

# Using ECF for Lightweight Distributed Team Collaboration

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<http://www.eclipse.org/ecf>

## Teams they are a changin'

- Membership
  - ♦ Distributed
  - ♦ Multiple Groups
  - ♦ Diverse Skills and Backgrounds
  - ♦ Diverse Cultures
- Project Organization
  - ♦ Flat
  - ♦ Self-driven/Voluntary
  - ♦ Project Leadership Has Less Control Over Team
- Community Expectations
  - ♦ Open Planning Required
  - ♦ Responsiveness to Community Contributions
    - Bug reports, patches, documentation, etc.

# ECF: Communication/Collaboration for Open Projects

- Interoperability
  - ♦ People use Different Communication Tools
  - ♦ Multiple Teams -> Multiple Protocols
- Integrate
  - ♦ UI
  - ♦ Other Tools – Workbench, Mylyn, Editors, Debuggers, Reporting, RCP apps, other tooling, etc.
- Extensible
  - ♦ Team-specific and/or Proprietary Tools
  - ♦ Support for specific processes/approaches/conventions

**Goal: Lower Barriers to Team and Community  
Communication**

**to**

**Increase Productivity**

**Increase Trust**

**Increase Community Participation**

**with**

**ECF: Interoperable, Integrated, Extensible**

# Diversity Trumps Ability for Team Productivity

## **The Difference: How the Power of Diversity Creates Better Groups, Firms, Schools, and Societies**

- Conditions
  - ♦ High-performing individuals
  - ♦ Difficult problems
- Good Diversity
  - ♦ Cognitive Diversity: Think Different<sup>(tm)</sup>
  - ♦ Leads to More/more Varied 'toolboxes'
  - ♦ Avoid 'Local Maxima' in Solution Searches
- Bad Diversity
  - ♦ 'Fundamental preferences'
  - ♦ e.g. 'What are the project's goals'?

## Exploit Diversity

- Make it Easy for 'Outsiders' to Communicate/Contribute
  - ♦ Client Interoperability
- Communicate Publicly with Community
  - ♦ IRC, IM/Conference Calls, ECF Collaboration Groups, etc.
  - ♦ Solicit Contributions
    - Bugzilla/BugDay/IRC, etc.
- Expose Unfinished Work/Problems
  - ♦ Milestones, Dev Mailing List, Wiki, Bugzilla ALL GOOD
  - ♦ Also IM/Chat
  - ♦ Opportunities for External Contributions

## Increasing Integration

- Real-Time Communication Integrates Well With
  - ♦ Workbench (sharing resources)
  - ♦ Bug Tracking (Mylyn sharing tasks)
  - ♦ Conferencing
    - Shared Editing

## Demos

- IM/Chat
  - ♦ Multi-Protocol, public services, sharing info as well as direct communication
- Real-Time Collaboration
  - ♦ Integrate communication into tooling
  - ♦ Provide common UI
- Shared Editing
  - ♦ Use Case: Code Review and others



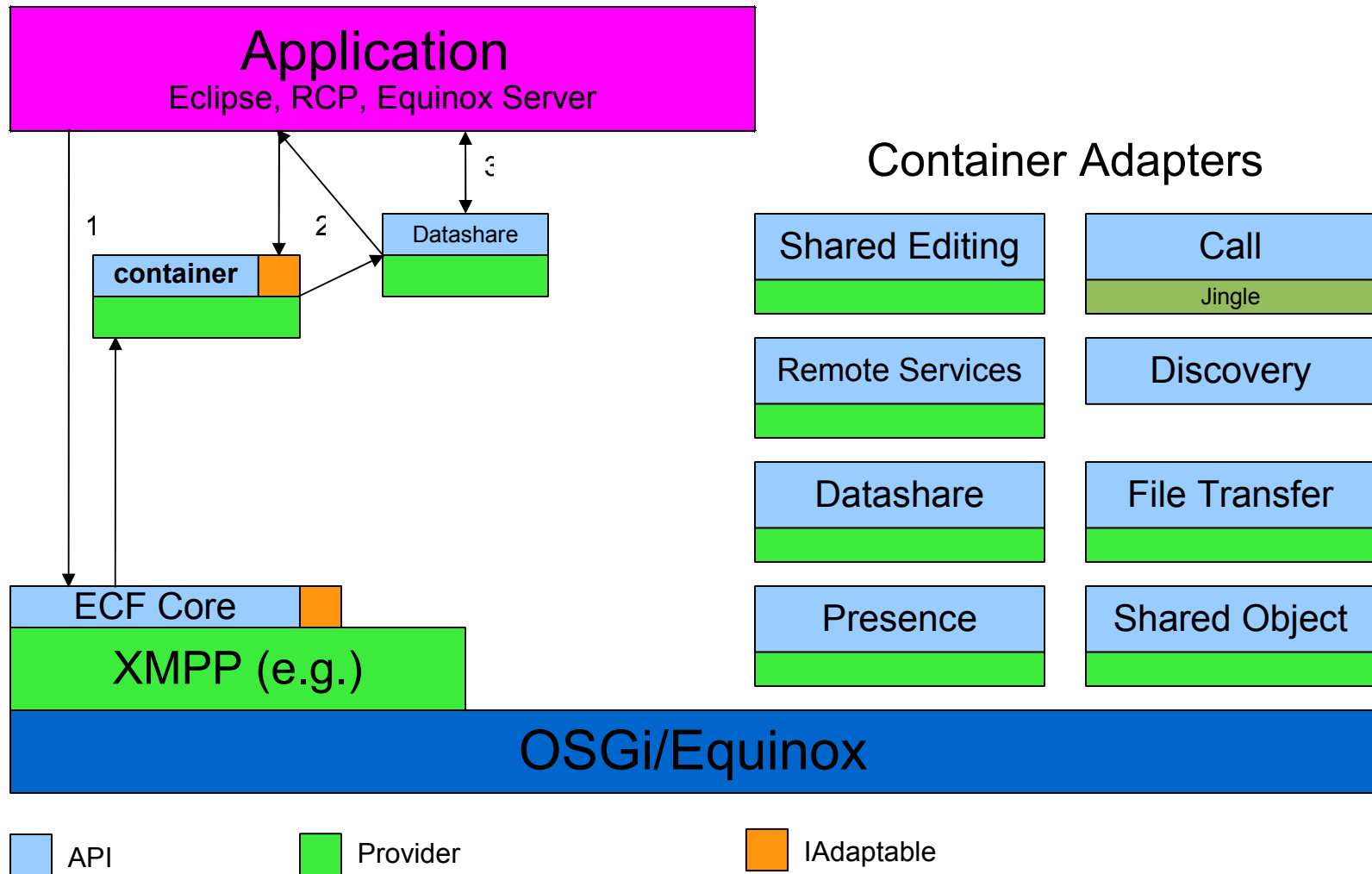
## Can Absence Make a Team Grow Stronger?

- Answer: yes
  - ♦ Rule 1: Exploit Diversity
  - ♦ Rule 2: Use Technology to Simulate Reality
    - Virtual Spaces for Team and Community
  - ♦ Rule 3: Hold Team Together: Build Trust
- See Bjorn's Blog Entries

## Extensibility

- APIs through Adapters
  - ♦ Core: 2 bundles ~120k
  - ♦ API plugins/bundles – aka Container Adapters
- Providers Implement: core + 0 or more Adapters
- Extensibility: Exploits Diversity In Community
  - ♦ Shallow or Deep Additions
  - ♦ Sense of Ownership

## ECF Provider Architecture



## In Code

- `container =  
ContainerFactory.getDefault().createContainer();`
- `ds = (IChannelContainerAdapter)  
container.getAdapter(IChannelContainerAdapter.class);`
- `IChannel channel = ds.createChannel(...)`

## Dynamic Service Discovery

- org.eclipse.ecf.discovery
  - ♦ IDiscoveryContainerAdapter
    - Adapter from IContainer
  - ♦ Service Discovery API
    - Properties for existing service types: iTunes, http, etc.
    - Register new types: updatesite, remotesvcs, etc.
  - ♦ Two Providers So Far
    - Bonjour
    - SLP (RFC 2608)

## Demo

- Dynamic Service Discovery
  - ♦ Update site service
  - ♦ Other (non-Eclipse services)

## Asynchronous File Transfer

- org.eclipse.ecf.filetransfer
  - ♦ IRetrieveFileTransferContainerAdapter
    - Adapter from IContainer
  - ♦ API
    - sendRetrieveRequest
    - Asynchronous notifications to provided listener
      - ✦ Start,Data,Done
  - ♦ Several Providers
    - URLConnection (JRE), Apache httpclient 3.0.1, SCP/SSH/JCraft, Eclipse File System
    - Uses Jobs API
  - ♦ Also have send and browse API
- Being used for p2

## Demo

- File transfer
  - ♦ Multi-protocol
  - ♦ Embeddable into other plugins (e.g. P2)



## Remote Services

- org.eclipse.ecf.remoteservice
  - ♦ IRemoteServiceContainerAdapter
    - Adapter from IContainer
  - ♦ API
    - Looks very much like **OSGi Services**
    - **Clients have choice**
      - ✦ **Proxy (transparent)**
      - ✦ **IRemoteService (explicit)**
        - ★ Asynchronous (Listener) Invocation
        - ★ Futures
  - ♦ Providers
    - R-OSGi, JMS ActiveMQ/BEA, ECF generic, JavaGroups, Riena
    - Others (?)

## Demo

- Remote Services
  - ♦ Transparent and not-transparent for different use cases
  - ♦ Multi-protocol
  - ♦ Easy to add own service types/discover, access

## Summary

- ECF for Open Project Communications
  - ♦ Build Diversity, Trust, and Community
  - ♦ Technology
    - Interoperability
    - Integration
    - Extensibility
  - ♦ Project: <http://www.eclipse.org/ecf>
  - ♦ Wiki:  
[http://wiki.eclipse.org/Eclipse\\_Communication\\_Framework\\_Project](http://wiki.eclipse.org/Eclipse_Communication_Framework_Project)
  - ♦ IRC: <irc://irc.freenode.net/eclipse-ecf>
- <http://www.bobdylan.com/songs/times.html>