

Transparent Collaborative Requirement Management Tool for JSR289 in Java Community Process (JCP)

Customer Success Story

The Java Community Process Program (JCP) has fostered the evolution of the Java platform in cooperation with the international Java developer community. The JCP community has over 1200 corporate and individual participants; more than 300 Java technology specifications are in development in the JCP program out of which 55% are in final stages.

Mihir Kulkarni and Yannis Cosmadopoulos, Specification Leads for JSR 289: SipServlet Specification v1.1 JCP project needed an easy to use and robust system that would allow approximately 35 Expert Group members from 27 different companies, including Oracle, IBM, ATT, Ubiquity, Ericsson, Telcordia, Cingular, Sun, Cisco, Apache, T-Mobile, 8x8, Orange, RedHat, to collect and share over 90 requirements, manage specification related issues such as bugs and change requests, as well as to collaborate effectively in publishing the specifications.

“In the past, we used MS Word together with email to exchange specifications and track changes in the documents, but we quickly realized that given the large number of contributors representing so many different companies, it would be far more efficient to empower our Expert Group to file issues and track them using a collaborative tool capable of providing transparency by fostering open communication between the SIP servlets developer community and the Expert Group. Prior to CodeBeamer, we found it very difficult to track and work on changes. It became overwhelming for the Spec Leads to try keeping the expert group members updated with published specifications. So we decide to search for a collaborative requirements collection and management tool that would meet our transparency and traceability needs.

We began by using CodeBeamer’s built-in Wiki system to collect requirements. Wiki is a good tool for document collaboration particularly from team members located in geographically dispersed locations and who need to share and update changes. However, as the group worked with CodeBeamer’s Wiki, it become very important that transparency and traceability must be maintained in the decision making process, so that no issue/feature would fall through the cracks. In addition to the Wiki, we started to use the tracking system to maintain transparency and traceability.

We evaluated CodeBeamer and found it to fit our project needs extremely well. From initial installation through final system deployment, the process was a breeze. We also found ongoing system administration to require very low-maintenance. The system was easy to use and intuitive, and in no time, we had all the JSR 289 Expert Group members using it effectively. Intland’s support team was very responsive during the evaluation period. Therefore, the decision to choose CodeBeamer for hosting our project publicly at www.289eg.org was easily justified.”, said Kulkami.

CodeBeamer is an excellent tool, because:

It is very intuitive, easy to use, and runs practically straight out of the box. It is packaged with a suite of powerful features including issue management, trackers, account management, email notifications, and Wikis. It benefitted us in the following manner:

- It empowered Expert Group members to

- File new issues
 - Track issue progress and resolution
 - Collaborate on proposals using Wikis
- It empower Spec Leads to
- Efficiently manage reported issues
 - Capture discussions related to issues
 - Disburse information easily to EG members
 - Track pending work and better estimate milestone releases

"I would highly recommend using CodeBeamer in any collaborative development effort. I have already recommended this tool to the Java Community Process organization which oversees standards development in the Java space." - Mihir Kulkarni, Specification Lead for the JSR289