

PRESS RELEASE

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Xansa helps drive Eclipse project into final phase

**~ Project team agree launch plan and date for release of
open source process framework ~**

Next generation unified software development is a step closer following the latest meeting of the Eclipse Process Framework project team hosted by outsourcing and technology firm, Xansa.

The project team is made up of experts drawn from a number of leading technology companies, collaborating to produce an open-source framework for software development best practice known as the Open Unified Process, or OpenUP. OpenUP builds on the discipline of the Rational Unified Process, one of the most successful and widely used development methods of recent years.

The first release of the framework is scheduled for September 2006 and the product will continue to evolve beyond this date as new features are added. OpenUP will provide exemplary and extensible process content for a range of software development and management needs, supporting iterative, agile, and incremental development. Over time, it will grow to provide a comprehensive methods library covering a wide range of development platforms and applications, available free of charge.

At the recent meeting held at Xansa's offices in Reading, industry leaders from the software engineering community outlined the final plans for the launch of the project. Details for incorporating a project management discipline into the framework as well as a plug-in for model driven architecture were also discussed.

The Eclipse open source initiative is designed to provide a supplier-neutral software development platform and is one of the two main integrated development environments, along with Microsoft's Visual Studio.

Mark Dickson, principal solution architect at Xansa PLC and team leader for the software architecture process content, commented:

“OpenUP represents a significant evolution in the management software development and the open source model. It brings together the shared experiences from some of the industry's most experienced practitioners and makes this body of knowledge available in a way which enables organisations to easily adopt and adapt to suit their needs.”

(305 words)

NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information on the Eclipse Process Framework project, visit www.eclipse.org/epf

About Xansa

Xansa is an outsourcing and technology company. Committed to delivering guaranteed business outcomes through a combination of technology and process expertise, Xansa gives its clients the freedom to do more with their business. Strong relationships, commercial innovation and an integrated Indian delivery capability ensure that Xansa drives real and long-term cost reductions, performance improvements and new ways of working tailored to each client. The services Xansa provides are Business and Technology Consulting, IT Implementation, IT Outsourcing and Business Process Outsourcing. Head-quartered in Reading, Berkshire, Xansa is listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE: XAN) and has over 8000 people in the UK and India.