



Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF) 0.7 Release Review

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- The Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF) is a Technology subproject in the incubation phase
 - <http://www.eclipse.org/actf>
- ACTF aims at providing an extensible and comprehensive framework for accessibility tools.
- This release includes
 - Visualization SDK
 - Visualization Extension for WST
 - Visualization Extension for PDT

- Infrastructure components
 - Provide comprehensive and unified access mechanisms for the user interfaces of applications and for the object models of various kinds of content.
 - Provide middleware to manage components and dataflow in the framework on top of the Eclipse platform.
- Visualization components
 - Provide reusable view components for creating accessibility evaluation tools.
 - Provide visual representations of the content and applications as perceived by People with Disabilities (PwD).
- WST/PDT integration
 - Provide extension features for WST/PDT.
 - Enable use of the accessibility visualization functions of ACTF from the perspectives of the Web, J2EE, and PHP.



Features (not included)

- Due to differences in the development schedule, the two components below are not included in this release.
 - Validation components
 - Alternative interface components

- Documentation
 - Visualization SDK includes documentation for users and developers.
 - APIs have Javadoc.
 - Extension points have a reference document.
- Publication
 - Several documents have been published on the ACTF documentation page.

<http://www.eclipse.org/actf/docs/>

- APIs conform to Eclipse Quality Standards
 - All APIs are currently provisional.
 - ACTF plans to freeze the APIs after reflecting community feedback.
- Several examples have been tested



Architectural Issues

- We use extensions to make the ACTF extendable by others
 - 7 extension points are available
- ACTF components can be used as modules
 - HTML parser, ODF API, Web Browser Editor, ...
- Non-API use for visualization
 - To obtain the HTML source, live DOM, URL, etc. from existing Browser components, such as SWT Browser Editor or Browser Output View, we use the reflection method.
 - For more details including current migration plan:
https://bugs.eclipse.org/bugs/show_bug.cgi?id=268519

- Easy integration into Eclipse by providing several extension points, reusable and customizable view components, etc.
- Several kinds of exemplary tools are available
 - Accessibility visualization tool implementation: aDesigner
 - Sample implementation of visualization: SimpleVisualizer
 - etc.
- Ongoing enhancements and new use cases
 - New visualization tool that automatically analyses a webpage with respect to its visual complexity and shows the complexity as a heatmap.
 - New validation tool to validate pages for both accessibility and mobile friendliness.
 - Please visit the RIAM project page for more details (Reciprocal Interoperability of Accessible and Mobile Webs, <<http://hgw.cs.manchester.ac.uk/research/riam/>>)

- There are no features that are designated for end-of-life in this release.

- Statistics as of May 27th 2009
 - 162 bugs created (including initial contributions)
 - 146 bugs were resolved/verified/closed

	Component							Total
	Doc	Model	Other	Visualization	core	examples	util	
ASSIGNED	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	.	<u>16</u>
RESOLVED	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	.	<u>40</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>59</u>
VERIFIED	.	<u>1</u>	.	<u>1</u>	.	.	.	<u>2</u>
CLOSED	<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>85</u>
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>162</u>

- Remaining bugs
 - 16 bugs (including 6 enhancements)
 - No major bugs

		Component						
		Doc	Model	Other	Visualization	core	examples	Total
Severity	normal	.	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	.	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>
	trivial	.	.	<u>1</u>	.	.	.	<u>1</u>
	enhancement	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	.	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
	Total	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>

(excludes bugs for Validation/Alternative Interface components that are not included in this release)

- ACTF requires Java 1.5 or later and Eclipse 3.3.x or later
- W3C HTML 4.01 recommendation
(and older recommendations 3.2, 4.0)
 - HTML model component
- OASIS Open Document Format v1.1
 - ODF model component

- Accessibility
 - Following accessibility guidelines
<http://www.eclipse.org/articles/article.php?file=Article-Accessibility/index.html>
- User Interface Guidelines
 - Updated ACTF UI (icons, perspectives, etc.) to conform to UI guidelines
 - UI Checklist is not firm yet, but is scheduled for completion in the next release
- I18n
 - UI messages are externalized
 - Registered with Babel for translation

- Initial Schedule
 - **M4** 1/12/2009
 - **M5** 2/16/2009
 - **M6** 3/23/2009
 - **M7** 5/11/2009
 - **RC1** 5/25/2009
 - **RC2** 6/1/2009
 - **RC3** 6/8/2009
 - **RC4 (0.7 GA)** 6/15/2009
- All milestones (M4-M7), RC1 and RC2 were released on time
- Documentation refinement until RC4

- Active Bugzilla
 - mainly by committers
 - some from exemplary tool users
- Active discussions on the mailing list and in conference calls.
- Newsgroup is not much used yet, but is regularly monitored by committers.

- Community outreach
 - Hold an ACTF introduction session at accessibility conferences
 - ACM ASSETS 2008, October 13-15, in Halifax, Canada.
 - Blog
 - <http://hcw.cs.manchester.ac.uk/news/2008/10/eclipse-accessibility-tools-framework.php> (Registered to Planet Eclipse)
 - Webinar (planned: June 14th)
 - Provide more documentation and examples
- Start community implementation of checking logic for new and coming accessibility guidelines
 - Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, new Section 508, etc.

- The code has been committed by individuals who are either committers of the project themselves or by their organizations.
- IP Log up2date at
 - http://www.eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=technology.actf
- Previously Approved IP Log
 - http://www.eclipse.org/actf/iplog/actf_ip_log_050.html
- Project released under EPL

- Available at
<http://www.eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=technology.actf>
- Themes for Galileo Service Release 1 (September 2009)
 - WCAG 2.0 support
 - Usability improvement



Thank you!