openMDM Architecture Committee

Meeting Notes: 2018-03-09
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Attendees

The following members were present

Matthias Ebeling (Daimler AG)

Stefan Wartini (Müller-BBM VibroAkustik Systeme GmbH)

Angelika Wittek (openMDM Toolkit Manager)

The following members were absent:

Jan Blockx (Siemens AG)

Stefan Ebeling (BMW AG)

Christian Krenner (AUDI AG)

Topics

Status Release V 0.10

The developer team released Version 0.10 in KW 9. Unfortunately, this release contained a bug that needed to be fixed. In KW 10, the final version was released and is tagged in the repository. This version does not support the notification service of the Avalon ODS server, since there is currently no EPL conform client library available.

Status Developer Team

The contracts for the Dev-Team and for Angelika are about to expire, a renewal has not been offered yet.

Status IP checks

The IP check for the required libraries is almost finished. Angelika opened over all 81 IP checks for the mdmbl project. Until today, the eclipse foundation has approved 79 checks. One check is related to the use of the OMG spec (Alternative for Notification Service, see below) and one check relates to a library that is only needed for building and testing the project and is not required for delivery. So, all libraries used for productive use are checked.
The developer team is updating the required documentation and adding the necessary documents to the build artifacts of the project. After finishing this documentation, the team plans to open the IP-check for the source code of the mdmbl project on base of version 0.10 updated with the legal documentation to finalize a first official downloadable version 0.10.1.

Status Notification service for the AVALON server

Angelika discussed the problem of the notification service for the AVALON server with HighQSoft. Removing the non-EPL-conform library from the mdmbl project does not affect the general functionality of using the AVALON server as a data source for openMDM. The notification service is required in the context of the full text search. The service is used to hand over the trigger to update the search index of the full text search in openMDM e.g. when new data are added to the server. Currently, there is a discussion ongoing to find alternative implementations for this functionality. Angelika will post the findings of alternatives on the Dev-Mailing list.

Quality assurance

Angelika provided a document describing the handling of licenses for the contribution of software to the repositories. The feedback from the AC was to add these guidelines to the Developer Guide.

Angelika proposed not only to add this document to the Developer Guide only, but to build up a manual for quality assurance in the EWG. To maintain such a manual is the task of a Quality Committee. The General Assembly of the openMDM WG in July decided that the AC should take over the tasks of the QC. In case the AC cannot handle these additional tasks showing up in conjunction with quality assurance, the AC should inform the SC and ask for support. According to the openMDM EWG Charter, the QC is responsible for the compliance to the IT processes of Eclipse.
A Quality Manual could be set up step by step according to the ongoing processes and requirements of openMDM.

Transfer of external contributions to the openMDM source code

An additional topic touching the guidelines of working is the question how to handle external contributions to the repositories. Angelika explained that e.g. a checklist for this case would be very helpful. In the context of a Daimler project Canoo modified and extended the Eclipse mdmbl code. This code is currently not in the Eclipse repositories, which means currently this is a private fork. Matthias asked how Canoo could contribute these modifications to the Eclipse mdmbl code base.
The discussion showed two aspects: First, the technical way, how to contribute changes to the code base. Here Angelika offered to write a first proposal for a process description and to distribute it to the AC. Even a second branch of the source code could be supported in the mdmbl code base to hold these changes, but the handling and the expenses for maintaining this branch must be clarified. Second, there is the political aspect how to decide whether to add a contribution to the mdmbl code base or not. Here some processing is conceivable as the contributor presents the functional changes to the AC. On the base of this information, the AC gives a recommendation to the SC and the SC makes the final decision.
Setting up additional branches in the repositories to make the changes available for the public is no desirable approach. These branches require continuous maintenance as development of the main branch goes on.
Angelika will prepare a proposal for the procedure currently with Canoo. She asked the AC to give a quick feedback so she can present the proposal to the SC.

Next telephone conference

The next telephone conference according to the schedule will be on April 13 2018 at 10:00.