NetBeans GUI Builder (Codenamed Matisse)

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Problems with Traditional GUI Building

- Using Swing APIs and Layout managers is complex
- Resizing and alignment are hard
- Handling of locale is hard
- Providing Look and Feel of a particular OS is hard

GUI Builder Solves These Problems!

- Creating GUIs are possible without deep knowledge of Swing and Layout manager
- Resizing and alignments are handled for you
- Localization is handled for you
- GUI are created with the Look and Feel of the underlying OS

GUI Builder Features

- Simple and intuitive layout of GUIs without the complexity of Swing layout managers
- Extensible Component Palette with pre-installed Swing and AWT components
- Drag and drop capability
- Visual guidelines for optimal spacing between components and alignment of components
- Support for both visual and non-visual forms

GUI Builder Features (Cont.)

- Component Inspector showing a components tree and properties
- In-place editing of text labels of components (labels, buttons, textfields, etc).
- Full JavaBeans support installing, using and customizing (properties, events, customizers)
- Visual JavaBean customization ability to create forms from any JavaBean classes
- Built-in support for i18n and a11y

How Does GUI Builder Work?

- Similar to Interface Builder on Mac or Visual Studio, but on Java platform
 - Supports multiple OS'es, however
- Uses GroupLayout layout manager
 - > This layout manager can be used separately
 - GroupLayout class is now part of JDK (from Java SE 6)

