

**Meeting** OW2 Board meeting – 15 May 2009 – Minutes

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**Date** 15 May 2009, Meeting by telephone and face-to-face in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France.  
**Location** Hosted by Orange Labs.

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### **1. Chairman's Welcome Remarks**

Important meeting: this board will have to prepare for the renewal of the consortium for the next 3 years.

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### **2. & 3. Agenda Review and Agenda Approval**

- The agenda is reviewed and agreed upon as proposed
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### **4. Result of Board Members election**

- Defaulting 3 Strategic Members were not selected to be on the board : Alcatel-Lucent, DOCSC, RedHat; it allowed for 11 Corporate Members on the board;
- 9 Corporate Members were candidates, therefore, all candidates are elected and 2 seats remain available for Corporate Members. If there're more volunteer than seats, OW2 may need to run a partial election process for these new candidates.
- Only one candidate, therefore elected, for the seat of Individual Member representative.
- RedHat : Sacha Larourey left the company, CT should contact Paul Cormier directly.
- Alcatel Lucent : the open source project now reports to a new manager in the US ; CT to contact them, FT/V Robin is volunteer to participate to any conf call between OW2 and the ALU management

*ACTION:* CT to send mail to list corporate-members for information about the two available seats.

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### **5. Introduction of New Directors**

Gerd Schuermann from Fraunhofer FOKUS is a new board member. Hongbo XU now represents O-Engine. All other current Directors are known to the group.

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### **6. Quorum**

There are 11 Strategic Members in good standing, and 11 Corporate Members representatives plus 1 Individual Member representative for a total of 23 Board members. Therefore 12 members constitute the quorum.

With 19 board members participating either physically or by telephone at this board meeting, the quorum is reached.

Attending physically (and initials if ever used in the rest of the minutes):

1. BULL Jean-Pierre Laisné (JPL)
2. EBM WEBSOURCING Gaël Blondelle (GB)
3. EDIFIXIO Thierry Humbert (TH)
4. FRANCE TELECOM Valère Robin (VR)
5. INRIA Pierre Paradinas (PP)
6. SERLI Jérôme Petit (JP)
7. TALEND Cédric Carbone (CC)
8. THALES Laurent Laudinet (LL)

Attending by telephone (and initials if ever used in the rest of the minutes)

1. BEIHANG U. Han Jun (HJ)
2. CVIC SE, Liu Jiangning (LJ)
3. ENGINEERING Gabriele Ruffatti (GR)

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4. EXPERNET Ludovic Dubost (LD)
  5. FRAUNHOFER FOKUS Gerd Schuermann (GS)
  6. ISCAS, Wei Jun (WJ)
  7. NUDT, Shi Dianxi (SD)
  8. O-Engine Hongbo XU
  9. PKU, Zhao Junfeng (ZJ)
  10. SOGETI Laurent Guérin (LG)
  11. Individual Members: François Letellier (FL)

Member of the board without voting right: CEO, Cédric THOMAS (CT)

Excused: EXO PLATFORM, SERPRO,

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## **7. Minutes of the previous meeting**

- The minutes of the previous meeting are approved.

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## **8. CEO Report on Operations**

- Catherine Nuel should be supported by OW for 2009 (80% FTE)
- Annual Conference went well: 1200 registrations, 15-20% did show-up.
- Very good organisation, the village is very useful to present the projects and to offer opportunities to meet, network and work ; OW2 showed its openness by inviting outside speakers. The downside is that few OW2 members attended the conferences
- The conferences should be filmed to maximize exposition
- CT: good idea but the organisation of the conference was the maximum that the team (only 3 people) could achieve this time.
- The conferences' documents are available on the OW2 web site and webinars can be organized at any moment by projects and members.
- A webinars facility is already used by OW2 ELC to facilitate interactions during webinars. Such facility can be used to facilitate board meetings for those who can't attend physically.
- A similar system is used by the TC.

### **Membership Development**

- CEO too busy running the consortium and can't give enough time to the promotion of the consortium.
- No members currently in India; members are welcome to help identify potential members.
- The time frame for new members subscription may be limited to the first semester.

### **Technology Council**

- Face to face meetings have an attendance of 10 to 12 people, phone call ones 6 to 8 people
- We need some measurement of the community: number of committers for example. It's a question that OW2 must be able to answer and to check if we're smaller or bigger than we think!
- Position papers : OW2 should have some message regarding current topic in the news or in the top of the hype curve : cloud computing, future internet, virtualization, autonomic computing, future of Java, .....
- Next TC meeting in Berlin along with Linux Tag: Fraunhofer FOKUS is hosting the TC

### **Target Events**

- JavaOne: we are finally having our own (small) OW2 booth.
  - LinuxTag to investigate an OW2 booth.
  - Devovx 2009: we have started the organization.
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- OSCON: community booth
- CONSEGI: in Brazil

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### **9. CEO Update on Budget, Payments and Contributions**

- Formal reminder that OW2 may not have enough cash to cover the 1st quarter of 2010. One option would be to call for subscription in 2009
- Some Corporate Members are dormant ; they should not be considered as OW2 members : MO should remove them from the list and close both upload and write accesses on their projects
- Some of them are using lot of OW2 ressources such as bandwidth without conforming to the rules.
- The consortium should be transparent regarding the payment situation of the members then warn dormant member with an ultimatum

**ACTION:** MO to start process toward dormant CMs' send reminder before closing upload and write access

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### **10. Launch of "OW2 Phase 2 strategic discussion"**

- Now we need to envision the next three years of OW2.
- OW2 can be among the top four open source organizations that shape the software world (along with Eclipse, Apache, Linux Foundation)
- We must have a plan before we consider reviewing the membership fees.
- The strategy should clearly reassess the benefits of OW2 for the members
- Strategic discussion is difficult to be conducted by audio-conference or mail. The discussion could start as a wiki based on CEO's document then continue with a physical meeting; we must concentrate on pragmatic issues.
- A small group should lead/foster the discussion
- A poll could be conducted to get feedback from current members; may-be through an on-line questionnaire.
- We should try to have results ready in september (possibly including a new consortium agreement)
- Potential timeline:
  - Work group, questionnaire, wiki to be set up before mid june.
  - Feedback to be collected before beginning of July. A meeting in July to present the first results to be discussed by members
  - After discussion, final deliverable in September.

**ACTION:** Prepare discussion process and on-line questionnaire.

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### **11. Election of the Chairperson**

- Two candidates: Gaël Blondelle (GB) and Jean-Pierre Laisné (JPL)
  - JPL: want every member to be proud to be part of OW2
  - GB: operations must no more depend on in-kind contributions; get rid of the most opportunistic behaviors; the code base must converge toward OSGi component model; clarify our OSS model.
  - Question : what do they expect from board members ?
  - GB : to be able to speak for the consortium and to be active.
  - JPL: to be proud to be part of OW2 and to disseminate OW2 within their companies
  - JPL: OW2 can have VP; (he himself was a VP in ObjectWeb)
  - JPL: he is open to participation in publicly funded projects but that is not feasible with the current organisation
  - GB: the consortium can participate in publicly funded project then find resources to deliver the result (possibly by hiring people to do the deliverable).
  - Board is pleased to see that the consortium is evolving and that young people like Gael are ready to be part of it. Finding a way to have both
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candidates and the Chinese VP to work together would be a good sign sent to the community.

- GB and JPL leave to room to discuss if they can make a proposition on a way to work together to the board.
- Some members think that we should rather organize a formal vote. With the two comments that: voting is not about having a winner and a loser, but about choosing the best opportunity ; and that a vote is the normal process according to the bylaws.
- On their return in the room, JPL and GB make a proposal that Jean-Pierre is President and Gael is VP in charge of Technology and getting involved in the President's work so that his candidature will be stronger next year.
- GB resigns from his candidature
- Some members say they are happy with the solution, there is no need to vote, others do not very much appreciate this negotiations (and specially, the VP position should be clarified)
- CEO asks the board if we carry on with this new situation or if we should go back to the situation prior the negotiation and proceed though a formal vote.
- But it is not to the board to decide if GB is candidate or not: upon being asked again, GB confirms that he withdraw his candidature.
- **Vote to approve Jean-Pierre Laisne as Chairman of the Board:**
  - **Abstention: 4 (GR, FL, LD, LL)**
  - **Against: none**
  - **In favor: 15 (all others)**
- Remark that opening a new VP seat will send a message of bureaucracy as they are already CTO and Chairman of the TC. It is surprising that we discover today OW2 needs a VP Technology. Why not a VP Ecosystem?
- CTO does day-to-day management job, TC Chairman role concentrates on driving the TC while VP Technology is more related to outward communication. OW2 has been missing someone that personally voices the position of OW2 on Technology
- **Vote to approve Gaël Blondelle as VP Technology:**
  - **Abstention: 4 (GR, FL, LD, LL)**
  - **Against: none**
  - **In favor: 15 (all others)**

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## **12. Any Oher Business**

- Have to setup a date for the strategic seminar in July

**ACTION:** MO to propose dates through doodle.

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## **13. Next meetings of the Board**

- July the 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Meeting to be held by phone.

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## **14. Chairperson's Concluding Comments**

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## **15. Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm CET
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