 1997.
- [2]. Software Requirements & Specifications. Michael Jackson. ISBN 0-201-87712-0

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### 10.2 Author's Address

Name	
Company	
Address	
Voice	
e-mail	

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### 10.3 Acronyms and Abbreviations

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### 10.4 End of Document