From: Ben Slivka [/o=microsoft/ou=northamerica/cn=Recipients/cn=4365] on behalf of Ben Slivka
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 1997 11:07 PM
To: Charles Fitzgerald; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Brad Chase; Bob Muglia; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edst; Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

To be clear, we don't want to pollute the Java language in the manner that C++ was polluted. We'll start out with just tools vendors...

—Original Message—
From: Charles Fitzgerald
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 1997 9:06 AM
To: Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Brad Chase; Bob Muglia; Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

Developers have been looking for a voice in the evolution of the Java language and the Java Language Coalition's User Advisory Panel should fill that role admirably...

—Original Message—
From: Tanj (John G.) Bennett
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 1997 8:59 AM
To: Charles Fitzgerald; Brad Chase; Bob Muglia; Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

And this is a good reason to find some representatives of users, too. There are precedents with other language committees.

—Original Message—
From: Charles Fitzgerald
Sent: Monday, January 20, 1997 11:34 PM
To: Brad Chase; Bob Muglia; Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

Borland and Symantec are not Microsoft lapdogs (we can argue about Metrowerks and PowerSoft...). The compiler vendors are all pretty fed up with Sun's lack of responsiveness. We will certainly softpedal MS involvement. This can only create another center of gravity for the evolution of Java. Sun either loses face by submitting or looks like the bad guy. Netscape plays no role in this equation.

—Original Message—
From: Brad Chase
Sent: Monday, January 20, 1997 11:47 AM
To: Charles Fitzgerald; Bob Muglia; Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

you need to think through the geopolitical nature of this. the press will just see this as a microsoft group designed to derail java unless we are very thoughtful. sun will encourage that view. will this force sun and netscape to get better coordinated?

—Original Message—
From: Charles Fitzgerald

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Sent: Monday, January 20, 1997 8:33 AM
To: Bob Muglia; Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Brad Chase; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

I think we hold it seperate and if/when Sun gets around to putting Java into a standards body, we can roll this in. In the meantime, we want another center of gravity.

---Original Message---
From: Bob Muglia
Sent: Monday, January 20, 1997 7:54 AM
To: Ben Slivka; Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Charles Fitzgerald; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Brad Chase, Michael Toutonghi
Subject: RE: Proposal: Java Language Coalition

This is a good idea. We should consider doing it under the auspices of a recongnized standards body.

bob

---Original Message---
From: Ben Slivka
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 1997 5:24 PM
To: Anders Hejlsberg; Peter Kukol; Brad Lovering; Tanj (John G.) Bennett; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: John Ludwig; Bob Muglia; Charles Fitzgerald; Cindy LaVoie (Internet) (Waggener Edstrom); Yuval Neeman; Tom Button; Tod Nielsen; Brad Silverberg; Brad Chase; Michael Toutonghi
Subject: Proposal: Java Language Coalition
Importance: High

I've mentioned this idea to some of you already - the basic idea is to create an alternate center of gravity for the Java language, composed of leading development tools vendors. I've floated this idea with Symantec (Mansour Safai), Rich Landsman (Borland), and our own tools group (andersh), and sent mail to PowerSoft (no reply so far).

I'd like to move forward on starting this group (charlesf would drive, with help from peterpla (I presume) in DRG), here are at least some of the items for the agenda of the first meeting. I would want to send this list to each tool vendor, and have each of them present on their priorities & thoughts, and then figure out how to make concrete forward progress with each other and JavaSoft:

Boycott inner classes
- Add Closures instead?

Conditional compilation
Enumerations
Add properties
  Would permit associative arrays, other Python features(?)
Debug class
  Asserts
  Debug outs
    - Final members, compiler can remove the call to empty classes for retail build

Sign a pledge - moratorium on language changes for 1-2 years (Symantec suggested this)
And of course legal structure of the coalition

If anyone has any concerns (or more items), please holler - I'd like to start contacting tools ISVs in earnest by the middle of next week (after we issue our AFC press release).
Thanks, bens

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