

JCP Process Document

Version 2.10 (Month dd, 2014) v9 (Public Review) – mm dd 2015

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62 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

63 The international Java community develops and evolves Java™ technology specifications using the
64 Java Community Process (JCP.) The JCP produces high-quality specifications using an inclusive,
65 consensus-based approach that produces a Specification, a Reference Implementation (to prove the
66 Specification can be implemented,) and a Technology Compatibility Kit (a suite of tests, tools, and
67 documentation that is used to test implementations for compliance with the Specification.)

68 Experience has shown that the best way to produce a technology specification is to gather a group of
69 industry experts who have a deep understanding of the technology in question, and for a strong tech-
70 nical lead to work with that group to create a first draft. Agreement on the form and content of the draft
71 is then built using an iterative process that allows an ever-widening audience to review and comment
72 on the document.

73 An Executive Committee (EC) representing a cross-section of both major stakeholders and other
74 members of the Java community is responsible for approving the passage of Specifications through
75 the JCP's various stages and for reconciling discrepancies between Specifications and their associat-
76 ed test suites.

77 There are four major stages in this version of the JCP:

- 78 1. **INITIATION:** A Specification targeted at the desktop/server or consumer/embedded space is initiat-
79 ed by one or more Members and approved for development by the EC. A group of experts is
80 formed to assist the Spec Lead with the development of the Specification.
- 81 2. **DRAFT RELEASES:** The Expert Group develops the Specification through an iterative process,
82 releasing drafts for public review and comment. After the formal Public Review the EC holds a bal-
83 lot on whether the JSR should proceed to the Final Release stage.
- 84 3. **FINAL RELEASE:** The Spec Lead submits the Specification to the PMO for publication as the Pro-
85 posed Final Draft. When the RI and TCK are completed, and the RI passes the TCK, the Specifica-
86 tion, the RI, and the TCK are submitted to the PMO, which circulates them to the EC for final ap-
87 proval.
- 88 4. **MAINTENANCE:** The Specification, Reference Implementation, and Technology Compatibility Kit
89 are updated in response to ongoing requests for clarification, interpretation, enhancements, and re-
90 visions. The EC reviews proposed changes to the Specification and indicates which can be carried
91 out immediately and which should be deferred to a new JSR.

92 This version (2.10) of the JCP was developed using the Java Community Process itself by means of
93 JSR 364, which was led by Oracle with all Executive Committee members forming the Expert Group.

94

95 2. DEFINITIONS

96 **Appeal Ballot:** The EC ballot to override a first-level decision on a TCK test challenge.

97 **Associate Member:** An individual who signs the Associate Membership Agreement in order to
98 participate independently in the activities of the JCP without requiring an employer's permission.

99 **Associate Membership Agreement:** The membership agreement signed by Associate Mem-
100 bers.

101 **Ballot:** See Appeal Ballot, Final Approval Ballot, Final Approval Reconsideration Ballot, JSR Ap-
102 proval Ballot, JSR Reconsideration Ballot, JSR Renewal Ballot, JSR Renewal Reconsideration
103 Ballot, JSR Withdrawal Ballot, Maintenance Review Ballot, Maintenance Renewal Ballot,
104 Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot, Public Review Ballot, Public Draft Specification Recon-

105 sideration Ballot, Transfer Ballot. Unless otherwise noted in this document all Ballots last for 14
106 days.

107 **Community Seat:** An Executive Committee seat filled by the election process described in sec-
108 tion 3.7.6.

109 **Contributor Agreement:** A legal agreement defining the terms, particularly those concerning
110 the grant of intellectual property rights, under which contributions are made to a project.

111 **Contributor:** A JCP Member who is not a member of an Expert Group but who at the Spec
112 Lead's discretion is formally recognized as having contributed to the JSR.

113 **Dormant Specification (Dormant):** A Specification that the PMO has determined has no as-
114 signed Specification Lead or Maintenance Lead, or that is not being actively developed and on
115 which no further development is anticipated.

116 **Early Draft Review:** A 30 to 90 day period during which the public reviews and comments on
117 the draft Specification.

118 **Elected Seat:** An Executive Committee seat filled by the election process described in section
119 3.7.6.

120 **Employer Contribution Agreement:** An agreement that must be signed by the employer of an
121 individual Full Member in which the employer makes certain IP commitments with respect to the
122 employee's participation in the JCP.

123 **Executive Committee (EC):** The Members who guide the evolution of the Java technologies.
124 The EC represents a cross-section of both major stakeholders and other Members of the Java
125 community. EC members are selected in an annual election process. The EC Policies and Pro-
126 cedures are specified in the EC Standing Rules, which is a separate document.

127 **Expert Group (EG):** The group of JCP Members who develop or make significant revisions to a
128 Specification.

129 **Final Approval Ballot:** The EC ballot to approve the Final Draft along with its associated RI and
130 TCK.

131 **Final Approval Reconsideration Ballot:** The EC ballot to reconsider an initial rejection of a Fi-
132 nal Draft, RI, and TCK.

133 **Final Draft:** The final draft of the Specification that will be put forward for EC approval.

134 **Final Release:** The final stage in the JSR development process when the Specification, RI, and
135 TCK have been completed and can be licensed by implementers.

136 **First-Level TCK Appeals Process:** The process defined by the Spec Lead that allows imple-
137 menters of the Specification to appeal one or more tests defined by the Specification's TCK.

138 **Full Member:** A corporation, organization, or individual that has signed the JSPA in order to ob-
139 tain full membership rights within the JCP.

- 140 **Issue:** an explicit reference to an item defined in an Issue Tracker.
- 141 **Issue List:** A list of Issues generated from an Issue Tracker, identifying the disposition of each.
- 142 **Issue Tracker:** A mechanism to allow issues (problems, tasks, comments, or requests for
143 change) to be recorded and tracked by priority, status, owner, or other criteria. The Issue Tracker
144 should permit issues to be identified by states such as open, resolved, and closed and should
145 support the assignment of resolution types such as deferred (postponed to a follow-on release,)
146 fixed (implemented,) challenged (no satisfactory resolution,) and rejected (deemed inappropriate
147 or out of scope.)
- 148 **Java Community Process (JCP):** The formal process described in this document for develop-
149 ing or revising Java technology Specifications.
- 150 **Java Community Process Member (Member):** A company, organization, or individual that has
151 signed a Membership Agreement and is abiding by its terms.
- 152 **Java Specification (Specification):** A written specification for some aspect of the Java technol-
153 ogy. This includes the language, virtual machine, Platform Editions, Profiles, and application
154 programming interfaces.
- 155 **Java Specification Request (JSR):** The document submitted to the PMO by one or more
156 Members to propose the development of a new Specification or a significant revision to an exist-
157 ing Specification.
- 158 **Java Specification Participation Agreement (JSPA):** A one-year renewable agreement be-
159 tween Oracle America and a company, organization or individual that allows the latter entities to
160 participate in the Java Community Process as a Full Member.
- 161 **JCP Website:** The website where the public can stay informed about JCP activities, download
162 draft and final Specifications, and follow the progress of Specifications through the JCP.
- 163 **JSR Approval Ballot:** A two-week EC ballot to determine if the initial JSR submission should be
164 approved.
- 165 **JSR Reconsideration Ballot:** The EC ballot to determine if a revision of an initial JSR submis-
166 sion should be approved.
- 167 **JSR Page:** The web page on the JCP Website where the JSR's history is recorded and where
168 other relevant information about the JSR is published.
- 169 **JSR Renewal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a JSR should continue in its work.
- 170 **JSR Renewal Reconsideration Ballot:** An EC ballot to determine if a revised JSR should con-
171 tinue its work.
- 172 **JSR Review:** A two- to four-week period (the length to be set at the discretion of the submitter)
173 during which the public can review and comment on a proposed new JSR before the JSR Ap-
174 proval Ballot.

175 **JSR Withdrawal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a completed JSR that appears to have
176 been abandoned should be withdrawn.

177 **Licensor Name Space:** The public class or interface declarations whose names begin with "ja-
178 va", "javax", "com.sun" (or "com.Your name" if You are the Specification Lead) or their equiva-
179 lents in any subsequent naming convention adopted by Oracle.

180 **Maintenance Lead (ML):** The Member Representative or individual JCP Member responsible
181 for maintaining the Specification.

182 **Maintenance Release:** The final stage in the JSR maintenance process when the Specification,
183 RI, and TCK have been updated and can be licensed by implementers.

184 **Maintenance Review:** A period 14 or 30 days prior to finalization of a Maintenance Release
185 when Members and the public consider and comment on the change the Maintenance Lead
186 proposes to include in the release, as identified in the associated Issue List.

187 **Maintenance Review Ballot:** An EC ballot to determine whether the changes and time line pro-
188 posed by a Maintenance Lead are appropriate for a Maintenance Release.

189 **Maintenance Renewal Ballot:** a ballot during which EC members vote on whether to permit a
190 Maintenance Lead to extend the deadline for delivery of materials for Maintenance Release, or
191 whether the previous Maintenance Review should be rescinded and the ML be required to start
192 the process again.

193 **Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot:** An EC ballot to confirm that a completed Mainte-
194 nance Release that appears to have been abandoned should be withdrawn.

195 **Member:** See Associate Member, Full Member, Java Community Process Member, Member
196 Representative, Partner Member.

197 **Member Representative:** An individual who is an employee of or who has a contractual rela-
198 tionship with a Full Member and who is authorized by that Member to represent its interests with-
199 in the JCP.

200 **Membership Agreement:** See Associate Membership Agreement, JSPA, Partner Membership
201 Agreement.

202 **Observer:** An individual who is not a member of the JCP but who takes advantage of the JCP's
203 transparency mechanisms to observe and/or comment on Expert Group activities.

204 **Partner Member:** A non-profit organization that is unwilling or unable (since it is not a legal enti-
205 ty) to sign the JSPA and that instead signs a Partner Membership Agreement in order to enable
206 it enable it to promote and to participate in the activities of the JCP.

207 **Partner Membership Agreement:** The membership agreement signed by non-profit organiza-
208 tions that are not legal entities, and therefore ineligible to sign the JSPA.

209 **Platform Edition Specification (Platform Edition):** A Specification that defines a baseline API
210 set that provides a foundation upon which applications, other APIs, and Profiles can be built.
211 There are currently three Platform Edition Specifications: Java SE, Java EE, and Java ME.

212 **Profile Specification (Profile):** A Specification that references one of the Platform Edition Spec-
213 ifications and zero or more other JCP Specifications (that are not already a part of a Platform
214 Edition Specification.) APIs from the referenced Platform Edition must be included according to
215 the referencing rules set out in that Platform Edition Specification. Other referenced Specifica-
216 tions must be referenced in their entirety.

217 **Program Management Office (PMO):** The group within Oracle that is responsible for adminis-
218 tering the JCP and chairing the EC.

219 **Proposed Final Draft:** The version of the draft Specification that will be used as the basis for
220 the RI and TCK.

221 **Public Draft Specification Reconsideration Ballot:** The EC ballot to determine if a revised
222 draft should proceed after Public Review.

223 **Public Review:** A 30 to 90 day period when the public can review and comment on the draft
224 Specification.

225 **Public Review Ballot:** The EC ballot to determine if a draft should proceed after Public Review.

226 **Ratified Seat:** An Executive Committee seat filled by the ratification process described in sec-
227 tion 3.7.5.

228 **Reference Implementation (RI):** The prototype or "proof of concept" implementation of a Speci-
229 fication.

230 **Release:** A Final Release or a Maintenance Release

231 **Specification:** See Java Specification.

232 **Specification Lead (Spec Lead):** The Member Representative or individual JCP Member who
233 leads an Expert Group and who is responsible for its deliverables as defined in this Process
234 Document.

235 **Technology Compatibility Kit (TCK):** The suite of tests, tools, and documentation that is used
236 to determine if an implementation of a JSR complies with the Specification.

237 **Transfer Ballot:** The EC ballot to approve transfer of ownership of a Specification, RI, and TCK
238 from one JCP Member to another. (Transfer of ownership does not mean transfer of IP rights,
239 only the right to start again. The new Spec Lead can, however, negotiate a transfer of IP with the
240 old Spec Lead.)

241 **Umbrella Java Specification Request (UJSR):** A JSR that defines or revises a Platform Edition
242 or Profile Specification. A UJSR proceeds through the JCP like any other JSR.

243 The terms "must", "must not", "required", "shall", "shall not", "should", "should not", "recommend-
244 ed", "may" and "optional" are used in this document in accordance with the IETF's [RFC 2119](#).

245 The use of the term **day** or **days** in this document refers to calendar days unless otherwise
246 specified.

247 **3. THE JAVA COMMUNITY PROCESS PROGRAM**

248

249 **3.1 JCP membership**

250 In order to enable the broadest possible participation in the work of the JCP several different roles and
251 membership levels have been defined.

252 **3.1.1 Observer**

253 Individuals need not sign a formal JCP Membership Agreement in order to observe and comment on
254 Expert Group activities, since they may take advantage of the JCP's transparency mechanisms such
255 as public mailing lists and Issue Trackers. (Typically, however, Observers will need to register at
256 jcp.org and possibly also at java.net.) Observers are not eligible to join Expert Groups, to run for elec-
257 tion to the Executive Committee, or to vote in the JCP's annual elections.

258 **3.1.2 Partner Member**

259 Non-profit organizations such as Java User Groups that are unwilling or unable (because they are not
260 legal entities) to sign the JSPA may sign a simplified Partner Membership Agreement that focuses on
261 the promotion of JCP activities in collaboration with JCP Members and the PMO.

262 Partner Members cannot act as a Spec Lead or serve on most Expert Groups, but they are eligible to
263 run for election to the Executive Committee. If elected, in their role as Executive Committee members
264 they may serve as members of the Expert Group for JSRs whose focus is redefining the JCP's organi-
265 zation and "constitution" through the process described in Appendix A. Partner Members have the
266 same voting rights as Full Members.

267 **3.1.3 Associate Member**

268 An individual who is unwilling or unable to sign the JSPA may sign an Associate Membership Agree-
269 ment in order to participate in the activities of the JCP. (Organizations are ineligible for this class of
270 membership.) The Associate Membership Agreement is simpler than the JSPA, and involves only a
271 personal IP commitment. No employer signature is required.

272 Associate Members cannot act as a Spec Lead, join an Expert Group, or run for election to the Execu-
273 tive Committee. They are eligible to vote for Community Executive Committee seats but are not eligi-
274 ble to vote for Ratified or Elected Seats. At the Spec Lead's discretion Associate members can be
275 formally recognized by being listed as Contributors to a JSR.

276 **3.1.4 Full Member**

277 This class of membership is open to corporations, non-profit organizations that are legal entities, self-
278 employed and unemployed individuals, students, and some employed individuals. The JSPA is the
279 membership agreement for Full Members.

280 Non-employed individuals and university staff are eligible for Full Membership if they are legally able
281 to license their own IP and can therefore sign the JSPA on their own behalf.

282 Employed individuals are eligible for Full Membership if their employer is willing to sign an Employer
283 Contribution Agreement (no Employer Contribution Agreement is required from university staff). Such
284 individuals should register with their employee email address rather than with a personal email ad-
285 dress in order to enable the PMO to track changes in employment status. They should also agree to
286 inform the PMO when they change employers.

287 Full members may act as a Spec Lead, join an Expert Group, and run for election to any class of seat
288 on the EC. Full members may vote for Nominated and Elected Seats on the EC but not for Community
289 Seats.

290 3.1.5 Member Representative

291 Employees and other individuals who have a contractual relationship with Full Members may be au-
292 thorized by the Full Member to represent its interests within the JCP by acting as a Spec Lead, serving
293 on an Expert Group, or running for the EC. These Members should register with their employee email
294 address rather than with a personal email address in order to enable the PMO to track changes in
295 employment. They should also agree to inform the PMO when they change employers.

296 3.1.6 Membership Fees

297 In anticipation of changes proposed for the next version of the JSPA the PMO commits to waiving
298 membership fees for commercial organizations as it currently does for non-profit organizations. Con-
299 sequently, under JCP 2.10 there will be no fees for any class of membership.

300 3.2 General procedures

301 3.2.1 Expert Group transparency and participation

302 Each Expert Group is free to use the working style that it finds most productive and appropriate, so
303 long as this is compatible with the requirements specified in this document. For example, an EG may
304 choose to move forward only when there is general agreement among its members, or by voting on
305 issues when there is disagreement.

306 As specified below, Expert Groups must operate in a transparent manner, enabling and encouraging
307 Members and the public to observe their deliberations and to provide feedback. One useful way to en-
308 courage broad participation is to encourage Members (particularly Associate Members) to become
309 Contributors to the JSR. Partner Members such as Java User Groups may be helpful in identifying po-
310 tential Contributors.

311 The EG must take into consideration and publicly respond to all significant feedback. EGs must main-
312 tain a publicly-accessible document archive from which all of their working materials such as source
313 documents, meeting agendas, minutes, and draft documents can be accessed. The EC should take
314 the Expert Group's transparency record into consideration when voting on its JSR.

315 In the initial JSR submission the Spec Lead must specify the transparency mechanisms (for example,
316 the communication mechanisms and Issue Tracker) that the Expert Group intends to adopt, and must
317 provide the URLs for accessing the chosen collaboration tools. The Spec Lead must also provide a
318 pointer to any Terms of Use required to use the collaboration tools so that the EC and prospective EG
319 members can judge whether they are compatible with the JSPA.

320 The PMO will publish this information on the JSR Page, and will require the EG to provide updated
321 information on the actual progress of the JSR throughout its lifetime. That information will also be pub-
322 lished.

323 When voting to approve a JSR's transition to the next stage EC members should take into considera-
324 tion the extent to which the Spec Lead is meeting the JCP's transparency requirements.

325 3.2.1.1 Intellectual property considerations

326 Spec Leads should be aware of their obligations to license the output of their JSR and to make certain
327 patent grants on the terms defined in the JSPA. Incorporating feedback provided through public email
328 lists or forums without ensuring that the provider has signed a Membership Agreement or an equiva-
329 lent Contributor Agreement may make it impossible to meet these requirements or may expose the
330 Spec Lead to legal liability.

331 3.2.1.2 Confidentiality

332 The use of *Confidential Information* (as defined in the JSPA) limits transparency, is strongly discour-
333 aged, and will be prohibited in a future version of the Process. If the Spec Lead intends to permit the

334 use of Confidential Information (such as emails, drafts, or submissions marked as *Confidential*) this
335 must be specified in the initial Java Specification Request.

336 **3.2.1.3 Public communications**

337 Expert Groups may choose to keep purely administrative matters private, but all substantive business
338 must be performed in a manner that allows the public to observe their work and to respond to it. All
339 proceedings, discussions, and working documents must be published, and a mechanism must be es-
340 tablished to allow the public to provide feedback. One common way of meeting these requirements is
341 through the use of mailing lists, but other alternatives such as blogs, Wikis, and discussion forums
342 may be preferred. Whatever communication mechanisms are chosen, these must include an archiving
343 function so that a record of all communications is preserved. Archives must be readable by the public.

344 **3.2.1.4 Issue tracking**

345 Issues must be tracked through a publicly readable Issue Tracker. The Expert Group may choose to
346 use a publicly writable Issue Tracker, thereby permitting the public to log issues directly, or alternative-
347 ly to identify formal comments in some other manner and to enter them into the Issue Tracker on be-
348 half of the submitter. Whatever mechanism is used, a publicly-readable audit trail of all comments and
349 Issues must be maintained.

350 Whenever a Spec Lead or a Maintenance Lead submits materials to the PMO for review or ballot they
351 must also provide an Issue List indicating the disposition of all of the Issues that have been logged
352 against the JSR. Issues logged late in the review cycle may be deferred for later consideration, and
353 Issues that are blatantly off-topic or that appear to have been submitted maliciously or erroneously
354 may be ignored.

355 In order to enable EC members to judge whether Issues have been adequately addressed, the Issue
356 List must make a clear distinction between Issues that are still open, Issues that have been deferred,
357 and those that are closed, and must indicate the reason for any change of state.

358 The PMO shall publish the Issue List or a pointer to it together with the other materials.

359 EC members should review the supplied Issue List and take it into consideration when casting their
360 ballot. If they have any reservations or concerns about a 'yes' vote, or if they wish to vote 'no,' they
361 must accompany their ballot with comments which reference one or more Issues (perhaps logged by
362 them) that they would like to see addressed in the future. EC members should vote 'no' if they believe
363 that the Spec Lead or Maintenance Lead has not adequately addressed all Issues including those that
364 have been rejected or otherwise closed by the Expert Group.

365 **3.2.1.5 Changes to licensing terms**

366 As described in Section 3.3.2.1 below, the proposed licensing terms must be disclosed during JSR
367 submission. The Specification license must not be modified after initial submission since to do so
368 could invalidate IP grants. It may be necessary, however, to modify the proposed RI or TCK license.
369 Any such changes must be disclosed when the Specification is next submitted to the PMO for public
370 posting or review.

371 For as long as a JSR is licensed and while it is legally possible to do so the Spec Lead must offer the
372 RI and TCK licenses that were published at the time of Final Release, with the exception that reason-
373 able increases in price are permitted. At subsequent Maintenance Releases alternate RI or TCK li-
374 censes may also be offered so long as all changes are disclosed, but licensees must be free to
375 choose the original terms if they wish. For example, existing licensees who do not wish to accept a
376 modified license when required to adopt a newer TCK shall have the option to license the updated
377 TCK under the previous terms. If a JSR changes hands the new Maintenance Lead must present a
378 license with terms comparable to, or more favorable to licensees than the existing license.

379 When a newer version of a technology is created through a follow-on JSR, the Specification, RI, and
380 TCK license terms for the new JSR may differ from those offered for the previous JSR, but any such

381 changes must be disclosed during JSR submission. The original terms for the previous JSR must be
382 offered for as long as that JSR is licensed.

383 3.2.2 Expert Group membership

384 3.2.2.1 Expert group composition

385 There is no size limit on the Expert Group. The Spec Lead may add additional members at any time
386 so long as existing EG members are consulted. New members may be added, for example, to in-
387 crease diversity of opinion.

388 Any JCP Full Member or Member Representative may request to join an Expert Group at any time by
389 submitting their nomination via the online form provided on the JSR Page. Details of such requests,
390 including the organizational affiliation of the requester, together with the Spec Lead's official response,
391 substantive deliberations within the EG about the matter, and any other official decisions related to EG
392 membership must be published through the EG's public communication channel.

393 JCP Members who are not members of the Expert group may inform the Spec Lead at any time of
394 their interest in contributing to the work of the Expert Group with the possibility of being formally rec-
395 ognized as Contributors.

396 The PMO will ensure that the JSR Page lists the Members who are members of the EG together with
397 the names of individual Member Representatives where appropriate. At the Spec Lead's discretion
398 Members who are Contributors to the work of the JSR will also be listed together with their Partner
399 Member affiliation where appropriate.

400 3.2.2.2 Withdrawal of a member from the Expert Group

401 An EG member may withdraw from the Expert Group at any time. If the withdrawing member is the
402 Spec Lead, the Expert Group, with the help of the PMO, should approach the Member who originally
403 contributed the Spec Lead, if any, and request them to provide a suitable replacement; if no such re-
404 placement is forthcoming, the Expert Group should choose one of its current members as the new
405 Spec Lead. If the withdrawing member is not the Spec Lead, the Spec Lead should approach the
406 member's organization (if any) to find a suitable replacement.

407 3.2.2.3 Disruptive, uncooperative or unresponsive Expert Group members

408 There may be rare instances when members of the Expert Group feel that one of their fellow members
409 is not acting in ways that advance the work of the Expert Group, and is being disruptive, uncoopera-
410 tive or unresponsive. EG members are expected to make a reasonable effort to resolve any such is-
411 sues among themselves, with the active help of the Spec Lead. However, if the situation cannot be
412 resolved in a timely manner, any three members of the EG can approach the Spec Lead and request
413 that the EG member in question be excluded from further participation in the EG. If the Spec Lead
414 agrees to the request he can then do so. In the case where the EG member in question is a Member
415 Representative, the Spec Lead must first request that the Member replace its representative. If the
416 Member does not do so in a timely manner, the Spec Lead can exclude the Member itself from further
417 EG participation. The Spec Lead's decision as to whether or not to exclude can be appealed to the EC
418 by following the process outlined in Section 3.2.7, "Escalation and Appeals"

419 3.2.2.4 Unresponsive or inactive Spec Lead

420 There may be rare instances when members of the Expert Group feel that the Spec Lead is not acting
421 in ways that advance the work of the Expert Group and is being unresponsive or inactive. The EG is
422 expected to make a reasonable effort to resolve any such issues in a timely manner. However, if the
423 situation cannot be resolved these concerns should be brought to the attention of the EC as quickly as
424 possible so they may be proactively addressed and resolved.

425 If the problems cannot be resolved informally, any three members of the EG may request the EC to
426 replace the Spec Lead. All such requests must clearly state the cause of the concern and provide all

427 necessary evidence. If the EC agrees that there is cause, it may ask the PMO to replace the Spec
428 Lead. If the Spec Lead is a Member Representative the PMO shall ask the Member to replace the
429 Spec Lead. If the Member declines to do so the PMO shall seek an alternative Spec Lead, in which
430 case the EC must conduct a Transfer Ballot as specified in section 3.2.3 of this document. If no Spec
431 Lead replacement can be found, the EC shall initiate a JSR Renewal Ballot to determine whether the
432 JSR should be shut down.

433 **3.2.2.5 Relinquishing ownership**

434 If a Spec Lead or Maintenance Lead decides to discontinue his or her work at any time (including dis-
435 continuing maintenance activities or declining to take on the role of Spec Lead during a significant re-
436 vision initiated by a new JSR) they should, with the assistance of the PMO, make a reasonable effort
437 to locate another Member who is willing to take on the task. If a replacement is identified the PMO
438 must initiate a Transfer Ballot within 30 days to enable EC members to approve the transfer of respon-
439 sibilities. If the ballot succeeds, the new lead must assume his or her responsibilities within 30 days. In
440 order to facilitate such a transfer of responsibilities the outgoing lead is strongly encouraged to transfer
441 all its Intellectual Property rights in the existing JSR to the new lead.

442 If no replacement can be found, or if the Transfer Ballot fails, then the PMO shall declare the Specifi-
443 cation to be Dormant and no further work can be carried out. No further Transfer Ballots will be initiat-
444 ed by the PMO unless a Member volunteers to take on the lead role, in which case the PMO will again
445 have 30 days to initiate a Transfer Ballot.

446 **3.2.3 JSR deadlines**

447 If a JSR does not begin Early Draft Review within 9 months of completing its JSR Approval Ballot, or
448 does not begin Public Review within 12 months of first submitting an Early Draft, or does not reach
449 Final Release within 12 months of commencing Public Review, then the EC shall initiate a JSR Re-
450 newal Ballot. The PMO shall inform the Spec Lead and Expert Group of this decision and will request
451 the Spec Lead and Expert Group to prepare a public statement to the EC. The JSR Renewal Ballot
452 shall start 30 days after the request. If the JSR Renewal Ballot is approved by the EC, then another
453 renewal ballot cannot be initiated for that JSR for an additional year.

454 The Spec Lead may also voluntarily request that the JSR be declared Dormant. Under these circum-
455 stances a JSR Renewal Ballot must be held in order for the Expert Group to resume its activities at a
456 future date.

457 If a JSR Renewal Ballot fails the Expert Group will have 30 days to update the JSR in response to the
458 concerns raised by the EC, and may submit a revised version to the PMO. If a revised JSR is not re-
459 ceived by the end of the 30 days, the original decision by the EC shall stand and the JSR shall be
460 closed. If a revision is received, then the PMO shall forward it to the EC and initiate a JSR Renewal
461 Reconsideration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all comments submitted by EC members, together
462 with their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If this ballot fails, the JSR shall
463 be closed and the Expert Group shall disband.

464 If a JSR that is closed through these processes was a revision to an existing Specification, the Spec
465 Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification.

466 **3.2.4 Compatibility testing**

467 The Spec Lead is responsible for defining the process whereby the TCK is used to certify implementa-
468 tions of the JSR as compatible. After the JSR is completed the Maintenance Lead must submit to the
469 PMO at least quarterly a list of all implementations that have been certified as compatible and that
470 have been released publicly or commercially. The PMO will publish this information on the JCP Web-
471 site. If the Maintenance Lead submits the information in the form of a pointer to an already published
472 list the PMO may choose simply to reference that list rather than duplicate it.

473 3.2.5 Executive Committee duties

474 3.2.5.1 Transparency

475 All substantive Executive Committee business should be conducted in the most transparent manner
476 possible. EC transparency requirements are specified in a separate document, the EC Standing
477 Rules.

478 3.2.5.2 Draft reviews

479 During JSR reviews EC members are strongly encouraged to ensure that one or more technical mem-
480 bers of their organizations review the draft and provide feedback to the Expert Group. EC feedback is
481 particularly important to the Expert Group, and EC members are encouraged not to wait until ballot
482 periods to raise concerns and issues.

483 3.2.6 PMO response times

484 Materials to be posted on the JCP Website for review, comment, or any other official EG or EC busi-
485 ness should be submitted to the PMO, which shall post them on the JCP Website and announce their
486 availability to Members and the public within seven days of receipt (holiday closures excepted.)

487 3.2.7 Escalation and appeals

488 Unless otherwise specified in this document, any EG member can appeal to the EC regarding a deci-
489 sion, an action, or inaction by the PMO, a Spec Lead, or a Maintenance Lead that affects EG partici-
490 pation or issue-resolution and which cannot be resolved by other reasonable means. An appeal must
491 be initiated by sending an email message to the PMO (pmo@jcp.org) in all cases, even if it affects the
492 PMO itself. The message must describe the issue under appeal clearly and concisely, with a short and
493 relevant *subject* line, and must provide all relevant documentation to support the appeal. The PMO
494 shall transmit the message to the EC no later than seven days after receipt. The EC shall then re-
495 spond to the appellant within 30 days, either with a resolution or with a request for clarification and/or
496 further documentation.

497 3.3 JSR Initiation

498 3.3.1 Initiate a Java Specification Request

499 One or more Full Members may initiate a request to develop a new Specification, or carry out a signifi-
500 cant revision to an existing one, by submitting a JSR proposal through the JCP Website, as described
501 in the Spec Lead Guide. Upon request to the PMO any JSR proposal may be withdrawn by the sub-
502 mitter(s) without explanation prior to the completion of the JSR Approval Ballot.

503 The following information must be provided with each JSR:

- 504 • the Members making the request (the submitters,) the proposed Spec Lead, the initial members
505 of the Expert Group, and the names of potential Contributors,
- 506 • a description of the proposed Specification,
- 507 • the reason(s) for developing or revising it,
- 508 • the primary Platform Edition, as well as any consideration given to other Platform Editions,
- 509 • an estimated development schedule,
- 510 • any preexisting documents, technology descriptions, or implementations that might be used as a
511 starting point,
- 512 • a transparency plan, which outlines the tools and techniques that the Spec Lead will use during
513 the development of the Specification to communicate with and seek feedback from JCP Mem-
514 bers and the public.

515 At the PMO's discretion JSR submissions may be required to include a completed *JSR Review Pro-*
516 *cess* questionnaire or presentation that provides information about the goals of the JSR and the pro-
517 cesses that the Expert Group plans to use during its development.

518 **3.3.1.1 Revise existing Specifications**

519 Existing Specifications, together with their associated RIs and TCKs, are maintained by a designated
520 Maintenance Lead using the processes described in section 3.6 of this document. Maintenance Leads
521 are expected to assume long-term ownership of the Specification, RI, and TCK while respecting the
522 wishes of JCP Members regarding evolution. Maintenance Leads shall therefore be the Spec Leads
523 for all significant revisions to their Specifications, but they shall not have the exclusive right to decide
524 when a significant revision will take place. That shall be decided by the EC in response to a revision
525 JSR that can be initiated by any JCP Member. Submitter(s) should make a reasonable effort to recruit
526 members of the previous Expert Group to join any such revision effort.

527 **3.3.1.2 Protect the installed base and guard against fragmentation**

528 Changes to the Java programming language, the Java virtual machine (JVM,) the Java Native Inter-
529 face (JNI,) packages in the "java.*" space, or other packages delivered only as part of Java SE, have
530 the potential to seriously disrupt the installed base if carried out inconsistently across the Platform Edi-
531 tions. In order to protect the installed base, any such changes can only be accepted and carried out
532 within an Umbrella JSR (UJSR) for Java SE.

533 In order to guard against fragmentation, new Platform Edition Specifications must not substantially du-
534 plicate existing Platform Editions or Profiles.

535 **3.3.1.3 Profiles and API Specifications target current Platform Editions**

536 All new or revised Specifications must be compatible with the most recent versions of the targeted
537 Platform Edition Specifications. In order to achieve this, all UJSRs to define new Profile Specifications
538 or revise existing Profile Specifications must reference either the most recent Release version of the
539 Platform Edition Specification they are based upon or a newer version of that Specification that is un-
540 der development via an active UJSR.

541 **3.3.1.4 Platform inclusion**

542 JSR submissions are required to state whether the JSR's RI and TCK will be delivered as part of a
543 Profile or Platform Edition, in standalone manner, or both. The final decision as to whether a specific
544 JSR is included in a Profile or a Platform Edition is made by the Spec Lead and Expert Group of the
545 Platform Edition or Profile JSR, and is confirmed by the EC ballots on the relevant JSR. If the Spec
546 Lead for the Platform Edition or Profile JSR turns down a request for inclusion then the JSR must de-
547 liver a standalone RI and TCK.

548 Technologies may be incorporated into a Profile or Platform Edition after having been initially delivered
549 standalone. A JSR for a new version of an API that proposes to become part of a Profile or Platform
550 Edition and is considering discontinuing standalone availability must state the rationale for this change
551 and must inform the public of the intention to discontinue the availability of the standalone RI, and TCK
552 one JSR release in advance.

553 **3.3.2 JSR review**

554 When a JSR is received, the PMO shall give it a tracking number, create its JSR Page, announce the
555 proposed JSR to the public, and begin JSR Review. Comments on the JSR should be provided
556 through the JSR's public feedback communication mechanism. Comments shall be forwarded to the
557 EC for its consideration and shall be made available from the JSR Page (similar comments may be
558 consolidated.)

559 Members who are interested in joining the Expert Group or participating as Contributors should identi-
560 fy themselves by informing the Spec Lead and the PMO. The Spec Lead is encouraged to actively re-

561 cruit EG members and Contributors during this period and to update the JSR Page with the names of
562 those who wish to help, since demonstrating broad interest in and diversity of representation on the
563 JSR will significantly increase the chances of the EC approving it.

564 If the Member contributing the Spec Lead withdraws from the JCP before the JSR is approved the
565 PMO shall request the preliminary Expert Group to choose a replacement.

566 **3.3.2.1 Disclosure of licensing terms**

567 The Spec Lead is responsible for developing the Reference Implementation and Technology Compati-
568 bility Kit and for licensing them as described in the JSPA. The Spec Lead must provide the EC with
569 complete copies of the proposed Specification, RI, and TCK licenses no later than the start of JSR
570 Review. The PMO will publish the licenses on the JSR Page. EC members should provide feedback
571 on the terms as an indication of how the community as a whole might react to the terms. If EC mem-
572 bers believe that the proposed licensing terms are not compatible with the licensing guidelines estab-
573 lished for use within the JCP, then balloting on the proposed JSR shall be delayed until Oracle legal
574 provides an opinion on the matter.

575 **3.3.3 JSR Approval Ballot and Expert Group formation**

576 After the JSR Review EC members shall review the JSR and any comments received, and cast their
577 ballot to decide if the JSR should be approved.

578
579 If the JSR Approval Ballot fails, the PMO shall send all EC comments to the JSR submitter(s) who may
580 revise the JSR and resubmit it within 14 days. If a revised JSR is not received in that time, the original
581 EC decision shall stand and the JSR shall be closed. If a revised JSR is received, the PMO shall post
582 it to the JSR Page, announce the revised JSR to the public, and send it to all EC members for a JSR
583 Reconsideration Ballot. If that ballot fails, the JSR shall be closed.

584
585 After JSR approval the PMO instructs the Spec Lead to formally create the Expert Group and to identi-
586 fy the Members who will serve as Contributors. The PMO will update the JSR Page accordingly.

587 **3.4 Draft releases**

588 **3.4.1 Write the first draft of the Specification**

589 The Expert Group should begin work by considering the requirements set forth in the JSR, any con-
590 tributed documents or technology descriptions, comments received during JSR Review and, if this is a
591 revision of an existing Specification, the Issue List maintained by the Maintenance Lead (see section
592 3.6.) Additional input can be obtained from discussions with other Members, industry groups, software
593 developers, end-users, and academics. The goal is to define requirements and then write a draft
594 Specification suitable for review by the community and the public.

595 When the Expert Group decides that the first draft is ready for review, the Spec Lead shall send the
596 draft, along with any additional files required for review, to the PMO. The Spec Lead should also sug-
597 gest the length of the Early Draft Review period if the Expert Group feels it should go beyond the min-
598 imum 30 days.

599 Multiple Early Drafts (and Early Draft Reviews) are encouraged where the Expert Group feels that this
600 would be helpful.

601 **3.4.2 Early Draft Review**

602 Refinement of the draft Specification begins when the PMO posts it to the JCP Website and announc-
603 es the start of Early Draft Review. The goal of Early Draft Review is to get the draft Specification into a
604 form suitable for Public Review as quickly as possible by uncovering and correcting major problems
605 with the draft. Early Draft Review is an early-access review, and should ideally take place when the
606 Specification still has some unresolved issues. The public's participation in Early Draft Review is an

607 important part of the process since in the past comments from the public have raised fundamental ar-
608 chitectural and technological issues that have considerably improved some Specifications.

609 **3.4.3 Updating the draft during Early Draft Review**

610 If the Expert Group makes major revisions to the draft during Early Draft Review the Spec Lead should
611 send the revised draft, along with a synopsis of the changes, to the PMO, which shall publish these
612 online and make them available for download by the public.

613 After the Early Draft Review period has ended, the Expert Group can make any additional changes to
614 the draft it deems necessary in response to comments before submitting the draft to the PMO for the
615 next review.

616 **3.4.4 Public Review**

617 Public Review begins when the PMO posts a new draft Specification on the JCP Website and an-
618 nounces its availability for public review and comment.

619 The Spec Lead is responsible for ensuring that all comments are read and considered. If those com-
620 ments result in revisions to the draft and those revisions result in major changes (in the opinion of the
621 Expert Group,) then the Spec Lead must send an updated draft (with a summary of the changes) to
622 the PMO at least 10 days before the review period ends. The PMO shall post the new draft and the
623 change summary on the JCP Website at least 7 days before the review period ends and shall notify
624 the public that the new draft is available.

625 **3.4.5 Public Review Ballot**

626 The Public Review Ballot starts when the Public Review closes. At the close of balloting, all comments
627 submitted by EC members with their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO.

628 If the Public Draft Specification Ballot fails, the Expert Group will have 30 days to update the draft in
629 response to the concerns raised by the EC and to submit a revised version to the PMO. If a revised
630 draft is not received within 30 days, the original decision by the EC shall stand and the PMO will de-
631 clare the JSR closed. If a revision is received, the PMO shall forward it to the EC and initiate a Public
632 Draft Specification Reconsideration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all comments submitted by EC
633 members with their ballots shall be circulated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If this ballot fails, the
634 JSR will be closed and the Expert Group will be disbanded. If the JSR was a revision to an existing
635 Specification, the Spec Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification
636 (see section 3.6.)

637 **3.5 Final Release**

638 **3.5.1 Proposed Final Draft**

639 If the Public Review Ballot (or Reconsideration Ballot) is successful, the Expert Group shall prepare
640 the Proposed Final Draft of the Specification by completing any revisions it deems necessary to re-
641 spond to comments. The Spec Lead shall then send the Proposed Final Draft to the PMO, which shall
642 post it on the JCP Website for public download.

643 **3.5.2 Complete the RI and TCK**

644 The Spec Lead is responsible for the completion of both the RI and the TCK. JSRs that are targeted at
645 more than one platform are required to support each environment, which may require a separate RI
646 and TCK for each environment. If the RI and TCK uncover areas of the Specification that were under-
647 defined, incomplete, or ambiguous, the Spec Lead shall work with the Expert Group to correct those
648 deficiencies and then send a revised Specification together with a summary of the changes to the
649 PMO. Information shall be posted to the JCP Website. The Expert Group shall continue to consider
650 any further comments received during this time.

651 3.5.3 Establish a first-level TCK Appeals Process

652 The Spec Lead is also responsible for establishing a clearly defined First Level TCK Appeals Process
653 to address challenges to tests contained in the TCK. This process must be described in the TCK doc-
654 umentation. Implementers who are not satisfied with a first level decision should appeal to the EC by
655 documenting their concerns in an email message to the PMO. The PMO will circulate the request to
656 the EC, together with any information received from the ML concerning the rationale for the first-level
657 decision, and initiate a 7-day Appeal Ballot.

658 3.5.4 Update the deliverables in response to a TCK appeal

659 Depending on the nature of the problem, a successful TCK challenge will require updating one or
660 more of the TCK, the Specification, and the RI. Within 30 days of the close of a successful TCK Ap-
661 peal Ballot the Maintenance Lead must update these deliverables as necessary and report the chang-
662 es to the PMO when the Specification (if changed) and URLs for the updated RI and/or TCK are deliv-
663 ered for publication on the JCP Website.

664 3.5.5 Final Approval Ballot

665 When the Expert Group is satisfied that the TCK provides adequate test coverage, the RI correctly im-
666 plements the Specification, and the RI passes the TCK, the Spec Lead shall send the Final Draft of
667 the Specification to the PMO together with instructions on how EC members can obtain the RI and
668 TCK for evaluation. The PMO shall circulate the materials to the EC and initiate the Final Approval
669 Ballot. At the close of balloting, all EC comments shall be sent to the Expert Group by the PMO.

670 In order to assist the PMO in tracking the number of “Active JSRs”, at the time of submission of the
671 final materials the Spec Lead shall inform the PMO whether it is expected that the JSR will be further
672 developed via Maintenance Releases or a new follow-on JSR. The TCK submitted as part of the Final
673 Draft must meet the following requirements:

- 674 • Include documentation covering configuration and execution of the TCK, any other information
675 needed to use the TCK (e.g. documentation for any supplied tools,) a definition and explanation
676 of the First-level TCK Appeals Process, and the compatibility requirements that must be met in
677 addition to passing the TCK tests
- 678 • The compatibility requirements at a minimum must specify that all compatible implementations
 - 679 ○ fully implement the Spec(s) including all required interfaces and functionality, and
 - 680 ○ do not modify, subset, superset, or otherwise extend the Licensor Name Space, or in-
681 clude any public or protected packages, classes, Java interfaces, fields or methods
682 within the Licensor Name Space other than those required/authorized by the Specifica-
683 tion or Specifications being implemented.
- 684 • These requirements must apply unless the Specification or TCK explicitly allows exceptions.
- 685 • Be accompanied by a test harness, scripts or other means to automate the test execution and
686 recording of results.
- 687 • Include a TCK coverage document that will help EC members to evaluate the TCK's quality. This
688 document should include an overview of the documentation included in the TCK, a description of
689 means used to validate the quality of the TCK, the criteria used to measure TCK test coverage of
690 the Specification, test coverage numbers achieved, and a justification for the adequacy of TCK
691 quality and its test coverage.
- 692 • Provide 100% signature test coverage. These tests must ensure that all of the API signatures re-
693 quired by the Specification are completely implemented and that only API signatures required by
694 the Specification are included in the JSR's namespace.
- 695 • TCK license terms must permit implementers to freely and publicly discuss the testing process
696 and detailed TCK test results with all interested parties.

697 If the Final Approval Ballot fails, the Spec Lead will have 30 days to revise the Specification, RI, and
698 TCK in response to EC concerns and to resubmit modified materials to the PMO.

699 If no responses are received within 30 days the original decision of the EC shall stand, the PMO shall
700 close the JSR, and the Expert Group shall disband. If the JSR was a revision to an existing Specifica-
701 tion, the Spec Lead shall resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification (see sec-
702 tion 3.6.)

703 If a response is received, the PMO shall circulate it to all EC members for a Final Approval Reconsid-
704 eration Ballot. At the close of balloting, all ballot comments submitted by EC members shall be circu-
705 lated to the Expert Group by the PMO. If the reconsideration ballot fails, the JSR will be closed and the
706 Expert Group will disband. If the JSR was a revision to an existing Specification, the Spec Lead will
707 resume the role of Maintenance Lead of the current Specification (see section 3.6.).

708 3.5.6 Final Release

709 Within 14 days of a successful Final Approval Ballot or Reconsideration Ballot, the PMO shall publish
710 on the JCP Website the Specification and links to information on how to obtain the RI and TCK, and
711 shall announce the availability of these materials to both Members and the public. The published TCK
712 information must include a means for any interested party to obtain a copy of the TCK documentation
713 at no charge. Upon Final Release, the Expert Group will have completed its work and disbands. The
714 Spec Lead will typically become the Maintenance Lead and may call upon Expert Group members and
715 others for aid in that role.

716 The Maintenance Lead must ensure that the links to the RI and TCK remain valid. If the links become
717 non-functional the Maintenance Lead will have 30 days following notification from the PMO to correct
718 them. If the problems are not corrected the PMO will initiate a JSR Withdrawal Ballot (if no Mainte-
719 nance Release has been completed) or a Maintenance Release Withdrawal Ballot (if a Maintenance
720 Release has been made) to determine whether the Maintenance Lead shall be judged to have aban-
721 doned the JSR. If the ballot passes the JSR itself or the relevant Maintenance Release will be marked
722 as *withdrawn*.

723 3.6 Maintenance

724 3.6.1 Maintenance Lead responsibilities

725 The Maintenance Lead is expected to assume long term ownership of the Specification, RI, and TCK
726 while respecting the JCP Members' wishes regard to evolution. A Maintenance Lead shall therefore
727 automatically be the Spec Lead for all significant future revisions to their Specification but shall not
728 have the exclusive right to decide when a significant revision will take place (see section 3.3.1.1.)

729 The Maintenance Lead may, however, relinquish the role at any time as described in section 3.2.3.

730 The public may submit requests for clarification, interpretation, and enhancements to the Specification
731 by logging issues through the JSR's Issue Tracker.

732 The ML shall consider all requests and shall decide how and if the Specification should be updated in
733 response. The ML is not required to perform these tasks alone, but is free to consult with the former
734 members of the Expert Group, or any other sources, to assist with the Maintenance duties.

735 All changes proposed by the ML shall be incorporated into the Specification either through the Mainte-
736 nance Release process (described below) or through a new JSR. Changes appropriate for a Mainte-
737 nance Release include bug-fixes, clarifications of the Specification, changes to the implementation of
738 existing APIs, and implementation-specific enhancements. Changes introduced in Maintenance Re-
739 leases – for example, modifications to existing APIs or the addition of new APIs - must not break bina-
740 ry compatibility as defined by the Java Language Specification. Changes that would break binary
741 compatibility should therefore be deferred to a new JSR.

742 3.6.2 Maintenance Review

743 The Maintenance Lead shall document all proposed Specification changes through the Issue Tracker
744 and then send a request to the PMO to initiate a Maintenance Review. This request must be accom-

745 panied by an Issue List that summarizes all formal comments that have been received and that indi-
746 cates the disposition of each Issue. The Maintenance Lead must also supply a summary of the pro-
747 posed Specification changes, ideally in the form of a *diff* between the proposed and the current Speci-
748 fication. The Maintenance Lead must also provide an estimate of when the final materials for the
749 Maintenance Release will be delivered. If no estimate is provided the deadline will default to 30 days.

750 The PMO shall post the materials on the JCP Website for public review. By default the review period is
751 30 days, but if time is short the Maintenance Lead may request the PMO to grant an exception and
752 reduce the review period to 14 days.

753 The Maintenance Lead may choose to modify one or more of the proposed changes based on com-
754 ments received during the review. If so, the ML must deliver the appropriate modified materials to the
755 PMO no later than 10 days before the close of the review and the PMO must post them online no later
756 than 7 days before the close of the review.

757 3.6.3 Maintenance Review Ballot

758 At the close of the Maintenance Review the PMO shall initiate a Maintenance Review Ballot. During
759 this ballot EC members should vote 'yes' if they agree that the Maintenance Release should proceed
760 as the Spec Lead has proposed, and 'no' if they have objections to the proposed release on one of the
761 following grounds:

- 762 • One or more of the changes proposed by the Maintenance Lead is inappropriate for a Mainte-
763 nance Release and should be deferred to a follow-on JSR.
- 764 • An issue that was referenced in a conditional yes vote (when an EC member voted "yes" with a
765 comment stating the expectation that it would be addressed in the future) has not been ad-
766 dressed. The proposed Maintenance Release date is too far in the future. (EC members should
767 bear in mind that many Maintenance Releases need to be synchronized with updates to a Plat-
768 form, and that a Maintenance Review may therefore need to be carried out significantly in ad-
769 vance of the proposed Platform release.)
- 770 • Unreasonable changes have been made to the RI or TCK licensing terms.

771 'No' votes on other grounds shall be rejected by the PMO and shall be considered as abstentions. All
772 'no' votes must be accompanied by comments explaining the reason for the vote.

773 If the ballot fails, the Maintenance Lead may make any necessary corrections before requesting an-
774 other Maintenance Review and ballot. The process may be repeated any number of times.

775 3.6.4 Maintenance Release

776 After a successful Maintenance Review Ballot the Maintenance Lead will update the Specification, RI,
777 TCK, and Issue List as necessary and submit them to the PMO for publication in a Maintenance Re-
778 lease. The PMO verifies that the necessary changes have been made, and publishes the Specifica-
779 tion, the Issue List, and pointers to the RI and TCK on the JSR Web Page.

780 NOTE: until the Maintenance Release stage is reached any proposed changes should be considered
781 preliminary and subject to change, and therefore should not be implemented in shipping products.

782 If the Maintenance Lead fails to deliver the final materials within the time-period specified at the begin-
783 ning of the Maintenance Review process the PMO shall inform the Maintenance Lead of an impending
784 Maintenance Renewal Ballot, and shall request the Maintenance Lead to prepare a public statement
785 to the EC that explains the reason for the delay and provides a new deadline. 30 days after this re-
786 quest the PMO shall initiate a Maintenance Renewal Ballot to determine whether the deadline may be
787 extended as requested or whether the previous Maintenance Review should be rescinded and the
788 Maintenance Lead be required to go through another Maintenance Review.

789 **3.7 Executive Committee policies and procedures**

790 **3.7.1 Scope**

791 The Executive Committee (EC) oversees the development and evolution of the Java technologies
792 within the JCP.

793 **3.7.2 Membership**

794 The EC is composed of 25 Java Community Process Members whose seats are allocated as follows:
795 14 Ratified Seats, 7 Elected Seats, and 2 Community Seats, plus one permanent seat held by Oracle.
796 (Oracle's representative must not be a member of the PMO.) The EC is led by a non-voting Chair from
797 the PMO.

798 Full Members and Partner Members can run for election to EC seats. Associate JCP Members cannot
799 run for election.

800 No Member may hold more than one seat on the EC. Therefore, should a Member on the EC acquire
801 a majority ownership of another EC member, one of those members must resign his or her seat by the
802 effective date of the acquisition. Similarly, no Member may run for more than one EC seat, nor may
803 more than one individual Member or Partner Member employed by the same employer run for an EC
804 seat.

805 **3.7.3 EC duties and responsibilities**

806 The Executive Committee has the following responsibilities:

- 807 • Select JSRs for development within the JCP.
- 808 • Review and provide guidance on proposed licensing terms of proposed JSRs.
- 809 • Approve draft Specifications after Public Review.
- 810 • Ensure that publicly expressed issues/concerns with a JSR are addressed by the Expert Group.
- 811 • Give final approval to completed Specifications and their associated RIs and TCKs.
- 812 • Decide appeals of first-level TCK test challenges.
- 813 • Review proposed maintenance revisions and possibly require some to be carried out in a new
814 JSR.
- 815 • Approve the transfer of maintenance duties between Members.
- 816 • Decide when JSRs that have not made sufficient progress through the Process should be with-
817 drawn.
- 818 • Provide guidance to the PMO and JCP community to promote the efficient operation of the or-
819 ganization and to guide the evolution of Java platforms and technologies. Such guidance may be
820 provided by mechanisms such as publishing white papers, reports, or comments as the EC
821 deems appropriate to express the opinions of one or both Executive Committees.

822
823 Members of the Executive Committee should be dedicated to the principles of full and open competi-
824 tion, in full compliance with all applicable laws, including all antitrust laws of the United States and
825 other nations and governmental bodies as appropriate. Violations of such laws can result in criminal
826 as well as civil penalties for individuals as well as employers, depending on the jurisdiction. In particu-
827 lar, any discussion related to product pricing, methods or channels of distribution, division of markets
828 or allocation of customers, among other subjects, should be avoided.

829 **3.7.4 EC selection process and length of terms**

830 EC members serve two-year terms, which are staggered so that half of the seats are up for election
831 each year. Full Members and Partner JCP Members vote for the Ratified and Elected Seats. Associate
832 JCP Members vote for the Community Seats.

833 **3.7.4.1 Resignation of EC seats**

834 EC members may resign their seats at any time during their term.

835 EC members who fail to remain JCP Members forfeit their EC seat.

836 Seats may also be forfeited due to non-attendance at EC meetings, as specified in the EC Standing
837 Rules.

838 Vacated seats are normally filled for the remainder of their term by a special election ballot that will be
839 held no later than two months after the resignation unless the resignation is less than six months be-
840 fore the next scheduled annual election ballot.

841 **3.7.4.2 Election processes**

842 All Full Members are eligible to vote in ballots for Ratified and Elected Seats subject to the provision
843 that if a Member has majority-ownership of one or more other Members then that group of Members
844 shall collectively have one vote, which shall be cast by the person they designate to be their repre-
845 sentative for the ballot in question. Similarly, if there is more than one individual Full Member with the
846 same employer they will collectively have one vote, which shall be cast by the person they designate
847 to be their representative for the ballot in question.

848 Annual elections for Ratified, Elected and Community Seats shall be held simultaneously. Voting in
849 these elections shall start in the last quarter of the calendar year, four weeks after the close of the
850 nomination period.

851

852 In the interest of promoting transparency and participation in the election process the PMO shall or-
853 ganize teleconferences at which the Members have an opportunity to hear from and to ask questions
854 of the candidates. If a suitable venue such as JavaOne is available the PMO shall also organize a
855 public meeting with the same purpose.

856

857 **3.7.5 Selection process for Ratified Seats**

858 Members are selected for the Ratified Seats using a ratification ballot which is carried out as follows:

- 859 • The PMO nominates Members to fill the vacant Ratified Seats with due regard for balanced
860 community and regional representation.
- 861 • Full and Partner Members will vote to ratify each nominee over a 14-day ballot period.
- 862 • A nominee is ratified by a simple majority of those who cast a vote.
- 863 • If one or more of the nominees is not ratified by the vote, the PMO shall nominate additional
864 Members as needed and hold additional ratification ballots until the vacant seats are filled.

865 **3.7.6 Selection process for Elected and Community Seats**

866 Members are selected for the Elected and Community Seats using an open election process that is
867 carried out as follows:

- 868 • Six weeks before the ballot the PMO shall post on the public JCP site a complete description of
869 all materials (candidate statements, position papers, etc.) that candidates will be expected pro-
870 vide for posting during the election. At the same time the PMO shall announce that nominations
871 will be accepted for a period of at least 14 days.
- 872 • Full and Partner Members may nominate themselves for election to these seats except that em-
873 ployees of JCP Members cannot run for election in their own right and the PMO shall reject such
874 nominations.
- 875 • During the ballot Members may vote for as many nominees as there are vacant seats. (Full and
876 Partner Members may vote for Elected Seats; Associate members may vote for Community
877 Seats.)
- 878 • The nominees who receive the most votes shall fill the vacant Seats.

- 879
- If there is only one nominee for a vacant seat voters shall be given the opportunity to vote “yes” or “no” for that candidate. To be elected the candidate must obtain a simple majority.
- 880
- If there is no candidate for a vacant seat the ECs may choose to hold this seat open until the next election.
- 881
- Ties shall be decided by following the procedure defined in <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2777.txt> and
- 882
- using the calculator provided by W3C in <http://www.w3.org/2001/05/rfc2777>.
- 883
- 884

885 3.7.7 JSR ballot rules

- 886
- All JSR ballots shall be conducted electronically and the results made public.
- 887
- JSR ballots last 14 days except where otherwise noted in this document.
- 888
- EC members may cast three types of votes: "yes", "no" and “abstain”. Explicit abstentions are strongly discouraged. In the extreme and most undesirable case, an EC member may not vote at all.
- 889
- Only "yes" and "no" votes count in determining the result of a JSR ballot.
- 890
- Any vote may be accompanied by comments (which are particularly encouraged in the case of abstentions.) When comments include specific suggestions for change these should be logged in the Issue Tracker to ensure that they are addressed. "No" votes must be accompanied by references to the Issue Tracker items (if any) that if resolved would persuade the member to change the vote to "yes".
- 891
- JSR ballots are approved if (a) a majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, and (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast. Ballots are otherwise rejected.
- 892
- Ballots to approve Umbrella JSRs that define the initial version of a new Platform Edition Specification or JSRs that propose changes to the Java language are approved if (a) at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast, and (c) Oracle casts one of the "yes" votes. Ballots are otherwise rejected.
- 893
- When a failed JSR ballot results in the closing of a JSR, at least 30 days must pass before the JSR can be re-initiated.
- 894
- EC ballots to override a first-level decision on a TCK challenge are approved if (a) at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast are "yes" votes, and (b) a minimum of 5 "yes" votes are cast.
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908 APPENDIX A: REVISING THE JCP AND THE JSPA

909 Revisions to the Java Community Process (this document) and the Java Specification Participation Agreement shall be carried out using the Java Community Process with the following changes:

910

- 911
- Only EC members can initiate a JSR to revise one of these documents.
- 912
- The EC must approve the JSR.
- 913
- The Expert Group consists of all EC members with a member of the PMO as Spec Lead.
- 914
- There is no Reference Implementation or Technology Compatibility Kit to be delivered and no TCK appeals process to be defined.
- 915

916 Although no TCK is required for process-change JSRs it is still necessary to verify whether these JSRs are implemented completely, correctly, and successfully.

917

918

919 In addition to the modified documents (the Process Document and/or the JSPA) the Expert Group shall therefore publish a *JSR Review and Evaluation* form containing evaluation questions relating to each non-trivial change introduced by the JSR.

920

921

922

923 Within 12 months of completing the JSR the EC must to use this form to review and evaluate the implementation of the JSR. The EC should then take any actions it might think necessary to correct or improve any identified problems or omissions. In the interests of transparency the results of the review and a summary of all follow-on actions taken must be made public.

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927 **APPENDIX B: TRANSITIONING TO JCP 2.10**

928

929 In the previous version (2.9) of this Process Document there were only two different types of EC seats:
930 Nominated and Elected. In JCP 2.10 two of the existing Elected Seats will be reclassified as a third
931 type: Community Seats, which will be voted on by the new Associate members.

932 In order to ensure sufficient time to transition existing individual members to the new membership
933 classes (either Full Members with a signed Employer Contributor Agreement or Associate Members),
934 and to recruit a significant number of new Associate Members, the first election to be held under the
935 JCP 2.10 rules will be in 2016.

936 The transition from Elected Seats to Community Seats must be performed in a manner that is fair to all
937 Elected members; consequently all of those members will be required to run for reelection in 2016
938 when the new Community Seats will be created.

939 Candidates in the 2015 annual elections will be informed that if elected their term will be for only a sin-
940 gle year, since all candidates must stand for re-election in 2016. Members elected in 2016 will be
941 ranked to determine whether their initial term will be one or two years. The 50% of Elected and Com-
942 munity members who receive the most votes will serve an initial two-year term, while all others will
943 serve an initial one year term. All members elected in 2017 and subsequently will serve a two-year
944 term.