## **Visual Editor Project Termination Review**

Prepared by David Williams, May, 2011 on behalf of the Tools PMC

Communication Channel: http://dev.eclipse.org/mhonarc/lists/ve-dev/maillist.html

As stated in the <u>Eclipse Development Process</u> "The purpose of a Termination Review is to provide a final opportunity for the Committers and/or Eclipse membership to discuss the proposed withdrawal of a Proposal or archiving of a Project. The desired outcome is to find sufficient evidence of renewed interest and resources in keeping the Project or Proposal active."

It is in that spirit, the Tools PMC requests a Termination Review of <u>Visual Editor Project</u> (VE).

## History

VE was first <u>announced</u> and started around 2003. It was a very active project until about 2007. At that time, some of the major corporate committers and sponsors had to withdraw for reasons unrelated to the VE project, per se. Since then some have tried to keep it alive hoping to rekindle interest and contributions, but with little success. (But, much thanks to those who did try; Joe Winchester, David Orme, and most recently Yves Yang.)

There has been little CVS or bugzilla activity for the past few years, and the little that has been done was primarily related to simply getting VE to build on the latest version of the platform (that is, no bug fixes to code, or feature enhancements).

Technically, there has been a release every year, up to Helios, but from the <u>Foundation's Portal Page</u>, appears no more releases are planned.

## Goal of this termination review

For this project to continue, a new commitment would be required to contribute to the project, for the benefit of the Eclipse Community, and come up with a solid plan for its continued development. There are certainly some users of the code, based on a few questions on the project's forum, newsgroup, and mailing list, but that alone doesn't seem sufficient to justify not archiving the project. We, the Tools PMC, are requesting this termination review to make it clear that the default action is termination, if no one comes forward with a suitable plan to revive the project.

As always, we think it fine if there is a renewed commitment to keep the project going, though that seems less likely now that <u>WindowBuilder</u> has move to Eclipse. But, to be explicit, we do not mind at all if there are two visual editors at Eclipse ... we just want to make sure there are committers that can make a case that VE should continue and that they have the time and resource get it back on track, to work towards releases, be a well behaved Eclipse project useful to a variety of users and adopters, and be a credit to the Eclipse name.

A plan in the form of a Continuation Review would be appropriate if someone wants to take over or revive the project.

## **Termination Actions**

In the event there is no renewed commitment, the following project termination actions will be required:

- 1. Directories archived and removed from CVS
- 2. The bugzilla product/components archived or marked read-only.
- 3. Website archived.
- 4. Wiki pages archived
- 5. Search for open CQ items and if found withdraw them.
- 6. Mailing lists and forum groups deactivated.
- 7. Remove all current committers using the Portal tools.