OpenJDK Scorecard

This scorecard helps assess goals set by the OpenJDK Community and Governing Board so we can track progress over time. The Community Scorecard covers the areas of Infrastructure, Governance and IP. The Project Scorecard, focuses on Project-specific goals, and covers Visibility and Technical matters.

Interim Update: May 2013

This interim update was compiled by comparing survey results with the progress made since the original September 2012 survey for each individual survey question. The scores themselves were not updated, but rather input gathered in the survey is summarized in the right-hand column of the tables below. Some areas have seen advances while others that functioned well before, according to the survey results, have continued to do so. In particular, there have been no regressions on past progress.

The OpenJDK infrastructure area saw several advances such as the new OpenJDK Wiki under the OpenJDK ToU in early 2013. The Governing Board continues to monitor progress in this area closely. Two panel sessions since the initial survey, at the JavaOne and FOSDEM conferences, presented additional opportunities to provide feedback directly to the Governing Board. Several new Projects have been established. A number of Contributors are progressing through the different Roles in Groups and Projects. Community-led initiatives such as AdoptAJSR and AdoptOpenJDK are bringing OpenJDK to new developers through JUGs, conferences, and Test Fest days. Those activities are flanked by an increasing number of presentations and materials explaining OpenJDK development and governance processes, as well as the development and design processes in individual Projects intended to make them more accessible to the broader Java Community. JEPs, in particular, have become a useful and accepted tool to provide transparency into release planning for JDK 8 and beyond.

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OpenJDK Scorecard Survey Results

This version contains an interim update which includes feedback from the OpenJDK Governing Board as an indicator of progress towards doing a complete update for JavaOne 2013.

The original 2012 survey ran for a week from September 19-25. Responses on the survey were gathered, and a first round of scores proposed based on the Scorecard draft. Over 80 people responded to the survey.

- Less than half completed the entire survey (not unexpected, the Scorecard is detailed, as intended).
- There was a pretty even distribution amongst Roles and Experience level in the Survey.
- 34% of respondents were not Contributors OpenJDK, just “Interested Participants”. 12% Contribute on their own time. 17% Contribute as part of their job, but at less than half their time, and 37% of respondents Contribute full time as their job.
- Key Takeaways from Survey:
    - Scoring system (0-5 with comments) is well received with three suggested changes:
        - Clarify “Minor” versus “Major” inconveniences
        - Change description for “5” to be “Meets **or exceeds** expectations”
        - Add an NA/Don’t Know to future online surveys
    - There was an almost perfect correlation to areas I believe we are strong or weak and what the survey respondents believe.
    - Suggestion to include a “Learn More” link in some of the goals to help people understand background.
- Some “Thank You” comments were received (a) for doing the survey itself and (b) for supporting OpenJDK in general.

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OpenJDK Scorecard Scoring Methodology:

Score	Meaning
0	Not Existent, no workarounds
1	Workarounds exist, but are highly problematic.
2	OK, with major inconveniences. (Only specific people are able to work around the issue, or specialized tools not widely available are required, or an inordinate amount of time is required).
3	OK, with minor inconveniences. (Any participant could work around the issue given available information/tools within a reasonable amount of time).
4	Good, but improvements sought.
5	Meets or exceeds expectations.

Comments field will be used to justify the Score, and describe how to improve upon the score for the next round (if not clear by improving the issues noted in the comment).

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Community Scorecard

Proposed Score: Suggested score, proposed to the GB based on feedback from Oracle, and analysis of survey results. Note that it would be imprudent to only consider the average of the survey results too seriously given the spread of opinions, and those who might skew the survey up or down with ill considered clicks of 5's or 0's. Therefore, we look carefully at the median score, and the most popular score in the results as well.

Survey results X,Y,Z: X is the average weighted score, and Y is the median, Z is the most popular score. So "3.97, 4, 5" means the average score was 3.97, that the median was 4, but that 5 was selected more than any other

Infrastructure	2012 Score	2012 Survey Results	2012 Comments	May 2013 Interim Update
Project-Specific Infrastructure				
Project source code and history are easily accessible.	5	3.97, 4, 5	Projects are able to commit and push code, public is able to read and consume code. Code archives are maintained. Mercurial is generally well liked, and even detractors generally admit it's tolerable. It can be a challenge to find the right Mercurial forests without asking.	The OpenJDK Mercurial infrastructure continues to perform as expected.

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Projects are able to manage their SCM easily.	3	3.68, 4, 4	Projects are able to create new forests, add new Committers and manage repos, but usually require interacting with ops@openjdk.java.net at Oracle to perform these tasks. Lead times to make changes and have requests processed can vary significantly.	SCM management requests sent to ops@openjdk.java.net are typically processed within a day or two, allowing new Projects to bootstrap their source code repositories rapidly.
An issue tracker is available to the entire community.	1	1.66, 1, 1	An issue tracker is available. The public is able to submit issues, and read most issues. At the current time, only Oracle staff are able to perform queries, manage bugs and the bug lifecycle. This has required projects lead by non-Oracle Committers to seek alternative locations to manage bug fixes.	The migration from the legacy Sun BugTraq to the internal JIRA system is complete. It is used by bugs.sun.com to provide its content. It has been in active use and over 10,000 new issues have been filed since the migration. Oracle continues working to make the internal system externally available.
Public Code Review System is available to the entire community.	2	2.16, 2, 1	cr.openjdk.java.net used for code display, approval handled by email. More features would be possible if a newer technology could be used.	The existing infrastructure continues to work. The webrev.ksh tool is being gradually updated to improve the user experience.
Group and Project				

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Mailing List infrastructure is available.	4	4.34, 5, 5	Easy to use and generally well known mail tools available. Archives are not easily searchable, and attachments can be problematic. It would be helpful to better describe and group the various lists for people new to OpenJDK.	Continues to work as well as before.
Project and Group members can easily edit web pages.	2	2.6, 3, 4	A process exists for Groups and Projects to have a web page created. Unfortunately, only Oracle staff may currently edit OpenJDK web pages, so non-Oracle staff must make requests to ops@openjdk.java.net. This is problematic for Groups and Projects that may not have Oracle Committers.	Updates of pages on openjdk.java.net continue to be made via ops@openjdk.java.net. The new wiki.openjdk.java.net provides Groups and Projects with an alternative way to offer up-to-date information.
Project and Group members can easily edit wiki pages. 	3	2.77, 3, 4	A wiki is available, but under different TOU than the rest of OpenJDK, which is of concern to some participants.	A new OpenJDK Wiki under the OpenJDK ToU was rolled out on wiki.openjdk.java.net. Existing OpenJDK Wiki content was migrated to the new instance. Project and Group members can now easily edit their wiki pages. Three new Projects have added wiki spaces: Port: PowerPC/AIX, Type Annotations, and Nashorn.
Blog Aggregator is available.	4	2.93, 4, 5	A blog aggregator is in use. Technology used and process for adding or removing bloggers could be improved.	A number of new bloggers have been added to the blog aggregator since the last update.

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Infrastructure to manage voting is available.	4	2.76, 3, 4	Voting occurs via email, which is a popular method in a number of communities. One issue that rises frequently is ineligible people tend to vote (not realizing they are ineligible), which can cause some confusion when tabulating results.	Voting continues to be performed by e-mail.
It's easy for a newcomer to determine the vitality of a particular Group or Project.	3	2.27, 2, 3	It is generally possible by monitoring mailing lists and other project activity – or simply asking a Project or Group lead on the relevant mailing list. However, there isn't a consistent manner across groups and projects to determine liveness. Having a better issue tracking system, and better enabling Projects to update their web assets (webpage, wiki, etc) will help in this area.	Some Projects use Ohloh.net to compile committer and commit statistics. An example can be found at https://www.ohloh.net/p/openjdk.

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Infrastructure	2012 Score	2012 Survey Results	2012 Comments	May 2013 Interim Update
Groups				
Votes are transparent.	5	4.46, 5, 5	As per the bylaws, elections have been run transparently. If anything were to be improved, a summary of votes and results could be posted somewhere other than email archives.	Votes continue to be run transparently, on the respective Groups' mailing lists.
Quarterly Reports are published.	0	1.84, 2, 0	To date, quarterly reports from Groups have not been published, with rare exceptions (Build group, for example).	Only the Build Group has published a Quarterly Report since the last update.
Governing Board				
Elected Seats are filled as per bylaws.	5	4.23, 5, 5	Elections have taken place on schedule, and candidates have been nominated. Moreover, there are Observers, and the process for adding observers is working as expected.	The 2013 nominations and elections for At-Large seats took place as planned.
Meetings occur with regular frequency as per bylaws.	5	2.86, 3, 5	The board meets more frequently, but at least once per quarter as required.	The Governing Board continues to meet at least as frequently as required per bylaws.
Governing Board meeting results are transparent.	3	3.04, 4, 5	Minutes are being published, but there are frequently delays of several months between the meetings and the minutes being posted.	The remaining meeting minutes from 2011 and 2012 were posted to the Governing Board web page.

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Open Meetings, or other venues for timely community discussions, besides email, are happening.	2	2.56, 4, 0	To date, no open meetings of the Governing Board have been held. However, the appointed and elected board are easy to find and approachable. There are several general “OpenJDK BOF” events throughout the year with different OpenJDK Governing Board Members participating where the public could attend and provide feedback.	The Governing Board held two panel sessions since the last update. The first was at the JavaOne Conference in San Francisco, USA in 2012. The second took place a few months later at the FOSDEM Conference in Brussels, Belgium, in 2013. In both cases, community participants were able to provide feedback to the Governing Board directly.
Annual Review is completed.	0	2.11, 2, 0	It has only just been one year since the ratification of the OpenJDK Bylaws. The Governing Board is currently surveying the landscape and expects to do an annual review after JavaOne 2012.	
Meritocracy - Progression of Roles				

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Each Role is attracting new Participants.	3	2.96, 3, 4	In this case, we use a score of “2012 == 3”, and will adjust this score up, or down, over time as we believe growth is increasing or decreasing. Given the current infrastructure and resources, we feel there is a good number of new Participants and Projects joining the ecosystem, and that individuals are free to evolve their Roles. However, if successful, we should see increasing activity from the current baseline.	New Participants continue to join the OpenJDK Community, in part fueled by AdoptJSR and AdoptOpenJDK initiatives from the broader Java & JUG community. In addition, the OpenJDK Community remains attractive to new Projects. Since JavaOne 2012, two new Projects, Nashorn and the AArch64 Porting Project were established.
New Participants can easily see what Roles and progressions are available.	3	2.90, 3, 4	Aside from the Bylaws, limited resources are available explaining the various roles and progressions.	JavaOne 2012 included a presentation on OpenJDK Governance and an overview of roles and processes. This was made available to the public and summarized in blog posts.
Participants are progressing to the appropriate Roles.	3	2.60, 2, 2	Given the limited visibility into what the various Roles are, feedback for this goal is mixed. As with the initial goal in the subsection, we will use “2012 == 3” as a baseline, and adjust up or down based on progress of people being able to transition roles YoY.	Many active Projects see Participants evolve their roles from Authors to Committers and Reviewers, where applicable.
Votes				

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Voting Process is clear and well understood.	4	4.15, 4, 4	Voting processes are described in the Bylaws and it’s easy to get quick answers to voting related questions. An FAQ or similar resources would be all that’s required to improve this area.	The voting process continues to function as well as before.
Public Voting on issues with results published, as per the bylaws.	5	3.97, 5, 5	Votes are happening in public, and transparently, as required. A posted summary of vote results could be helpful to avoid needing to search mail archives for results.	Transparency of votes continues to be provided as before.

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Infrastructure	2012 Score	2012 Survey Results	2012 Comments	May 2013 Interim Update
Licenses				
All projects use FSF or OSI License.	5	3.96, 5, 5	Working as expected. Some concerns were raised that it's possible for Oracle and related Licensees to distribute commercial distributions based on OpenJDK sources. However, that is intended. It is consistent with other communities, and OS licenses that commercially licensed software be possible.	Continues to work as well as before.
Trademark License exists and is easily accessible.	5	3.75, 4, 5	OpenJDK Trademark license was recently updated. Some concerns were raised that Oracle sole steward of the OpenJDK trademark, however, that is intended.	Continues to work as well as before.
Terms of Use for Infrastructure are consistent.	3	3.55, 4, 5	Progress has been made in this area, but some preferred technologies (such as the Wiki) are still not consistent with OpenJDK.	The new wiki, wiki.openjdk.java.net, uses the standard OpenJDK ToU.
Policies for legal notices in source code are documented.	1	2.95, 4, 5	Policies exist, but are not documented and require asking around.	There have been no updates in this area.
Contributor Agreement				

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Path for new Contributors to complete Contributor Agreement is clear and working.	3	3.52, 4, 4	The Contributor Agreement process is well described and relatively straight forward. However, processing times can vary and may take up to a month, unless escalated by a Project Committer.	OpenJDK continues to attract a high number of new Contributors. Processing times for submitted Contributor Agreements have improved.
It is easy to identify existing Contributors (people covered by a Contributor Agreement).	4	3.21, 3, 3	Contributors are listed on a publicly available on Signatories List page. Project and Group Role affiliations are listed on the OpenJDK Census page. However, it is not always clear to Committers where this list is, and how to use it. Also, the information can be sparse and requires follow up and clarification.	The list of Contributors is kept up to date with the processed Contributor Agreements.
Ability for Contributors to handle Change in Employment is clear and working.	4	3.10, 3, 4	Notwithstanding the issue about processing time, it is easy for Individuals to continue their Role in OpenJDK should they wish to do so, and their employer changes. However, this fact is not readily clear and there may be confusion by Committers when it happens.	This process continues to work as before.
IP Processes				

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Process for incorporating third-party libraries is clear.	1	2.09, 1, 1	Currently, there is no process or method for Projects to add third-party libraries to their code. When third party dependencies must be added, only Oracle staff are able to do so, and the process for them doing so is completely internal.	There have been no updates in this area.
Process for asking IP-Related questions is clear.	1	1.91, 1, 1	Currently these discussions can only take place on relevant project or discuss mailing lists. No guidelines or specific venues exists.	There have been no updates in this area.

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JDK 7u & JDK 8 Project Scorecards

Proposed Score: Suggested score, proposed to the GB based on feedback from Oracle, and analysis of survey results. Note that it would be imprudent to only consider the average of the survey results too seriously given the spread of opinions, and those who might skew the survey up or down with random clicks of 5's or 0's. Therefore, we look carefully at the median score, and the most popular score in the results as well.

Survey results X,Y,Z: X is the average weighted score, and Y is the median, Z is the most popular score. So "3.97, 4, 5" means the average score was 3.97, that the median was 4, but that 5 was selected more than any other

*** NOTE – Survey results for JDK 7u include only 3 completed scorecards so was not a big factor in determining proposed scores. The JDK 8 project had 15 completed scorecards, and feedback was more relevant.

Per-Project Scorecard	2012 Score (JDK 7u / JDK 8)	2012 Survey Results (JDK 7u / JDK 8)	2012 Comments	May 2013 Interim Update
Visibility				
JDK Enhancement Process (JEP) is helping identify interesting features.	2 / 3	1.33, 1, 1 / 3.00, 3, 3	The JEP process is in place. We seek ways to improve quality of feedback, status of particular JEPs, and to respond faster to proposed JEPs.	JEPs continue to be used for JDK 8 and future planning. In addition, JEPs have been used for three JDK 7 Update features so far.

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Project Planning is publicly available and observable.	2 / 3	1.33, 1, 1 / 2.67, 3, 3	At this time, people who actively watch mailing lists are usually able find and track progress and compare to schedules. However, there is generally no single-source summary location for this information, or agreed time interval for reporting.	While JEPs have brought more transparency at a less granular level to the OpenJDK Community, their use is mostly constrained to JDK 8 and future releases. Although the 7u Project improved communication in this area, the need to re-plan 7u releases in progress has been a continuous challenge.
Design Decisions are publicly available and observable.	2 / 3	1.67, 1, 1 / 3.2, 3, 3	Design decisions are often spread across various resources, and not always publicly visible. In some cases, JEPs and feedback on JEPs, besides being able to observe JSR Expert Groups helps somewhat with visibility.	While many design decisions are publicly visible, the decentralized nature of JDK development can present a challenge for newcomers to find the right forum to observe. JavaOne 2012 and a number of other conferences featured presentations on JDK 7u development processes to increase the visibility of decision making within that Project in the broader Java Community.
Projects are providing information on their roadmaps, milestones, build, integration, and release schedules.	2 / 3	3.00, 2, 2 / 2.90, 3, 3	There have been improvements in JDK 8 with publishing milestone, release and roadmap schedules but more improvements are needed.	JDK 7u has seen improvements, publishing a milestone and a schedule for the next release being worked on in OpenJDK. JDK 8 has continued to publish updates to existing milestone, release and roadmap schedules as they have become available.
Relevant documentation is available and up to date.	4 / 4	2.67, 3, 3 / 2.80, 3, 4	Documentation is available, but goes stale, more attention is need to keep things current.	While availability of Project documentation continues to improve, currency and, as a corollary, accuracy remain a challenge.

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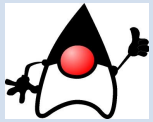
Identifying Project Leadership and determining how to ask questions is easy.	3 / 3	3.33, 3, 3 / 3.70, 4, 4	The OpenJDK Census page helps with this goal, but is not well known or understood. A different view into the Census (listing Projects, Groups and who fills the various Roles) may help improve this score.	The JDK 7u Project additionally lists Project leadership on its web page, linking to the OpenJDK Census page for detailed information.JDK 8 leadership is simpler and continues to be documented through the Census page.
Votes are transparent as per the bylaws.	5 / 5	3.33, 4, 4 / 3.80, 4, 4	Votes are happening transparently according to the bylaws. A summary of vote results may save people from having to mine mailing lists for results.	Voting continues to function as well as before.
Technical Matters				
Project is easy to build. 	2 / 3	3.33, 3, 3 / 3.18, 3, 3	Several community participants have demonstrated it's possible to do custom builds of OpenJDK. However, the knowledge and resources are scattered and difficult to find. Related tools for doing continuous build and integration testing do not exist. The Infrastructure Project (sometimes referred to as the "new build" Project) has offered improvements, but still has a way to go to help a broader set of Participants.	Integration of the new Build Infrastructure Project into JDK 8 has improved the situation on most platforms. New Participants are starting to work on build improvements and enhancements.

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Project is easy to test.	2 / 3	3.67, 4, 4 / 2.5, 3, 3	There are still internal tests and frameworks. This can cause issues and delays with some projects when 3rd party contributions must first be verified before going into a mainline release. Some spec code requires additional licenses – their availability and ease of access is scored separately.	Test results from Oracle JDK 8 EA builds are now regularly published to provide OpenJDK Community testers with a baseline against which to compare their own results.
Contributing new test cases is easy.	2 / 2	3.00, 4, 4 / 2.8, 3, 3	It is currently possible to contribute tests, but only to a subset of the overall testing that is required to ensure a stable build. Also, there are no guidelines for submitting tests, and it is currently very difficult for the Contributors to participate in this area.	A TestFest was held at Devoxx UK conference to introduce new Contributors to the existing testing infrastructure and get some experience writing new tests. As part of that effort, new and updated documentation for testing has been published on the Code Tools wiki. A second event occurred recently in Krakow.
Submitting a patch is easy.	3 / 3	2.67, 4, 4 / 3.55, 4, 4	Submitting a patch can be fairly straightforward to Participants, but can be daunting to people new to OpenJDK. A guide, or other documentation, with an eye to new Participants / Contributors, would be helpful.	This continues to be the case.

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Making a complete fork of the project is easy.	3 / 3	3.00, 4, 4 / 3.00, 3, 3	It has been demonstrated that it is technically easy to migrate code from OpenJDK to various forges. The inconvenience remaining is forkers are on their own to define what “build and test” means for the fork. Better build and test systems will help fork-ability.	This continues to be the case.
If applicable, API Specification is available and easy to find.	4 / 4	3.33, 4, 4 / 3.78, 4, 4	The Javadoc for API for JDK 7 and JDK 8 are straightforward and easy to find. What is still a challenge, though, are finding information about things like Command line switches, that “shall-not-break” during updates.	This continues to be the case.
Release and Update Projects (only)				
Process for getting TCK Access is clear.	4 / 0	2.67, 3, 3 / Not Applicable	It is possible to receive the Java Compatibility Kit by completing the “OpenJDK Community TCK License Agreement” (OCTLA). Processing times may vary. The OCTLA for JDK 8 is not yet available.	The process continues to work as before.
Finding list of OCTLA Signatories is easy.	2 / 0	2.00, 3, 3 / Not Applicable	A list of OCTLA Signatories exists, however, it is currently out of date and difficult to find. The OCTLA for JDK 8 is not yet available.	A reference to the OCTLA Signatories list is now available on the main OpenJDK Legal page (http://openjdk.java.net/legal). The list was updated to include JDK 7 Signatories.

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