



Open Ajax
alliance

JavaOne

OpenAjax Alliance: Driving Ajax Standards and Interoperability

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Presenting on behalf of the OpenAjax Alliance

<http://www.openajax.org>

TS-9917

Goal

What You Will Gain

Learn how OpenAjax will accelerate adoption and success with RIAs, Web 2.0, and SOA

Agenda

Ajax Today

Ajax and Java™ Technology

OpenAjax Alliance's Objectives

Accomplishments to Date

Next Steps

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What Is Ajax?

- In a nutshell: the continued evolution of HTML
- Ajax definition
 - A set of programming techniques that deliver
 - Desktop-like user interfaces
 - Within the browser
 - Using open standards formats
 - Natively implemented in the browser
 - Without plugins (i.e., not Flash, WPF, or Java technology)
- Key technology piece is AJAX (XMLHttpRequest)
- But also includes many other techniques
 - Widget libraries
 - Animation effects
 - Layout managers
 - Data binding, web services, local storage, server push...

Today's Ajax Ecosystem

- Huge support within the industry
 - On technology roadmap of most enterprises
 - Hundreds of commercial Ajax products
 - Dozens of Ajax open source projects
- Wide range of choices
 - Free vs. commercial
 - Server-side vs. client-side
 - Java platform vs. .NET
 - Programming-oriented vs. markup-oriented
 - Rich feature set vs. simple

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Ajax and Java Technology

- Lots of Java technology community interest in Ajax
- Ajax presents problems
 - Original Servlet APIs not designed for Ajax
 - Original JavaServer™ Faces platform not designed for Ajax (and Ajax toolkits)
 - One thread per connection doesn't scale
 - Comet (server push) makes it much worse
- Good news: community is working hard
 - Java Community ProcessSM (JCPSM)
 - Java technology open source projects
 - OpenAjax Alliance

OpenAjax Alliance and Java Technology

- Our client focus is totally around JavaScript™ technology
- For servers, we are technology-independent
 - Members include Sun (Java technology), MS (.NET), Zend (PHP)
 - Working on technology-independent server push
 - Working on technology-independent Ajax component wrappers
- Nevertheless
 - Java technology community is very important to OpenAjax Alliance
 - We are collaborating with leaders from Java technology community

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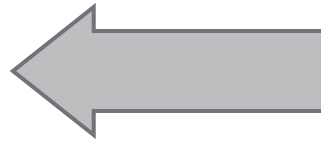
Accomplishments to Date

Next Steps

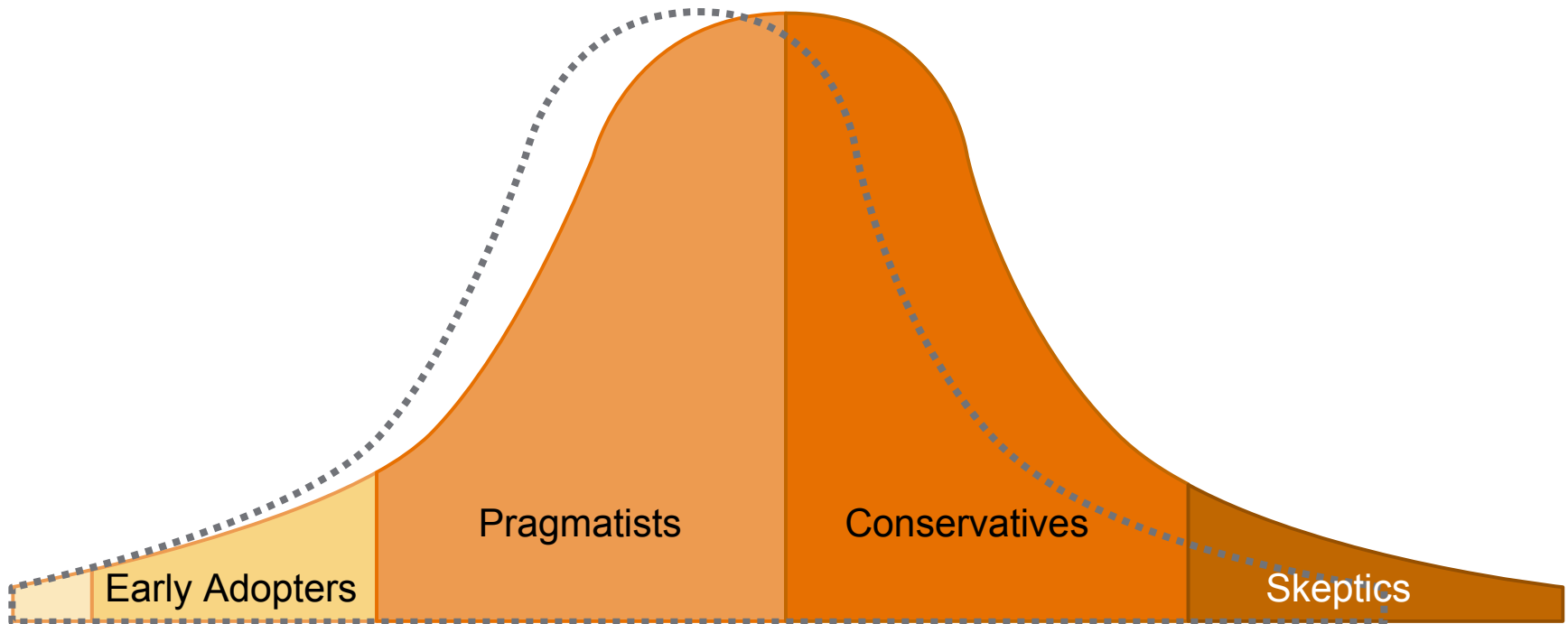
OpenAjax Alliance Objectives

- Strategic
 - Accelerate Ajax adoption and success
 - Boost innovation and Web 2.0
 - Perpetuate the open nature of the web
- Technical
 - Drive Ajax interoperability standards
 - Deliver open source to accelerate adoption
- Marketing
 - Provide central point for information
 - Promote OpenAjax conformance as industry requirement

OpenAjax Mission



Accelerate Ajax adoption and success with mainstream developers



OpenAjax Alliance Benefits

- IT managers and web developers want interoperability
 - Mashups without worries
 - Vendor choice
 - Safety and certainty
 - Lower training costs
- IT managers and web developers need education
 - It's all complex and confusing
 - A tyranny of choice
- Industry needs a place to work together towards shared objectives
 - Technical standards
 - Marketing/educational materials

Our Vision

- Define and promote “OpenAjax Conformance”
 - Defined by our specs
 - Delivered by our open source
 - OpenAjax hub is the first step
 - Other features will be added over time
 - OpenAjax registry
 - OpenAjax best practices
 - IDE integration
- Make conformance an industry requirement
 - Promote OpenAjax conformance with all stakeholders

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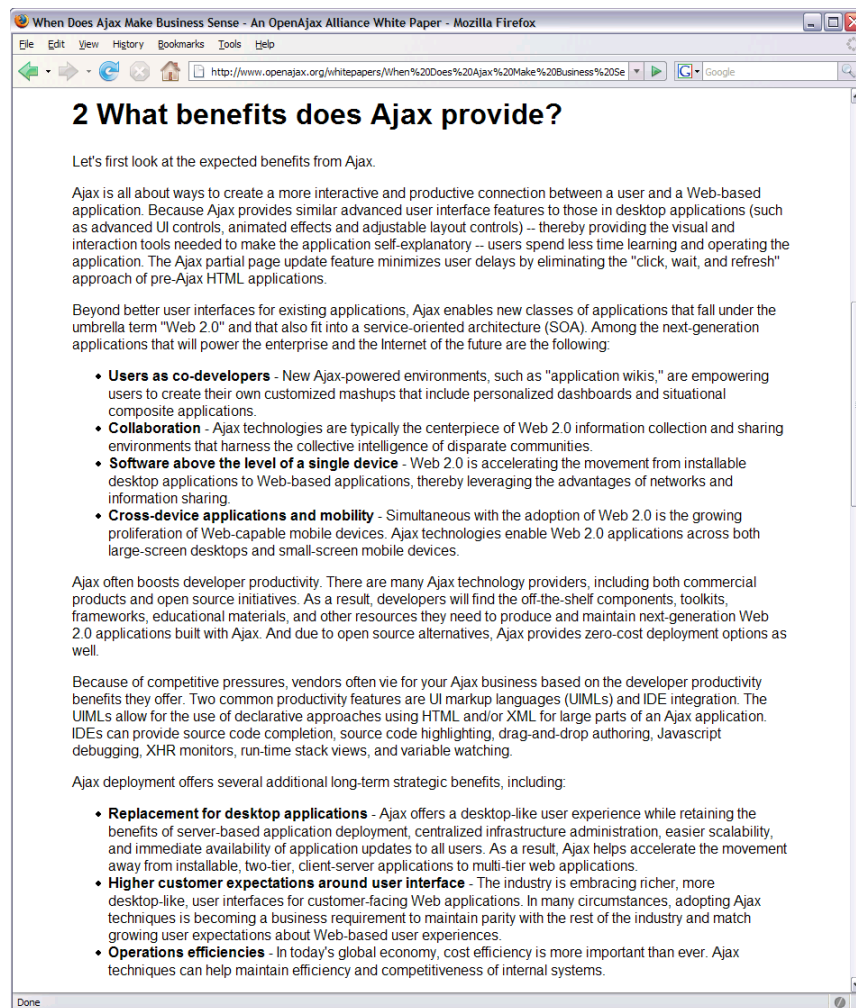
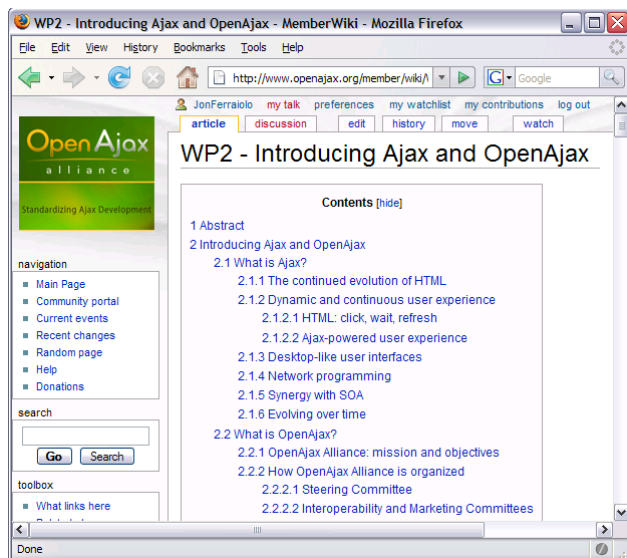
Next Steps

Organizational Accomplishments

- Process
 - Members agreement
 - Election of first Steering Committee
- Website
- Wiki
- Open source project
- Blog
- Membership growth (70+ members)
 - Microsoft and Google joined on March 20

White Papers <http://www.openajax.org/whitepapers.html>

Developed collaboratively on the Alliance's internal wiki



White Papers: Now There Are Four

1. Introducing Ajax and OpenAjax
2. When does Ajax make business sense
3. Next-generation applications using Ajax and OpenAjax
4. Successful deployment of Ajax and OpenAjax

Available at:


<http://www.openajax.org/White%20Papers.html>

OpenAjax Hub 1.0

- Features
 - Library manager—`OpenAjax.registerLibrary(...)`
 - Publish/subscribe event hub
 - Load/unload event notification leveraging event hub
 - Very small footprint—compressed size = 1.5K/1K
- Reference implementation at SourceForge
 - <http://openajaxallianc.sourceforge.net>
- Status
 - Spec and reference implementation finished (initial version)
 - Ajax toolkits have begun to support it
 - InteropFest—see next slide

OpenAjax's First InteropFest

- Verifies that an Ajax library has successfully integrated with the OpenAjax Hub
- Out first attempt to demonstrate industry adoption of OpenAjax technologies
- 12 toolkits took the time to participate, despite the pre-release status of the Hub



OpenAjax Hub Basic Conformance Test - Mozilla Firefox

file:///C:/latest3/openajaxalliance/hub/trunk/conformancetests/interopfest-2007-03/

OpenAjax alliance Standardizing Ajax Development

OpenAjax Hub Basic Conformance Test

For library: SampleAjaxLibrary

1	OpenAjax Conformance Requirement (Libraries): Library Registration	TEST SUCCEEDED!!!
2	OpenAjax Conformance Requirement (Libraries): Globals Registration	TEST SUCCEEDED!!!
3	OpenAjax Conformance Requirement (Libraries): Load/Unload Handlers Registered Indirectly Through the Hub	TEST SUCCEEDED!!!
4	OpenAjax Hub Publish/Subscribe Test	TEST SUCCEEDED!!!
5	OpenAjax Hub Markup Scanner Test	TEST SUCCEEDED!!!

Done

http://www.openajax.org/member/wiki/InteropFest_2007_March

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OpenAjax Registry

- Ajax toolkit and JavaScript technology global object registration authority
 - Primary goal: help prevent JavaScript technology object collision within complex Ajax applications
 - Registry managed by OpenAjax's Interoperability WG
- Current thinking: to register, probably will just need to submit a snippet of JSON, such as:

```
{ "prefix": "OpenAjax",  
  "namespaceURI": "http://openajax.org",  
  "globals": [ "OpenAjax", "OpenAjaxConfig" ] }
```

OpenAjax Best Practices

- Develop a set of specifications that define various categories of OpenAjax best practices
 - Library
 - Application
 - IDE
 - Server framework
 - Browser
- Two categories of “best practices”
 - Conformance requirements (small number of these)
 - Suggested best practices

IDE Integration

- IDE integration task force
 - Address the NxM problem
 - ~ 200 Ajax toolkits, ~ 10 Ajax IDEs
- Likely outcome
 - OpenAjax specification on standard way to encapsulate an Ajax widget for use with IDEs

Communications Hub

- Server push is highly desirable, particularly in conjunction with mashups and portals
 - But browsers only allow two connections per web page
- Possible outcomes
 - New client-side feature within OpenAjax Hub 1.1
 - Client-server messaging protocol
 - Server-side communications hub

Ajax Security

- Security Task Force will recommend what OpenAjax should do in the area of Ajax security
- Avoid overlap with W3C and other organizations also working on Ajax security issues
- OpenAjax most likely will play an educational role, may also pursue technical initiatives

Mobile Ajax

- Important new frontier for Ajax
- (Likely) mobile Ajax workshop this spring
 - Co-sponsored by W3C/MWI and OpenAjax Alliance
 - Key questions
 - What should W3C do?
 - What should OpenAjax do?

Summary

- Ajax is:
 - A phenomenon that is happening now
 - The industry standard client for Web 2.0 and SOA
 - The continued evolution of HTML
- OpenAjax alliance
 - Driving Ajax standards and interoperability
 - Educating the community about how to be successful with Ajax
 - Establishing industry trust brand “OpenAjax Conformance”

How to Join

- Two simple steps
 1. Sign members agreement
 2. Send an e-mail listing names/e-mails of participants
- No fees
- Instructions at <http://www.openajax.org/join.html>

For More Information

- Website: <http://www.openajax.org>
- Wiki: <http://www.openajax.org/member/wiki>
- Blog: <http://www.openajax.org/blog>
- Mail list: public@openajax.org
- My e-mail: Jon Ferraiolo <jferrai@us.ibm.com>



Q&A

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