

JCP Process Document

Version 2.10 (Month dd, 2014) Draft 2 – June 24 2014

Comments to: pmo@jcp.org
Copyright (c) 1996 - 2014 Oracle America, Inc.

CONTENTS

I	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
II	DEFINITIONS	3
	SM	
III	THE JAVA COMMUNITY PROCESS PROGRAM	7
1.	GENERAL PROCEDURES	7
III.1.1	JCP MEMBERSHIP	7
III.1.2	EXPERT GROUP TRANSPARENCY	9
III.1.3	EXPERT GROUP MEMBERSHIP	10
III.1.4	JSR DEADLINES	12
III.1.5	COMPATIBILITY TESTING	12
III.1.6	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES	12
III.1.7	PMO RESPONSE TIMES	12
III.1.8	ESCALATION AND APPEALS	13
2.	INITIATE A NEW OR REVISED SPECIFICATION	13
III.2.1	INITIATE A JAVA SPECIFICATION REQUEST	13
III.2.2	JSR REVIEW	14
III.2.3	JSR APPROVAL BALLOT	14
III.2.4	FORM THE EXPERT GROUP.....	15
3.	DRAFT RELEASES	15
III.3.1	WRITE THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE SPECIFICATION.....	15
III.3.2	EARLY DRAFT REVIEW.....	15
III.3.3	PUBLIC REVIEW.....	15
III.3.4	PUBLIC DRAFT SPECIFICATION APPROVAL BALLOT.....	16
4.	FINAL RELEASE.....	16
III.4.1	PROPOSED FINAL DRAFT.....	16
III.4.2	FINAL APPROVAL BALLOT.....	17
III.4.3	FINAL RELEASE	17

34	5. MAINTENANCE.....	18
35	III.5.1 MAINTENANCE LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES	18
36	III.5.2 MAINTENANCE REVIEW	18
37	III.5.3 MAINTENANCE RELEASE	19
38	6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	19
39	III.6.1 SCOPE	19
40	III.6.2 MEMBERSHIP	20
41	III.6.3 EC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	20
42	III.6.4 EC SELECTION PROCESS AND LENGTH OF TERM.....	20
43	7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JSR BALLOT RULES	22
44	IV APPENDIX A: REVISING THE JCP AND THE JSPA	22
45	V APPENDIX B: TRANSITIONING TO JCP 2.10.....	22

46 I EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

47 The international Java community develops and evolves Java™ technology specifications using the
48 Java Community Process (JCP.) The JCP produces high-quality specifications using an inclusive,
49 consensus-based approach that produces a Specification, a Reference Implementation (to prove the
50 Specification can be implemented,) and a Technology Compatibility Kit (a suite of tests, tools, and
51 documentation that is used to test implementations for compliance with the Specification.)

52 Experience has shown that the best way to produce a technology specification is to gather a group of
53 industry experts who have a deep understanding of the technology in question and for a strong tech-
54 nical lead to work with that group to create a first draft. Agreement on the form and content of the draft
55 is then built using an iterative process that allows an ever-widening audience to review and comment
56 on the document.

57 An Executive Committee (EC) representing a cross-section of both major stakeholders and other
58 members of the Java community is responsible for approving the passage of Specifications through
59 the JCP's various stages and for reconciling discrepancies between Specifications and their associat-
60 ed test suites.

61 There are four major stages in this version of the JCP:

- 62 1. **INITIATION:** A Specification targeted at the desktop/server or consumer/embedded space is in-
63 itiated by one or more Members and approved for development by the responsible EC. A group
64 of experts is formed to assist the Spec Lead with the development of the Specification.
- 65 2. **DRAFT RELEASES:** The Expert Group develops the Specification through an iterative pro-
66 cess, releasing drafts for public review and comment. After the formal Public Review the EC
67 holds a ballot on whether the JSR should proceed to the Final Release stage.
- 68 3. **FINAL RELEASE:** The Spec Lead submits the Specification to the PMO for publication as the
69 Proposed Final Draft. When the RI and TCK are completed, and the RI passes the TCK, the
70 Specification, the RI, and the TCK are submitted to the PMO, which circulates them to the re-
71 sponsible EC for final approval.
- 72 4. **MAINTENANCE:** The Specification, Reference Implementation, and Technology Compatibility
73 Kit are updated in response to ongoing requests for clarification, interpretation, enhancements,

and revisions. The EC reviews proposed changes to the Specification and indicates which can be carried out immediately and which should be deferred to a new JSR.

This version (2.9) of the JCP was developed using the Java Community Process itself by means of JSR 355, led by Oracle with all Executive Committee members forming the Expert Group.

II DEFINITIONS

Appeal Ballot: The EC ballot to override a first-level decision on a TCK test challenge.

Affiliate Member: An individual who is unwilling or unable to sign the JSPA but who instead signs an Affiliate Membership Agreement in order to participate in the activities of the JCP.

Affiliate Membership Agreement: The membership agreement signed by individuals who are unable or unwilling to sign the JSPA.

Ballot: See Appeal Ballot, Final Approval Ballot, Final Approval Reconsideration Ballot, JSR Approval Ballot, JSR Reconsideration Ballot, JSR Renewal Ballot, JSR Renewal Reconsideration Ballot, JSR Withdrawal Ballot, Maintenance Review Ballot, Maintenance Renewal Ballot, Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot, Public Draft Specification Approval Ballot, Public Draft Specification Reconsideration Ballot, Transfer Ballot.

Community Seat: An Executive Committee seat filled by the election process described in section 6.4.4.

Contribution Agreement: A legal agreement defining the terms, particularly those concerning the grant of intellectual property rights, under which contributions are made to a project.

Contributor: A JCP Member who is not a member of an Expert Group but who is formally recognized at the Spec Lead's discretion as having contributed to the JSR.

Dormant Specification (Dormant): A Specification that the PMO has determined has no assigned Specification Lead or Maintenance Lead, or that is not being actively developed and on which no further development is anticipated.

Early Draft Review: A 30 to 90 day period during which the public reviews and comments on the draft Specification.

Elected Seat: An Executive Committee seat filled by the election process described in section 6.4.4.

Employer Contribution Agreement: An agreement that must be signed by the employer of an individual Full Member in which the employer makes certain IP commitments with respect to the employee's participation in the JCP. (NOTE: this is what we've been calling the Strengthened Exhibit B. It's no longer an Exhibit since it's unrelated to the JSPA.)

Executive Committee (EC): The Members who guide the evolution of the Java technologies. The EC represents a cross-section of both major stakeholders and other Members of the Java community. EC members are appointed in an annual election process. The EC Policies and Procedures are specified in the EC Standing Rules, which is a separate document.

113 **Expert:** A Full Member or Member Representative who has expert knowledge and is an
114 active practitioner in the technology covered by the JSR.

115 **Expert Group (EG):** The group of Experts who develop or make significant revisions to a
116 Specification.

117 **Final Approval Ballot:** The 14-day EC ballot to approve the Final Draft along with its as-
118 sociated RI and TCK.

119 **Final Approval Reconsideration Ballot:** The 14-day EC ballot to reconsider an initial re-
120 jection of a Final Draft, RI, and TCK.

121 **Final Draft:** The final draft of the Specification that will be put forward for EC approval.

122 **Final Release:** The final stage in the JSR development process when the Specification,
123 RI, and TCK have been completed and can be licensed by implementors.

124 **First-Level TCK Appeals Process:** The process defined by the Spec Lead that allows
125 implementors of the Specification to appeal one or more tests defined by the Specifica-
126 tion's TCK.

127 **Full Member:** A corporation, organization, or individual that has signed the JSPA in order
128 to obtain full membership rights within the JCP.

129 **Issue:** an explicit reference to an item defined in an Issue Tracker.

130 **Issue List:** A list of Issues generated from an Issue Tracker, identifying the disposition of
131 each.

132 **Issue Tracker:** A mechanism to allow issues (problems, tasks, comments, or requests for
133 change) to be recorded and tracked by priority, status, owner, or other criteria. The Issue
134 Tracker should permit issues to be identified by states such as open, resolved, and closed
135 and should support the assignment of resolution types such as deferred (postponed to a
136 follow-on release,) fixed (implemented,) challenged (no satisfactory resolution,) and reject-
137 ed (deemed inappropriate or out of scope.)

138 **Java Community Process (JCP):** The formal process described in this document for de-
139 veloping or revising Java technology Specifications.

140 **Java Community Process Member (Member):** A company, organization, or individual
141 that has signed a Membership Agreement and is abiding by its terms.

142 **Java Specification (Specification):** A written specification for some aspect of the Java
143 technology. This includes the language, virtual machine, Platform Editions, Profiles, and
144 application programming interfaces.

145 **Java Specification Request (JSR):** The document submitted to the PMO by one or more
146 Members to propose the development of a new Specification or significant revision to an
147 existing Specification.

148 **Java Specification Participation Agreement (JSPA):** A one-year renewable agreement
149 between Oracle America and a company, organization or individual that allows the latter
150 entities to participate in the Java Community Process as a Full Member.

151 **JCP Website:** The website where the public can stay informed about JCP activities, down-
152 load draft and final Specifications, and follow the progress of Specifications through the
153 JCP.

154 **JSR Approval Ballot:** A two-week EC ballot to determine if the initial JSR submission
155 should be approved

156 **JSR Reconsideration Ballot:** The EC ballot to determine if a revision of an initial JSR
157 submission should be approved.

158 **JSR Page:** Each JSR has a dedicated public web page on the JCP Website where the
159 JSR's history is recorded and where other relevant information about the JSR is published.

160 **JSR Renewal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a JSR should continue in its work.

161 **JSR Renewal Reconsideration Ballot:** An EC ballot to determine if a revised JSR should
162 continue its work.

163 **JSR Review:** A two- to four-week period (the length to be set at the discretion of the sub-
164 mitter) during which the public can review and comment on a proposed new JSR before
165 the JSR Approval Ballot.

166 **JSR Withdrawal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a completed JSR that appears to
167 have been abandoned should be withdrawn.

168 **Licensor Name Space:** The public class or interface declarations whose names begin
169 with "java", "javax", "com.sun" (or "com.Your name" if You are the Specification Lead) or
170 their equivalents in any subsequent naming convention adopted by Oracle.

171 **Maintenance Lead (ML):** The Expert responsible for maintaining the Specification.

172 **Maintenance Lead Member:** The individual JCP member who is a Maintenance Lead, or
173 the company or organization that is represented by the Maintenance Lead.

174 **Maintenance Release:** The final stage in the JSR maintenance process when the Specifi-
175 cation, RI, and TCK have been updated and can be licensed by implementors.

176 **Maintenance Review:** A period of at least 30 days prior to finalization of a Maintenance
177 Release when Members and the public consider and comment on the change the Mainte-
178 nance Lead proposes to include in the release, as identified in the associated Issue List.

179 **Maintenance Review Ballot:** An EC ballot to determine whether the changes and time
180 line proposed by a Maintenance Lead are appropriate for a Maintenance Release.

181 **Maintenance Renewal Ballot:** a ballot during which EC members vote on whether to
182 permit a Maintenance Lead to extend the deadline for delivery of materials for Mainte-

183 nance Release, or whether the previous Maintenance Review should be rescinded and the
184 ML be required to start the process again.

185 **Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a completed
186 Maintenance Release that appears to have been abandoned should be withdrawn.

187 **Member:** See Affiliate Member, Full Member, Java Community Process Member, Member
188 Representative, Partner Member.

189 **Member Representative:** An individual who is an employee of or who has a contractual
190 relationship with a Full Member and who is authorized by that Member to represent its in-
191 terests within the JCP.

192 **Membership Agreement:** See Affiliate Membership Agreement, JSPA, Partner Member-
193 ship Agreement.

194 **Observer:** An individual who is not a member of the JCP but who takes advantage of the
195 JCP's transparency mechanisms to observe and/or comment on Expert Group activities.

196 **Partner Member:** A non-profit organization that is unwilling or unable to sign the JSPA
197 (since it is not a legal entity) and that instead signs a Partner Membership Agreement in
198 order to enable it enable it to promote and to participate in the activities of the JCP.

199 **Partner Membership Agreement:** The membership agreement signed by non-profit or-
200 ganizations that are unable or unwilling to sign the JSPA.

201 **Platform Edition Specification (Platform Edition):** A Specification that defines a base-
202 line API set that provides a foundation upon which applications, other APIs, and Profiles
203 can be built. There are currently three Platform Edition Specifications: Java SE, Java EE,
204 and Java ME.

205 **Profile Specification (Profile):** A Specification that references one of the Platform Edition
206 Specifications and zero or more other JCP Specifications (that are not already a part of a
207 Platform Edition Specification.) APIs from the referenced Platform Edition must be included
208 according to the referencing rules set out in that Platform Edition Specification. Other re-
209 ferenced Specifications must be referenced in their entirety.

210 **Program Management Office (PMO):** The group within Oracle America that is responsi-
211 ble for administering the JCP and chairing the EC.

212 **Proposed Final Draft:** The version of the draft Specification that will be used as the basis
213 for the RI and TCK.

214 **Public Draft Specification Approval Ballot :** The EC ballot to determine if a draft should
215 proceed after Public Review.

216 **Public Draft Specification Reconsideration Ballot :** The EC ballot to determine if a re-
217 vised draft should proceed after Public Review.

218 **Public Review:** A 30 to 90 day period when the public can review and comment on the
219 draft Specification.

220 **Ratified Seat:** An Executive Committee seat filled by the ratification process described in
221 section 6.4.3.

222 **Reference Implementation (RI):** The prototype or "proof of concept" implementation of a
223 Specification.

224 **Release:** A Final Release or a Maintenance Release

225 **Specification:** See Java Specification.

226 **Specification Lead (Spec Lead):** The Expert responsible for leading the effort to develop
227 or make significant revisions to a Specification and for completing the associated Refer-
228 ence Implementation and Technology Compatibility Kit. A Spec Lead (or the Spec Lead's
229 host company or organization) must be a Java Community Process Member.

230 **Specification Lead Member (Spec Lead Member):** The individual JCP member who is a
231 Spec Lead, or otherwise the company or organization that is represented by the Spec
232 Lead.

233 **Technology Compatibility Kit (TCK):** The suite of tests, tools, and documentation that al-
234 lows an organization to determine if its implementation is compliant with the Specification.

235 **Transfer Ballot:** The EC ballot to approve transfer of ownership of a Specification, RI, and
236 TCK from one Member to another Member.¹

237 **Umbrella Java Specification Request (UJSR):** A JSR that defines or revises a Platform
238 Edition or Profile Specification. A UJSR proceeds through the JCP like any other JSR.

239 The use of the term **day** or **days** in this document refers to calendar days unless otherwise
240 specified.

241 The use of the words "must", "must not", "required", "shall", "shall not", "should", "should
242 not", "recommended", "may" and "optional" in this document is done in accordance with the
243 IETF's RFC 2119.

SM

244 III THE JAVA COMMUNITY PROCESS PROGRAM

245 1. GENERAL PROCEDURES

246 III.1.1 JCP MEMBERSHIP

247 In order to enable the broadest possible participation in the work of the JCP several different roles and
248 membership levels have been defined.

¹Transfer of ownership does not mean transfer of IP rights, only transfer of the right to start again. The new Spec Lead can, however, negotiate a transfer of IP with the old Spec Lead.

249 **III.1.1.1 Observer**

250 Individuals need not sign a formal JCP Membership Agreement in order to observe and comment on
251 Expert Group activities since they may take advantage of the JCP's transparency mechanisms such
252 as public mailing lists and Issue Trackers. (Typically, however, Observers will need to register at
253 jcp.org and java.net.) Observers are not eligible to join Expert Groups, to run for election to the the
254 Executive Committee, or to vote in the JCP's annual elections.

255 **III.1.1.2 Partner Member**

256 Non-profit organizations such as Java User Groups that are unwilling or unable (because they are not
257 legal entities) to sign the JSPA may sign a simplified Partner Membership Agreement that focuses on
258 the joint promotion of JCP activities in conjunction with JCP Members and staff.

259 Partner Members cannot act as a Spec Lead or serve on most Expert Groups but they are eligible to
260 run for election to the Executive Committee. If elected, in their role as Executive Committee members
261 they may serve as members of the Expert Group for JSRs whose focus is redefining the JCP's organi-
262 zation and "constitution" by revising its ruling documents. Partner Members have the same voting
263 rights as Full Members.

264 **III.1.1.3 Affiliate Member**

265 An individual who is unwilling or unable to sign the JSPA may sign an Affiliate Membership Agreement
266 in order to participate in the activities of the JCP. (Organizations are ineligible for this class of mem-
267 bership.) The Affiliate Membership Agreement is simpler than the JSPA, and involves a personal IP
268 commitment. No employer signature is required.

269 Affiliate Members cannot act as a Spec Lead, join an Expert Group, or run for election to the Executive
270 Committee. They are eligible to vote for Community Executive Committee seats but are not not eligible
271 to vote for Ratified or Elected Seats. At the Spec Lead's discretion Affiliate members can be formally
272 recognized by being listed as Contributors to a JSR.

273 **III.1.1.4 Full Member**

274 This class of membership is open to corporations, non-profit organizations that are legal entities, self-
275 employed and unemployed individuals, students, and some employed individuals. The JSPA is the
276 membership agreement for Full Members.

277 Non-employed individuals and university staff are eligible for Full Membership if they are legally able
278 to license their own IP and can therefore sign the JSPA on their own behalf.

279 Employed individuals are eligible for Full Membership if their employer is not a Full Member and is will-
280 ing to sign an Employer Contribution Agreement.

281 Full members may act as a Spec Lead, join an Expert Group, and run for election to any class of seat
282 on the EC. Full members may vote for Nominated and Elected Seats on the EC, but not for Communi-
283 ty Seats.

284 **III.1.1.5 Member Representative**

285 Employees and other individuals who have a contractual relationship with Full Members may be au-
286 thorized by the Full Member to represent its interests within the JCP by acting as a Spec Lead, serving
287 on an Expert Group, or running for the EC.

288 **NOTE:** I deliberately didn't cover the *One organization, one vote* restrictions in this section since I think
289 they'll be better documented in the Elections section of the Process Document. Let's see.

III.1.2 EXPERT GROUP TRANSPARENCY

Each Expert Group is free to use the working style that it finds most productive and appropriate, so long as this is compatible with the requirements specified in this document. For example, an EG may choose to move forward only when there is general agreement among its members, or by voting on issues when there is disagreement.

As specified below, Expert Groups must operate in a transparent manner, enabling the public to observe their deliberations and to provide feedback. All feedback must be taken into consideration and public responses to such feedback must be provided. EGs must maintain a publicly-accessible document archive from which all of their working materials such as source documents, meeting agendas and minutes, and draft documents can be downloaded. The EC should take the Expert Group's transparency record into consideration when voting on its JSR.

In the initial JSR submission the Spec Lead must specify the transparency mechanisms (for example, the communication mechanisms and Issue Tracker) that the Expert Group intends to adopt, and must provide the URLs for accessing the chosen collaboration tools. The PMO shall publish this information on the JSR Page. The Spec Lead must also provide a pointer to any Terms of Use required to use the collaboration tools so that the EC and prospective EG members can judge whether they are compatible with the JSPA.

If the EG changes its collaboration tools during the life of the JSR these changes must be reported to the PMO, which shall update the relevant information on the JSR Page. Any such changes must ensure that previously-published information is incorporated into the new tools.

When voting to approve a JSR's transition to the next stage, EC members are expected to take into consideration the extent to which the Spec Lead is meeting the transparency requirements.

Spec Leads should be aware of their obligations under the JSPA to license the output of their JSR on Fair, Reasonable, and Non Discriminatory terms, and to make certain patent grants. Incorporating feedback provided through public email lists or forums without ensuring that the provider has signed the JSPA or an equivalent Contribution Agreement may make it impossible to meet these requirements or may expose the Spec Lead Member to legal liability.

The use of *Confidential Information* (as defined in the JSPA) by Expert Groups limits transparency, is strongly discouraged, and will be prohibited in a future version of the Process. If the Spec Lead intends to permit the use of Confidential Information (such as emails, drafts, or submissions marked as *Confidential*) this must be specified in the initial Java Specification Request.²

III.1.2.1 PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Expert Groups may choose to keep purely administrative matters private, but all substantive business must be performed in a manner that allows the public to observe their work and to respond to it. All proceedings, discussions, and working documents must be published, and a mechanism must be established to allow the public to provide feedback. One common way of meeting these requirements is through the use of mailing lists, but other alternatives such as blogs, Wikis, and discussion forums may be preferred. Whatever communication mechanisms are chosen, these must include an archiving function so that a record of all communications is preserved. Archives must be readable by the public.³

²The EC intends to remove the Confidentiality language from the next version of the JSPA.

³This should not be interpreted as a requirement that Expert Groups create or maintain audio or video recordings of their meetings.

329 **III.1.2.2 ISSUE TRACKING**

330 Issues must be tracked through a publicly readable Issue Tracker. The Expert Group may choose to
331 use a publicly writable Issue Tracker, thereby permitting the public to log issues directly, or alternative-
332 ly to identify formal comments in some other manner and to enter them into the Issue Tracker on be-
333 half of the submitter. Whatever mechanism is used, a publicly-readable audit trail of all comments and
334 Issues must be maintained.

335 Whenever a Spec Lead or a Maintenance Lead submits materials to the PMO for review or ballot they
336 must also provide an Issue List indicating the disposition of all of the Issues that have been logged
337 against the JSR. Issues logged late in the review cycle may be deferred for later consideration, and
338 Issues that are blatantly off-topic or that appear to have been submitted maliciously or erroneously
339 may be ignored.

340 In order to enable EC members to judge whether Issues have been adequately addressed, the Issue
341 List must make a clear distinction between Issues that are still open, Issues that have been deferred,
342 and those that are closed, and must indicate the reason for any change of state.

343 The PMO shall publish the Issue List or a pointer to it together with the other materials.

344 EC members should review the supplied Issue List and take it into consideration when casting their
345 ballot. If they have any reservations or concerns about a 'yes' vote, or if they wish to vote 'no,' they
346 must accompany their ballot with comments which reference one or more Issues (perhaps logged by
347 them) that they would like to see addressed in the future. EC members should vote 'no' if they believe
348 that the Spec Lead or Maintenance Lead has not adequately addressed all Issues including those that
349 have been rejected or otherwise closed by the Expert Group.

350 **III.1.2.3 CHANGES TO LICENSING TERMS**

351 As described in Section 2.2.1 below, the proposed licensing terms must be disclosed during JSR
352 submission. The Specification license must not be modified after initial submission since to do so
353 could invalidate IP grants. It may be necessary, however, to modify the proposed RI or TCK license.
354 Any such changes must be disclosed when the Specification is next submitted to the PMO for public
355 posting or review.

356 For as long as a JSR is licensed and while it is legally possible to do so the Spec Lead Member must
357 offer the RI and TCK licenses that were published at the time of Final Release, with the exception that
358 reasonable increases in price are permitted. At subsequent Maintenance Releases alternate RI or
359 TCK licenses may also be offered so long as all changes are disclosed, but licensees must be free to
360 choose the original terms if they wish. For example, existing licensees who do not wish to accept a
361 modified license when required to adopt a newer TCK shall have the option to license the updated
362 TCK under the previous terms. If a JSR changes hands the new Maintenance Lead Member must
363 present a license with terms comparable to, or more favorable to licensees than the existing license.

364 When a newer version of a technology is created through a follow-on JSR, the Specification, RI, and
365 TCK license terms for the new JSR may differ from those offered for the previous JSR, but any such
366 changes must be disclosed during JSR submission. The original terms for the previous JSR must be
367 offered for as long as that JSR is licensed.

368 **III.1.3 EXPERT GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

369 **III.1.3.1 EXPERT GROUP COMPOSITION**

370 There is no size limit on the Expert Group. The Spec Lead may add additional Experts at any time so
371 long as existing EG members are consulted. New members may be added, for example, to increase
372 diversity of opinion.

373 Any JCP Member or Member Representative may request to join an Expert Group at any time by
374 submitting their nomination via the online form provided on the JSR Page. Details of such requests,
375 including the organizational affiliation of the requester, together with the Spec Lead's official response,
376 substantive deliberations within the EG about the matter, and any other official decisions related to EG
377 membership must be published through the EG's public communication channel.

378 Members and Affiliate Members who are unwilling or unable to join the Expert group may inform the
379 Spec Lead at any time of their interest in contributing to the work of the Expert Group with the possibil-
380 ity of being formally recognized as a Contributor.

381 The PMO will ensure that the JSR Page lists the Members who are members of the EG together with
382 the names of individual Member Representatives where appropriate. At the Spec Lead's discretion the
383 PMO will also list Members who are Contributors to the work of the JSR.

384 **III.1.3.2 WITHDRAWAL OF AN EXPERT FROM THE EXPERT GROUP**

385 An Expert may withdraw from the Expert Group at any time. If the withdrawing Expert is the Spec
386 Lead, the Expert Group, with the help of the PMO, should approach the Member who originally con-
387 tributed the Expert, if any, and request them to provide a suitable replacement; if no such replacement
388 is forthcoming, the Expert Group should choose one of its members as the new Spec Lead. If the
389 withdrawing Expert is not the Spec Lead, the Spec Lead should approach the Member who originally
390 contributed the Expert, if any, and work with that organization to find a suitable replacement. If no re-
391 placement is offered or is not otherwise available, the Spec Lead may recruit a replacement from
392 amongst other Members.

393 **III.1.3.3 DISRUPTIVE, UNCOOPERATIVE OR UNRESPONSIVE EXPERT GROUP** 394 **MEMBERS**

395 There may be rare instances when members of the Expert Group feel that one of their fellow Experts
396 is not acting in ways that advance the work of the Expert Group, and is being disruptive, uncoopera-
397 tive or unresponsive. EG members are expected to make a reasonable effort to resolve any such is-
398 sues among themselves, with the active help of the Spec Lead. However, if the situation cannot be
399 resolved in a timely manner, any three members of the EG can approach the Spec Lead and request
400 that the EG member in question be excluded from further participation in the EG. If the Spec Lead
401 agrees to the request he can then do so. In the case where the EG Member in question is a Member
402 Representative, the Spec Lead must first request that the Member replace its representative. If the
403 Member does not do so in a timely manner, the Spec Lead can exclude the Member itself from further
404 EG participation. The Spec Lead's decision as to whether or not to exclude can be appealed to the EC
405 by following the process outlined in Section 1.7, "Escalation and Appeals"

406 **III.1.3.4 UNRESPONSIVE OR INACTIVE SPEC LEAD**

407 There may be rare instances when members of the Expert Group feel that the Spec Lead is not acting
408 in ways that advance the work of the Expert Group and is being unresponsive or inactive. The EG is
409 expected to make a reasonable effort to resolve any such issues in a timely manner. However, if the
410 situation cannot be resolved these concerns should be brought to the attention of the EC as quickly as
411 possible so they may be proactively addressed and resolved.

412 If the problems cannot be resolved informally, any three members of the EG may request the EC to
413 replace the Spec Lead. All such requests must clearly state the cause of the concern and provide all
414 necessary evidence. If the EC agrees that there is cause, it may ask the PMO to replace the Spec
415 Lead. In the case where the Spec Lead is a Member Representative the PMO shall ask the Member to
416 replace the Spec Lead. If the Member refuses to do so, the PMO shall seek to put in place an alterna-
417 tive Spec Lead, in which case the EC must conduct a transfer ballot as specified in section 5.1.2 of
418 this document. If no Spec Lead replacement can be found, the EC shall initiate a JSR Renewal Ballot
419 to determine whether the JSR should be shut down.

III.1.4JSR DEADLINES

If a JSR does not begin Early Draft Review within 9 months of completing its JSR Approval Ballot, or does not begin Public Review within 12 months of first submitting an Early Draft, or does not reach Final Release within 12 months of commencing Public Review, then the EC should initiate a JSR Renewal Ballot unless it is agreed that there are extraordinary circumstances that justify the delay. The PMO shall inform the Spec Lead and Expert Group of this decision and will request the Spec Lead and Expert Group to prepare a public statement to the EC. The JSR Renewal Ballot shall start 30 days after the request. If the JSR Renewal Ballot is approved by the EC, then another renewal ballot cannot be initiated for that JSR for an additional year.

If the JSR Renewal Ballot fails, the Expert Group will have 30 days to update the JSR in response to the concerns raised by the EC, and may submit a revised version to the PMO. If a revised JSR is not received by the end of the 30 days, the original decision by the EC shall stand and the JSR shall be closed. If a revision is received, then the PMO shall forward it to the EC and initiate a JSR Renewal Reconsideration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all comments submitted by EC members, together with their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If this ballot fails, the JSR shall be closed and the Expert Group shall disband.

If a JSR that is closed through these processes was a revision to an existing Specification, the Spec Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification.

III.1.5COMPATIBILITY TESTING

The Spec Lead is responsible for defining the process whereby the TCK is used to certify implementations of the JSR as compatible. The Maintenance Lead must submit to the PMO at least quarterly a list of all implementations that have been certified as compatible and that have been released publicly or commercially. The PMO will publish this information on the JCP Website. If the Spec Lead submits the information in the form of a pointer to an already published list the PMO may choose simply to reference that list rather than duplicate it.

TCK license terms must permit implementors to freely and publicly discuss the testing process and detailed TCK test results with all interested parties.

III.1.6EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES

III.1.6.1 TRANSPARENCY

All substantive Executive Committee business should be conducted in the most transparent manner possible. EC transparency requirements are specified in a separate document, EC Standing Rules.

III.1.6.2 DRAFT REVIEWS

During JSR reviews EC members are strongly encouraged to ensure that one or more technical members of their organizations review the draft and provide feedback using the mechanism specified by the Spec Lead. EC feedback is particularly important to the Expert Group, and EC members are encouraged not to wait until ballot periods to raise concerns and issues.

III.1.7PMO RESPONSE TIMES

Materials to be posted on the JCP Website for review, comment, or any other official EG or EC business should be submitted to the PMO, which shall post them on the JCP Website and announce their availability to Members and the public within seven days of receipt (holiday closures excepted.)

III.1.8 ESCALATION AND APPEALS

Unless otherwise specified in this document, any EG member can appeal to the EC regarding a decision, an action, or inaction by the PMO, a Spec Lead, or a Maintenance Lead that affects EG participation or issue-resolution and which cannot be resolved by other reasonable means. An appeal must be initiated by sending an email message to the PMO (pmo@jcp.org) in all cases, even if it affects the PMO itself. The message must describe the issue under appeal clearly and concisely, with a short and relevant *subject* line, and must provide all relevant documentation to support the appeal. The PMO shall transmit the message to the EC no later than seven days after receipt. The EC shall then respond to the appellant within 30 days, either with a resolution or with a request for clarification and/or further documentation.

2. INITIATE A NEW OR REVISED SPECIFICATION

III.2.1 INITIATE A JAVA SPECIFICATION REQUEST

One or more Members may initiate a request to develop a new Specification, or carry out a significant revision to an existing one, by submitting a JSR proposal through the JCP Website, as described in the Spec Lead Guide. Upon request to the PMO any JSR proposal may be withdrawn by the submitter(s) without explanation prior to the completion of the JSR Approval Ballot.

The following information must be provided with each JSR:

- the Members making the request (the submitters,) the proposed Spec Lead, and the initial members of the Expert Group,
- a description of the proposed Specification,
- the reason(s) for developing or revising it,
- the primary Platform Edition, as well as any consideration given to other Platform Editions,
- an estimated development schedule,
- any preexisting documents, technology descriptions, or implementations that might be used as a starting point,
- a transparency plan, which outlines the tools and techniques that the Spec Lead will use during the development of the Specification to communicate with and seek feedback from JCP Members and the public.

III.2.1.1 REVISE EXISTING SPECIFICATIONS

Existing Specifications, together with their associated RIs and TCKs, are maintained by a designated Maintenance Lead using the processes described in section 5 of this document. Maintenance Lead Members are expected to assume long term ownership of the Specification, RI, and TCK while respecting the wishes of JCP Members with regard to evolution. Maintenance Leads shall therefore be the Spec Leads for all significant revisions to their Specifications, but they shall not have the exclusive right to decide when a significant revision will take place. That shall be decided by the EC in response to a revision JSR that can be initiated by any JCP Member. Submitter(s) should make a reasonable effort to recruit members of the previous Expert Group to join any such revision effort.

III.2.1.2 PROTECT THE INSTALLED BASE AND GUARD AGAINST FRAGMENTATION

Changes to the Java programming language, the Java virtual machine (JVM,) the Java Native Interface (JNI,) packages in the "java.*" space, or other packages delivered only as part of Java SE, have the potential to seriously disrupt the installed base if carried out inconsistently across the Platform Editions. In order to protect the installed base, any such changes can only be accepted and carried out within a UJSR for Java SE.

504 In order to guard against fragmentation, new Platform Edition Specifications must not substantially du-
505 plicate existing Platform Editions or Profiles.

506 **III.2.1.3 PROFILES AND API SPECIFICATIONS TARGET CURRENT PLATFORM** 507 **EDITIONS**

508 All new or revised Specifications must be compatible with the most recent versions of the targeted
509 Platform Edition Specifications. In order to achieve this, all UJSRs to define new Profile Specifications
510 or revise existing Profile Specifications must reference either the most recent Release version of the
511 Platform Edition Specification they are based upon or a newer version of that Specification that is un-
512 der development via an active UJSR.

513 **III.2.1.4 PLATFORM INCLUSION**

514 The JSR submission form requires the submitter to state whether the JSR's RI and TCK should be
515 delivered as part of a Profile or Platform Edition, in standalone manner, or both. The final decision as
516 to whether a specific JSR is included in a Profile or a Platform Edition is made by the Spec Lead and
517 Expert Group of the Platform Edition or Profile JSR, and is confirmed by the EC ballots on the relevant
518 JSR. If the Spec Lead for the Platform Edition or Profile JSR turns down a request for inclusion then
519 the JSR must deliver a standalone RI and TCK.

520 Technologies may be incorporated into a Profile or Platform Edition after having been initially delivered
521 standalone. A JSR for a new version of an API that proposes to become part of a Profile or Platform
522 Edition and is considering discontinuing standalone availability must state the rationale for this change
523 and must inform the public of the intention to discontinue the availability of the standalone RI, and TCK
524 one JSR submission in advance.

525 **III.2.2JSR REVIEW**

526 When a JSR is received, the PMO shall give it a tracking number, create its JSR Page, announce the
527 proposed JSR to the public, and begin JSR Review. Comments on the JSR should be sent to the
528 JSR's public feedback communication mechanism. Comments shall be forwarded to the EC for its
529 consideration and shall be made available from the JSR Page (similar comments may be consolidat-
530 ed.) Members who are interested in joining the Expert Group (should the JSR be approved) should
531 identify themselves by submitting a nomination form to the PMO.

532 **III.2.2.1 DISCLOSURE OF LICENSING TERMS**

533 The Spec Lead Member is responsible for developing the Reference Implementation and Technology
534 Compatibility Kit and for licensing them as described in the JSPA. The Spec Lead Member must pro-
535 vide the EC with complete copies of the proposed Specification, RI, and TCK licenses no later than
536 the start of JSR Review. The licenses shall be published on the JSR page. EC members should pro-
537 vide feedback on the terms as an indication of how the community as a whole might react to the
538 terms. If EC members believe that the proposed licensing terms are not compatible with the licensing
539 guidelines established for use within the JCP, then balloting on the proposed JSR shall be delayed un-
540 til Oracle legal provides an opinion on the matter.

541 **III.2.3JSR APPROVAL BALLOT**

542 After the JSR Review, EC members shall review the JSR and any comments received, and cast their
543 ballot to decide if the JSR should be approved.

544 If the JSR Approval Ballot fails, the PMO shall send all EC comments to the JSR submitter(s) who may
545 revise the JSR and resubmit it within 14 days. If a revised JSR is not received in that time, the original
546 EC decision shall stand and the JSR shall be closed. If a revised JSR is received, the PMO shall post

547 it to the JSR Page, announce the revised JSR to the public, and send it to all EC members for a JSR
548 Reconsideration Ballot. If that ballot fails, the JSR shall be closed.

549 **III.2.4 FORM THE EXPERT GROUP**

550 When a JSR is approved the PMO instructs the identified Spec Lead to form the Expert Group and to
551 identify additional Members who may be interested in serving as Contributors. If the Member contrib-
552 uting the Spec Lead withdraws from the JCP before the JSR is approved, the PMO shall request the
553 preliminary Expert Group to choose a replacement.

554 **3. DRAFT RELEASES**

555 **III.3.1 WRITE THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE SPECIFICATION**

556 The Expert Group should begin work by considering the requirements set forth in the JSR, any con-
557 tributed documents or technology descriptions, comments received during JSR Review and, if this is a
558 revision of an existing Specification, the Issue List maintained by the Maintenance Lead (see section
559 5.) Additional input can be obtained from discussions with other Members, industry groups, software
560 developers, end-users, and academics. The goal is to define requirements and then write a draft
561 Specification suitable for review by the community and the public.

562 When the Expert Group decides that the first draft is ready for review, the Spec Lead shall send the
563 draft, along with any additional files required for review, to the PMO. The Spec Lead should also sug-
564 gest the length of the Early Draft Review period if the Expert Group feels it should go beyond the min-
565 imum 30 days.

566 Multiple Early Drafts (and Early Draft Reviews) are encouraged where the Expert Group feels that this
567 would be helpful.

568 **III.3.2 EARLY DRAFT REVIEW**

569 Refinement of the draft Specification begins when the PMO posts it to the JCP Website and announc-
570 es the start of Early Draft Review. The goal of Early Draft Review is to get the draft Specification into a
571 form suitable for Public Review as quickly as possible by uncovering and correcting major problems
572 with the draft. Early Draft Review is an early-access review, and should ideally take place when the
573 Specification still has some unresolved issues. The public's participation in Early Draft Review is an
574 important part of the process since in the past, comments from the public have raised fundamental
575 architectural and technological issues that have considerably improved some Specifications.

576 **III.3.2.1 UPDATING THE DRAFT DURING EARLY DRAFT REVIEW**

577 If the Expert Group makes major revisions to the draft during Early Draft Review the Spec Lead should
578 send the revised draft, along with a synopsis of the changes, to the PMO, which shall publish these
579 online and make them available for download by the public.

580 After the Early Draft Review period has ended, the Expert Group can make any additional changes to
581 the draft it deems necessary in response to comments before submitting the draft to the PMO for the
582 next review.

583 **III.3.3 PUBLIC REVIEW**

584 Public Review begins when the PMO posts a new draft Specification on the JCP Website and an-
585 nounces its availability for public review and comment.

586 The Spec Lead is responsible for ensuring that all comments are read and considered. If those com-
587 ments result in revisions to the draft, and those revisions result in major changes (in the opinion of the
588 Expert Group,) then the Spec Lead must send an updated draft (with a summary of the changes) to

589 the PMO before the review period ends. The PMO shall post the new draft and the change summary
590 on the JCP Website and shall notify the public that the new draft is available.

591 **III.3.4PUBLIC DRAFT SPECIFICATION APPROVAL BALLOT**

592 The Public Draft Specification Approval Ballot starts when the Public Review closes. At the close of
593 balloting, all comments submitted by EC members with their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert
594 Group by the PMO.

595 If the Public Draft Specification Ballot fails, the Expert Group will have 30 days to update the draft in
596 response to the concerns raised by the EC and to submit a revised version to the PMO. If a revised
597 draft is not received within 30 days, the original decision by the EC shall stand and the JSR shall be
598 closed. If a revision is received, the PMO shall forward it to the EC and initiate a Public Draft Specifi-
599 cation Reconsideration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all comments submitted by EC members with
600 their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If this ballot fails, the JSR shall be
601 closed and the Expert Group shall disband. If the JSR was a revision to an existing Specification, the
602 Spec Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification (see section 5.)

603 **4. FINAL RELEASE**

604 **III.4.1PROPOSED FINAL DRAFT**

605 If the Public Draft Specification Approval Ballot (or Reconsideration Ballot) is successful, the Expert
606 Group shall prepare the Proposed Final Draft of the Specification by completing any revisions it deems
607 necessary in response to comments received. The Spec Lead shall then send the Proposed Final
608 Draft to the PMO, which shall post it on the JCP Website for public download.

609 **III.4.1.1 COMPLETE THE RI AND TCK**

610 The Spec Lead Member is responsible for the completion of both the RI and the TCK. JSRs that are
611 targeted at more than one platform are required to support each environment, which may require a
612 separate RI and TCK for each environment. If the RI and TCK uncover areas of the Specification that
613 were under-defined, incomplete, or ambiguous, the Spec Lead shall work with the Expert Group to
614 correct those deficiencies and then send a revised Specification together with a summary of the
615 changes to the PMO. Information shall be posted to the JCP Website. The Expert Group shall contin-
616 ue to consider any further comments received during this time.

617 **III.4.1.2 ESTABLISH A FIRST-LEVEL TCK APPEALS PROCESS**

618 The Spec Lead is also responsible for establishing a clearly defined First Level TCK Appeals Process
619 to address challenges to tests contained in the TCK. This process must be described in the TCK doc-
620 umentation. Implementors who are not satisfied with a first level decision should appeal to the EC by
621 documenting their concerns in an email message to the PMO. The PMO will circulate the request to
622 the EC, together with any information received from the ML concerning the rationale for the first-level
623 decision, and initiate a 7-day Appeal Ballot.

624 **III.4.1.3 UPDATE THE DELIVERABLES IN RESPONSE TO THE APPEAL BALLOT**

625 Depending on the nature of the problem, a successful TCK challenge will require updating one or
626 more of the TCK, the Specification, and the RI. Within 30 days of the close of a successful TCK Ap-
627 peal Ballot the Maintenance Lead must update these deliverables as necessary and report the chang-
628 es to the PMO when the Specification (if changed) and URLs for the updated RI and/or TCK are deliv-
629 ered for publication on the JCP Website.

III.4.2 FINAL APPROVAL BALLOT

When the Expert Group is satisfied that the TCK provides adequate test coverage, the RI correctly implements the Specification, and the RI passes the TCK, the Spec Lead shall send the Final Draft of the Specification to the PMO together with instructions on how EC members can obtain the RI and TCK for evaluation. The PMO shall circulate the materials to the EC and initiate the Final Approval Ballot. At the close of balloting, all EC comments shall be sent to the Expert Group by the PMO.

The TCK submitted as part of the Final Draft must meet the following requirements:

- Include documentation covering configuration and execution of the TCK, any other information needed to use the TCK (e.g. documentation for any supplied tools,) a definition and explanation of the First-level TCK Appeals Process, and the compatibility requirements that must be met in addition to passing the TCK tests
 - The compatibility requirements at a minimum must specify that all compatible implementations
 - a) fully implement the Spec(s) including all required interfaces and functionality, and
 - b) do not modify, subset, superset, or otherwise extend the Licensor Name Space, or include any public or protected packages, classes, Java interfaces, fields or methods within the Licensor Name Space other than those required/authorized by the Specification or Specifications being implemented.
- These requirements must apply unless the Specification or TCK explicitly allows exceptions.
- Be accompanied by a test harness, scripts or other means to automate the test execution and recording of results.
 - Include a TCK coverage document that will help EC members to evaluate the TCK's quality. This document should include an overview of the documentation included in the TCK, a description of means used to validate the quality of the TCK, the criteria used to measure TCK test coverage of the Specification, test coverage numbers achieved, and a justification for the adequacy of TCK quality and its test coverage.
 - Provide 100% signature test coverage. These tests must ensure that all of the API signatures required by the Specification are completely implemented and that only API signatures required by the Specification are included in the JSR's namespace.

If the Final Approval Ballot fails, the Spec Lead will have 30 days to revise the Specification, RI, and TCK in response to EC concerns and to resubmit modified materials to the PMO.

If no responses are received within 30 days the original decision of the EC shall stand, the PMO shall close the JSR, and the Expert Group shall disband. If the JSR was a revision to an existing Specification, the Spec Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification (see section 5.)

If a response is received, the PMO shall circulate it to all EC members for a Final Approval Reconsideration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all ballot comments submitted by EC members shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If the reconsideration ballot fails, the JSR will be closed and the Expert Group will disband. If the JSR was a revision to an existing Specification, the Spec Lead will resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification.

III.4.3 FINAL RELEASE

Within 14 days of a successful Final Approval Ballot or Reconsideration Ballot, the PMO shall publish on the JCP Website the Specification and links to information on how to obtain the RI and TCK, and shall announce the availability of these materials to both Members and the public. The published TCK information must include a means for any interested party to obtain a copy of the TCK documentation at no charge. Upon Final Release, the Expert Group will have completed its work and disbands. The

674 Spec Lead will typically become the Maintenance Lead and may call upon Expert Group members and
675 others for aid in that role.

676 The Maintenance Lead must ensure that the links to the RI and TCK remain valid. If the links become
677 broken or non-functional the Maintenance Lead will have 30 days following notification from the PMO
678 to correct them. If the problems are not corrected the PMO will initiate a JSR Withdrawal Ballot (if no
679 Maintenance Release has been completed) or a Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot (if a Maintenance
680 Release has been made) to determine whether the Maintenance Lead shall be judged to have
681 abandoned the JSR. If the ballot passes the JSR itself or the relevant Maintenance Release will be
682 marked as *withdrawn*.

683 **5. MAINTENANCE**

684 **III.5.1 MAINTENANCE LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES**

685 The Maintenance Lead Member is expected to assume long term ownership of the Specification, RI,
686 and TCK while respecting the wishes of the JCP Members with regard to evolution. A Maintenance
687 Lead shall therefore automatically be the Spec Lead for all significant future revisions to their Specifi-
688 cation but shall not have the exclusive right to decide when a significant revision will take place (see
689 section 2.1.1.)

690 The public may submit requests for clarification, interpretation, and enhancements to the Specification
691 by logging issues through the JSR's Issue Tracker.

692 The ML shall consider all requests and shall decide how and if the Specification should be updated in
693 response. The ML is not required to perform these tasks alone, but is free to consult with the former
694 members of the Expert Group, or any other sources, to assist with the Maintenance duties.

695 All changes proposed by the ML shall make their way into the Specification either through the Mainte-
696 nance Release process (described below) or through a new JSR. Changes appropriate for a Mainte-
697 nance Release include bug-fixes, clarifications of the Specification, changes to the implementation of
698 existing APIs, and implementation-specific enhancements. Changes introduced in Maintenance Re-
699 leases – for example, modifications to existing APIs or the addition of new APIs - must not break bina-
700 ry compatibility as defined by the Java Language Specification. Changes that would break binary
701 compatibility should therefore be deferred to a new JSR.

702 **III.5.1.1 RELINQUISHING OWNERSHIP**

703 If the Maintenance Lead decides to discontinue his or her work at any time (including discontinuing
704 maintenance activities or declining to take on the role of Spec Lead during a significant revision initiat-
705 ed by a new JSR) the ML, with the assistance of the PMO, should make a reasonable effort to locate
706 another Member who is willing to take on the task. If a replacement is identified the PMO must initiate
707 a Transfer Ballot within 30 days to enable EC members to approve the transfer of responsibilities. If
708 the ballot succeeds, the new ML must assume his or her responsibilities within 30 days.

709 If no replacement can be found, or if the Transfer Ballot fails, then the PMO shall declare the Specifi-
710 cation to be Dormant and no further maintenance can be carried out. No further Transfer Ballots will
711 be initiated by the PMO unless a Member volunteers as ML, in which case the PMO will again have 30
712 days to initiate a Transfer Ballot.

713 **III.5.2 MAINTENANCE REVIEW**

714 The Maintenance Lead shall document all proposed Specification changes through the Issue Tracker
715 and then send a request to the PMO to initiate a Maintenance Review. This request must be accom-
716 panied by an Issue List that summarizes all formal comments that have been received and that indi-
717 cates the disposition of each Issue. The Maintenance Lead must also supply a summary of the pro-

posed Specification changes, ideally in the form of a *diff* between the proposed and the current Specification. The Maintenance Lead must also provide an estimate of when the final materials for the Maintenance Release will be delivered. If no estimate is provided the deadline will default to 30 days.

The PMO shall post the materials on the JCP Website for public review. The Maintenance Lead may choose to modify one or more of the proposed changes based on comments received during the review.

At the close of the Maintenance Review the PMO shall initiate a 14-day Maintenance Review Ballot. During this ballot EC members should vote 'yes' if they agree that the Maintenance Release should proceed as the Spec Lead has proposed, and 'no' if they have objections to the proposed release on one of the following grounds:

- One or more of the changes proposed by the Maintenance Lead is inappropriate for a Maintenance Release and should be deferred to a follow-on JSR.
- An issue that was referenced in a conditional yes vote (when an EC member voted "yes" with a comment stating the expectation that it would be addressed in the future) has not been addressed. The proposed Maintenance Release date is too far in the future. (EC members should bear in mind that many Maintenance Releases need to be synchronized with updates to a Platform, and that a Maintenance Review may therefore need to be carried out significantly in advance of the proposed Platform release.)
- Unreasonable changes have been made to the RI or TCK licensing terms.

'No' votes on other grounds shall be rejected by the PMO and shall be considered as abstentions. All 'no' votes must be accompanied by comments explaining the reason for the vote.

If the ballot fails, the Maintenance Lead may make any necessary corrections before requesting another Maintenance Review and ballot. The process may be repeated any number of times.

III.5.3 MAINTENANCE RELEASE

After a successful Maintenance Review Ballot the Maintenance Lead will update the Specification, RI, TCK, and Issue List as necessary and submit them to the PMO for publication in a Maintenance Release. The PMO verifies that the necessary changes have been made, and publishes the Specification, the Issue List, and pointers to the RI and TCK on the JSR Web Page.

NOTE: until the Maintenance Release stage is reached any proposed changes should be considered preliminary and subject to change, and therefore should not be implemented in shipping products.

If the Maintenance Lead fails to deliver the final materials within the time-period specified at the beginning of the Maintenance Review process the PMO shall inform the Maintenance Lead of an impending Maintenance Renewal Ballot, and shall request the Maintenance Lead to prepare a public statement to the EC that explains the reason for the delay and provides a new deadline. 30 days after this request the PMO shall initiate a Maintenance Renewal Ballot to determine whether the deadline may be extended as requested or whether the previous Maintenance Review should be rescinded and the Maintenance Lead be required to go through another Maintenance Review.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

III.6.1 SCOPE

The Executive Committee (EC) oversees the development and evolution of the Java technologies within the JCP.

III.6.2 MEMBERSHIP

The EC is composed of 25 Java Community Process Members. On the EC there are 14 Ratified Seats, 7 Elected Seats, and 2 Community Seats, plus one permanent seat held by Oracle America, Inc. (Oracle's representative must not be a member of the PMO.) The EC is led by a non-voting Chair from the Program Management Office.

Full Members and Partner Members can run for election to EC seats. Affiliate JCP Members cannot run for election.

No Member may hold more than one seat on the EC. Therefore, should a Member on the EC acquire a majority ownership of another EC member, one of those members must resign his or her seat by the effective date of the acquisition. Similarly, no Member may run for more than one EC seat, nor may more than one individual Member employed by the same employer run for an EC seat.

III.6.3 EC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Select JSRs for development within the JCP.
2. Review and provide guidance on proposed licensing terms of proposed JSRs.
3. Approve draft Specifications after Public Review.
4. Ensure that publicly expressed issues/concerns with a JSR are addressed by the Expert Group.
5. Give final approval to completed Specifications and their associated RIs and TCKs.
6. Decide appeals of first-level TCK test challenges.
7. Review proposed maintenance revisions and possibly require some to be carried out in a new JSR.
8. Approve the transfer of maintenance duties between Members.
9. Decide when JSRs that have not made sufficient progress through the Process should be withdrawn.
10. Provide guidance to the PMO and JCP community to promote the efficient operation of the organization and to guide the evolution of Java platforms and technologies. Such guidance may be provided by mechanisms such as publishing white papers, reports, or comments as the EC deems appropriate to express the opinions of one or both Executive Committees.
11. Members of the Executive Committee shall be dedicated to the principles of full and open competition, in full compliance with all applicable laws, including all antitrust laws of the United States and other nations and governmental bodies as appropriate. Violations of such laws can result in criminal as well as civil penalties for individuals as well as employers, depending on the jurisdiction. In particular, any discussion related to product pricing, methods or channels of distribution, division of markets or allocation of customers, among other subjects, should be avoided.

III.6.4 EC SELECTION PROCESS AND LENGTH OF TERM

EC members serve two-year terms, which are staggered so that half of the seats are up for election each year. **QUESTION: should we make the Community Seat terms only one year? This may ensure greater competition at each election and increase the likelihood of incumbents being replaced. (See Issue #48.)**

Full Members and Partner JCP Members vote for the Ratified and Elected Seats. Affiliate JCP Members vote for the Community Seats.

III.6.4.1 RESIGNATION OF EC SEATS

EC members may resign their seats at any time during their term.

EC members who fail to remain JCP Members forfeit their EC seat.

804 Seats may also be forfeited due to non-attendance at EC meetings, as specified in the EC Standing
805 Rules.

806 Vacated seats are normally filled for the remainder of their term by a special election ballot that will be
807 held no later than two months after the resignation (unless the resignation is less than six months be-
808 fore the next scheduled annual election ballot.)

809 **III.6.4.2 ELECTION PROCESSES**

810 All Full Members are eligible to vote in ballots for Ratified and Elected Seats subject to the provision
811 that if a Member has majority-ownership of one or more other Members then that group of Members
812 shall collectively have one vote, which shall be cast by the person they designate to be their repre-
813 sentative for the ballot in question. Similarly, if there is more than one individual Full Member with the
814 same employer they will collectively have one vote, which shall be cast by the person they designate
815 to be their representative for the ballot in question.

816 Annual elections for Ratified, Elected and Community Seats shall be held simultaneously. Voting in
817 these elections shall start in the last quarter of the calendar year, four weeks after the close of the
818 nomination period.

819
820 In the interest of promoting transparency and participation in the election process the PMO shall or-
821 ganize teleconferences at which the Members have an opportunity to hear from and to ask questions
822 of the candidates. If a suitable venue such as JavaOne is available the PMO shall also organize a
823 public meeting with the same purpose.

824 **III.6.4.3 SELECTION PROCESS FOR RATIFIED SEATS**

825 Members are selected for the Ratified Seats using a ratification ballot which is carried out as follows:

- 826 • The PMO nominates Members to fill the vacant Ratified Seats with due regard for balanced
827 community and regional representation.
- 828 • Full and Partner Members will vote to ratify each nominee over a 14-day ballot period.
- 829 • A nominee is ratified by a simple majority of those who cast a vote.
- 830 • If one or more of the nominees is not ratified by the vote, the PMO shall nominate additional
831 Members as needed and hold additional ratification ballots until the vacant seats are filled.

832 **III.6.4.4 SELECTION PROCESS FOR ELECTED AND COMMUNITY SEATS**

833 Members are selected for the Elected and Community Seats using an open election process that is
834 carried out as follows:

- 835 • Six weeks before the ballot the PMO shall accept nominations for a period of 14 days. Any
836 Member may run for election to these seats except that employees or contractors of JCP
837 Members cannot run for election as individuals and the PMO shall reject such nominations.
- 838 • Four weeks (why not six weeks?) before the ballot the PMO shall post on the public JCP site a
839 complete description of all materials that candidates will be expected to provide (e.g. any can-
840 didate statements, position papers, etc. that will be posted during the election.)
- 841 • Eligible Members may vote for as many nominees as there are vacant seats over a 14-day bal-
842 lot period. (Full and Partner Members may vote for Elected Seats; Affiliate members may vote
843 for Community Seats.)
- 844 • The nominees who receive the most votes shall fill the vacant Seats.
- 845 • If there is only one nominee for a vacant seat voters shall be given the opportunity to vote “yes”
846 or “no” for that candidate. To be elected the candidate must obtain a simple majority.
- 847 • If there is no candidate for a vacant seat the ECs may choose to hold this seat open until the
848 next election.

- Ties shall be decided by following the procedure defined in <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2777.txt> and using the calculator provided by W3C in <http://www.w3.org/2001/05/rfc2777>.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JSR BALLOT RULES

1. All JSR ballots shall be conducted electronically and the results made public.
2. JSR ballots last 14 days except where noted in this document.
3. EC members may cast three types of votes: "yes", "no" and "abstain". Explicit abstentions are strongly discouraged. In the extreme and most undesirable case, an EC member may not vote at all.
4. Only "yes" and "no" votes count in determining the result of a JSR ballot.
5. Any vote may be accompanied by comments (which are particularly encouraged in the case of abstentions.) When comments include specific suggestions for change these should be logged in the Issue Tracker to ensure that they are addressed. "No" votes must be accompanied by references to the Issue Tracker items (if any) that if resolved would persuade the member to change the vote to "yes".
6. JSR ballots are approved if (a) a majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, and (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast. Ballots are otherwise rejected.
7. Ballots to approve UJSRs that define the initial version of a new Platform Edition Specification or JSRs that propose changes to the Java language are approved if (a) at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast, and (c) Oracle casts one of the "yes" votes. Ballots are otherwise rejected.
8. When a failed JSR ballot results in the closing of a JSR, at least 30 days must pass before the JSR can be re-initiated.
9. EC ballots to override a first-level decision on a TCK challenge are approved if (a) at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, and (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast.

IV APPENDIX A: REVISING THE JCP AND THE JSPA

Revisions to the Java Community Process (this document) and the Java Specification Participation Agreement shall be carried out using the Java Community Process with the following changes:

1. Only EC members can initiate a JSR to revise one of these documents.
2. The EC must approve the JSR.
3. The Expert Group consists of all EC members with a member of the PMO as Spec Lead.
4. There is no Reference Implementation or Technology Compatibility Kit to be delivered and no TCK appeals process to be defined.

V APPENDIX B: TRANSITIONING TO JCP 2.10

This appendix should explain how we plan to transition to the new election processes. (For example, since we plan to reclassify two Elected Seats as Community Seats we will need to do so in a manner that is fair to all existing Elected members no matter when their term is up.)