

Eclipse RCP Part XIII

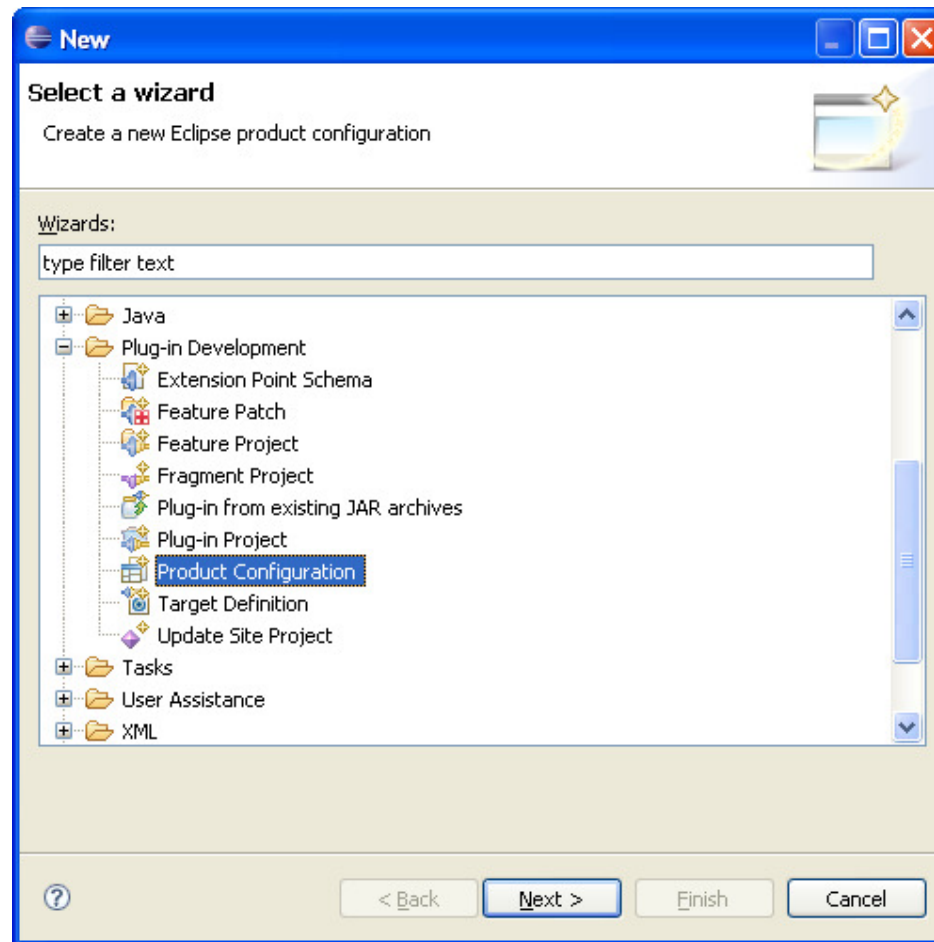
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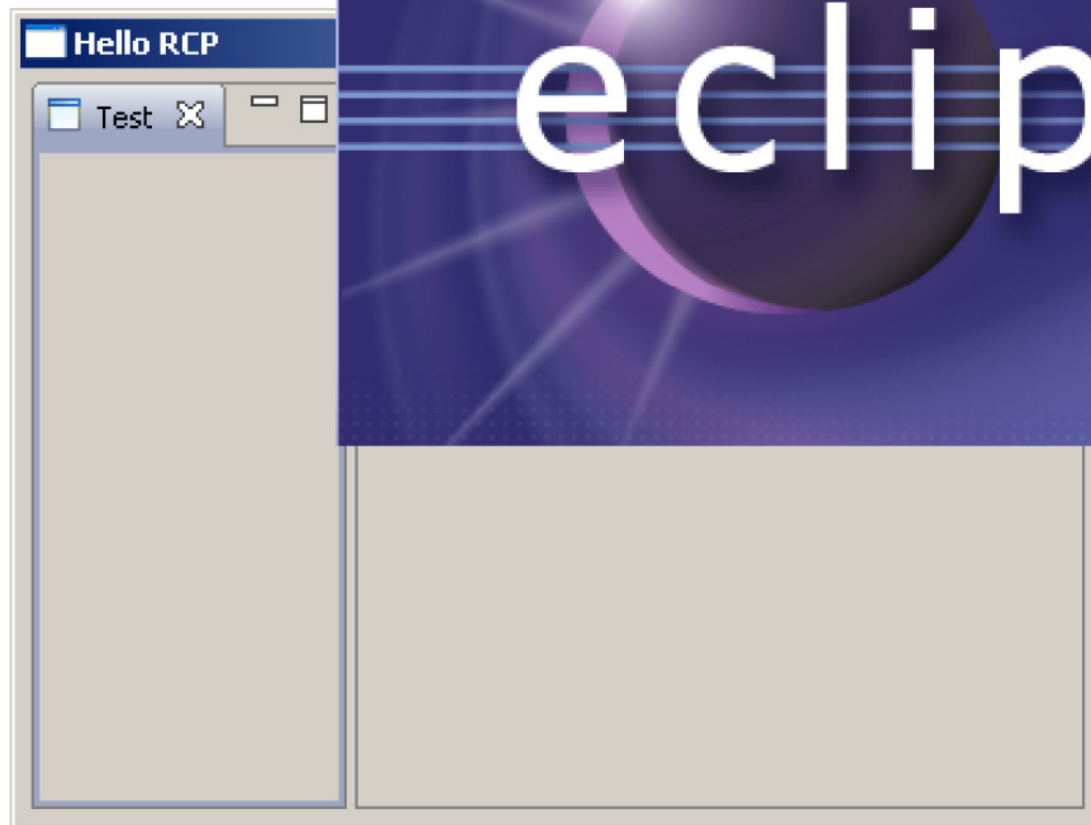
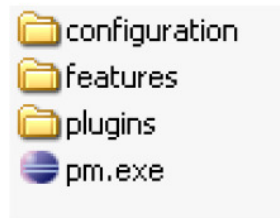
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- Understanding Product Configurations



Branding and Packaging



What is product branding



- Product branding enables you to add your (localized) vendor specific information to your RCP application:
 - Splash screen
 - About Dialog
 - Icons for starter executable, window title bar
 - Platform-specific settings

- If you want to brand your RCP application you need to define an Eclipse product
- A product is based on a product configuration file (myApplicationName.product)
- It can be executed as a standalone application
- Products can be either plug-in or feature based

- A feature is a grouping of plug-ins described in the feature manifest file (feature.xml)
- The manifest file is a list of plug-ins and the information for updating them
- Therefore features are the basis for using the Eclipse Update Manager
- It does not contain any code; code is kept in plug-ins

- The PDE supports you in defining a product configuration:
- File -> New... -> Other... -> Plug-in Development -> Product Configuration
- In the product configuration editor all branding-related parameters can be set

What is packaging?



- Packaging is the process of gathering and bundling all needed artifacts of an application
- With Eclipse RCP your packaging is done when you export your product
- An exported RCP application can run as a standalone application without the Eclipse IDE

- Both plug-in- and feature-projects contain a build.properties file
- This specifies which of the project's files should be included when you are packaging
- PDE provides you with an editor to select those files
- Common mistake: adding files to a project and not updating the build.properties file!

- Some plug-ins contain platform (= operating system) specific functionality (e.g. SWT)
- In the product configuration you can specify for which target platform(s) you want to create your build
- Eclipse is by default shipped with support for only one platform
- If you need to build for other platforms you have to download a so called delta pack from eclipse.org
- This contains all plug-ins with platform specific functionality for each platform

- Define a product configuration for your application
- Add some branding
- Customize the packing configuration of one or more of your plugin(s)
- Export your product to the file system
- Start your product like a normal program (outside the Eclipse IDE)

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit



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