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Module 4 - Discussion Board

**The Current State of Java in 2025**

Java continues to be a dominant force in enterprise application development. In March 2025, Oracle announced the release of **Java 24**, introducing 24 JDK Enhancement Proposals (JEPs) to enhance developer productivity and advance the Java language. Notably, this release includes features supporting artificial intelligence and post-quantum cryptography, reflecting Java's commitment to staying at the forefront of technological advancements.

The open-source community, particularly through **OpenJDK**, is crucial in Java's evolution. Developers can access early builds of **Java 25**, the upcoming long-term support (LTS) release scheduled for September 2025, allowing them to preview and contribute to forthcoming features.

However, the Java landscape is experiencing significant shifts. The **Azul 2025 State of Java Survey & Report** reveals that 88% of enterprises are considering alternatives to Oracle Java, citing concerns over cost, a preference for open-source solutions, and dissatisfaction with Oracle's sales tactics.

Additionally, the broader software engineering job market is facing challenges. Reports indicate a decline in job openings for software engineers in the U.S., with factors such as advancements in AI contributing to reduced hiring needs. Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff noted that AI tools have significantly increased productivity, potentially leading to a halt in new engineering hires.

I believe Java's proactive integration of modern features like AI support and enhanced security measures demonstrates its adaptability. The robust open-source community surrounding Java, particularly through OpenJDK, is vital for its continuous development. However, the challenges highlighted in recent reports suggest that while Java remains dominant, addressing economic and licensing concerns is essential to maintain its widespread adoption.

**Citations:**

* Oracle. (2025, March 18). *Oracle Releases Java 24*. <https://www.oracle.com/news/announcement/oracle-releases-java-24-2025-03-18/>
* Azul. (2025). *Azul 2025 State of Java Survey & Report*. <https://www.azul.com/newsroom/azul-2025-state-of-java-survey-report/>
* Business Insider. (2025, March 4). *This chart shows just how bad things have gotten for software engineers*. <https://www.businessinsider.com/jobs-software-engineers-coders-bad-market-ai-2025-3>