



Java
Community
Process



The JCP, Java & Open Source, Compatibility, ...

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Why a Java standard? Why these communities?



“The smartest people don't work for you”

- Bill Joy, co-founder Sun Microsystems

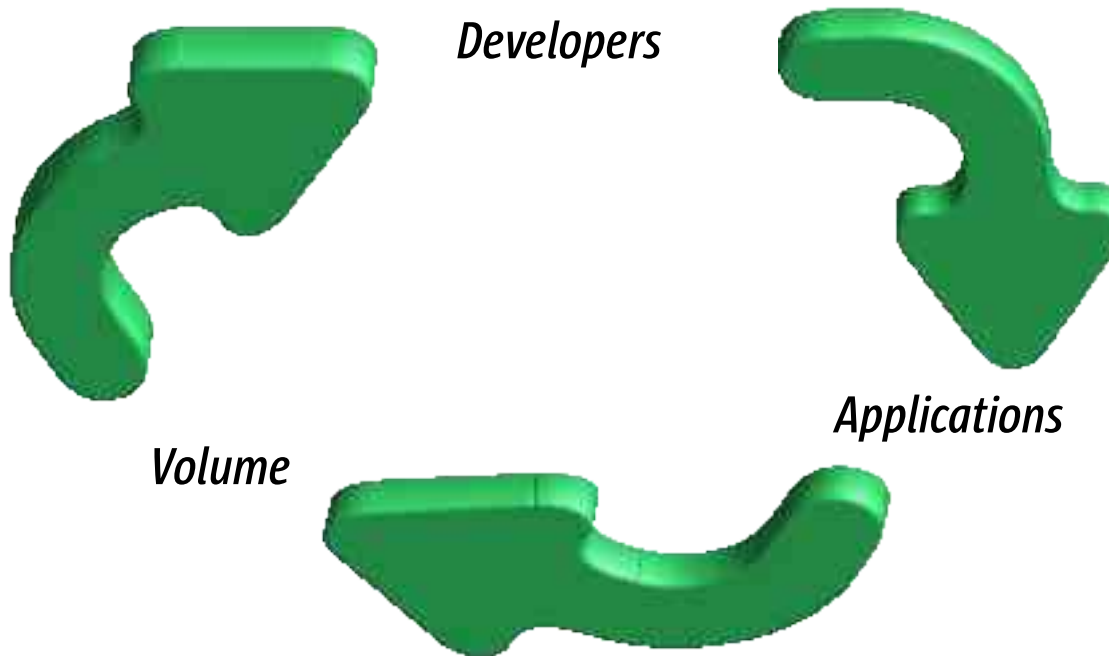
“History shows how abuses of the standards process
have impeded progress”

- Gordon Bell, Microsoft

“Deeds, not words shall speak me”

- John Fletcher, English dramatist

Circle of Business - With Java Technology



- **“Write Once, Run Anywhere”**
- **“Learn Once, Work Anywhere”**
- **Commitment to certain fundamentals**

Why Care About Conformance?



- **No standard without a test**
 - **No test without an implementation**
 - **Result:**
 - Economic opportunity
 - *Assurance of application portability*
 - *Level playing field for all implementers*
 - Technical Opportunity
 - *Assures end users that all “required” (i.e. Guaranteed) functionality is present*
 - *Enables developers to write to a specification instead of to an implementation*
- Programs don't read licenses

Programs are becoming networks



80's

90's

00's

10's

Client/Server

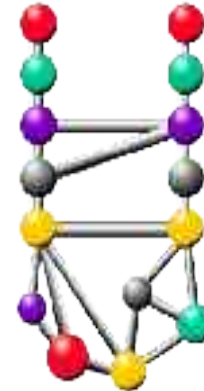
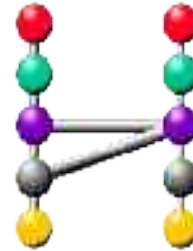
Objects

Web
Application

Web Service

Today

Next



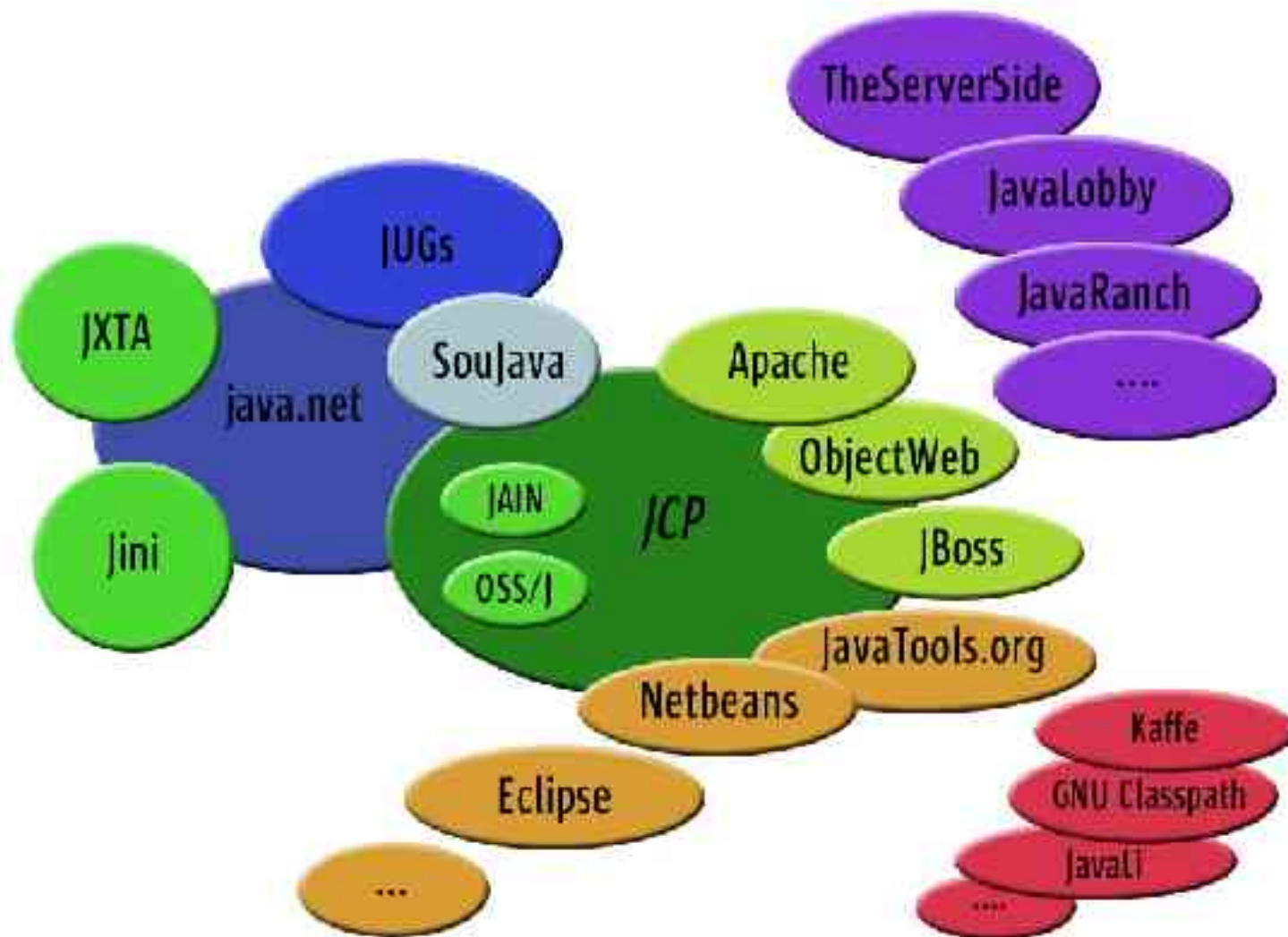
Network Computing

Pieces of software working together that have never met before

Pieces of software whose authors have never met before

Authors who may *never (need to) meet*

A Technology Of Communities



Which “JCP” was that again?



- **JC Penny ?**
- **Journal of Clinical Psycho-analysis ?**
- **Japanese Communist Party (www.jcp.or.jp) ?**
- **Jesuit Communication Project ?**
- **Judo Club Pforzheim ?**
- **Juventude Comunista Portugese ?**
- **Jeux Cours Programmes ?**
 - TI-89 :-)

Java Community Process, at a glance



- **World-wide community collaborating on establishing a **binary** software standard**
 - The promise to developers: Write Once, Run Anywhere
- **Each Java Specification Request (JSR) creates:**
 - Specification
 - Reference Implementation
 - Technology Compatibility Kit
- **Balancing speed, consensus and compatibility**
- **A republic**
 - Two Executive Committees

Two Executive Committees



- **ME EC**
 - Ericsson, IBM, Intel, Matsushita, Motorola, Nokia, NTT Docomo, Orange France, Philips, RIM, Samsung, Siemens, Sony-Ericsson, Sun, Symbian, Vodafone
- **SE/EE EC**
 - Apache Software Foundation, Apple, BEA, Borland, Fujitsu, Google, HP, IBM, IONA, Intel, JBoss, Doug Lea, Nortel, Oracle, SAP, Sun
- **3 year terms**
- **Yearly elections in the fall**
- **Anyone who is a JCP member is eligible**

Entities and roles in the JCP



- **Members**

- Companies (+/- 350), institutions (+/- 50) and individuals (+/- 500)

- **Spec Lead**

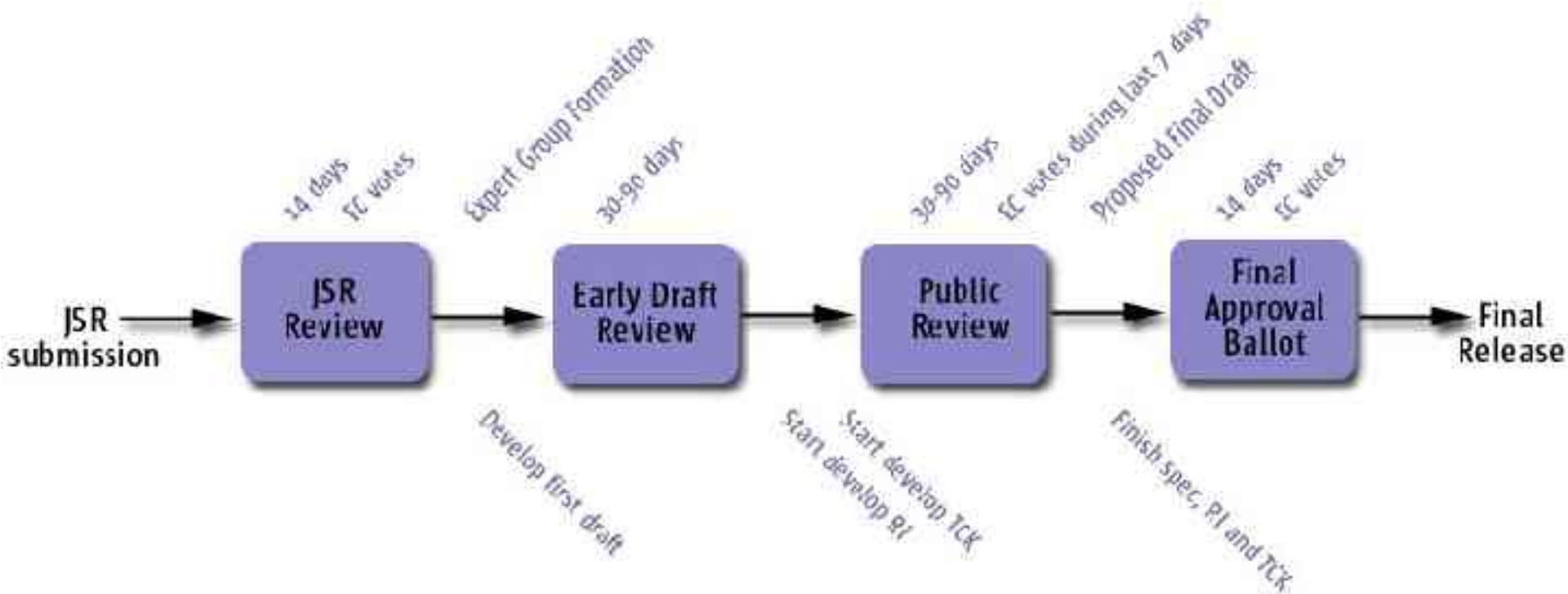
- **Expert Group**

- **Executive Committee**

- **Decision making**

- Spec Lead and Expert Group may choose their own model
- Executive Committee uses formal voting to approve JSRs

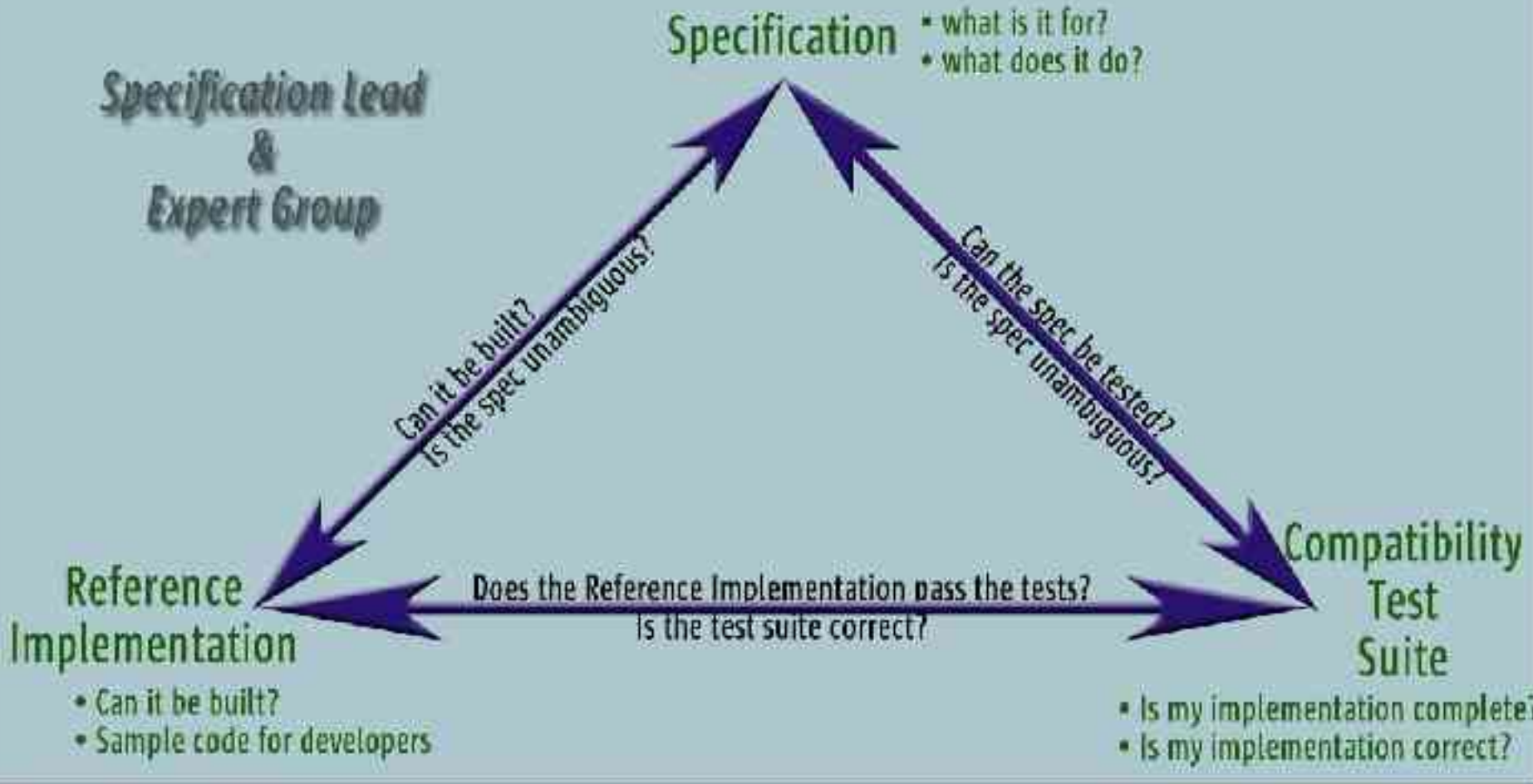
JCP: Timeline



What it takes to submit a JSR



- **Must be a member**
- **Technical motivation**
 - Problem statement, analysis of existing specs, scope of the proposal
- **Business motivation**
 - License terms for the JSR output, schedule, supporters for the proposal
- **What the EC may look for in its vote to approve**
 - Duplication/overlap with existing specs, credibility of submitter, credibility of sponsors, proposed scope, impact on the platforms



Java Specification Request (JSR)

(a proposal for a Java standard)

On JCP.org web site you can find for each JSR:



- Its web page, eg <http://jcp.org/jsr/detail/243.jsp>
- Its public feedback alias, eg jsr-243-comments@jcp.org
- The private area for the Expert Group
 - File exchange between spec lead and Expert Group members
 - Private mailing list, eg jsr-243-eg@java.sun.com
- Community page for the JSR
- Its schedule
- Its public drafts
- Ballot results and voting comments by the Executive Committee

Participating is like dating



Or -

**Spec Leads are from Mars,
Expert Group members are from Venus**

Communication is Everything



- *He never calls me!*
 - Don't be shy, don't wait to give your feedback. When you have feedback, give it.
- *She doesn't listen!*
 - Try again. Try to phrase your opinion in the context of the recipient.
- *He never buys me flowers!*
 - When someone makes the effort to give good feedback, show your appreciation
- *But she didn't say anything!*
 - Read between the lines



– Ask, ask, ask again



JCP & Open Source Software

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Java & Open Source Software

Open Standards and Open Source



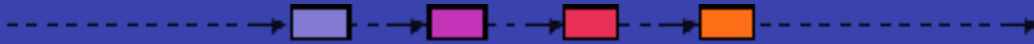
- **The JCP is about standards, specifications**
 - A well-defined open process to create and evolve Java specifications
 - Specifications which are publicly available
- **Open Source is about implementations**
- **Open Source is part of the JCP**
 - The freedom to use Open Source Software licenses for compatible implementations is guaranteed
 - At Spec Leads' discretion:
 - Whether or not to use open source license for RI, TCK
 - Many open source members:
 - eg Apache, JBoss Group, ObjectWeb, MySQL

“My bytes, my license”



- **No restrictions on your freedom of choice of business model beyond the Java community's first principle**
 - The binary software standard is the value proposition
- **Balancing commercial and non-commercial interests, continuing the growth of the Java ecology**
- **Removing unnecessary hurdles that prevent choice**
 - JCP requires that open source implementations are allowed
 - Sun's TCK Scholarship program
 - <http://java.sun.com/scholarship/>

So, what can and can't you do?



- Read, study and play with the code?
- Build your own implementation and release it under your favorite license?
- Make your own bug fixes?
- Contribute your bug fixes and have them included in the main source tree?
- What else?
- Check out Project Peabody on java.net:
 - <http://community.java.net/jdk/>

JCP's score card



- **The JCP was launched 6 years ago**
- **Currently there are approx 270 JSRs and 900 members**
- **On average 40-45 new JSRs per year**
- **A third of all JSRs have completed**
- **Sun leads less than half of all JSRs**
- **Together, in five years, the community developed:**
 - 3 versions of the Java platform for desktops (J2SE)
 - 3 versions of the Java platform for servers (J2EE)
 - 2 versions of the Java platform for phones and devices (J2ME)

Conclusion

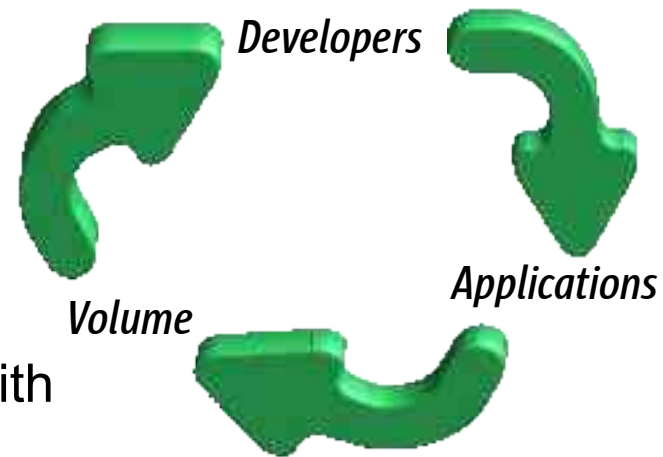


- **Those Principles:**

- A standard is only as good as its method of validation
- No “bureaucracy for bureaucracy's sake”
- “My bytes, my license”
- Trust and equality
- Ability to make tough decisions

- **Java as an Open Standard**

- The *Java Community Process*, together with
- 4+ million developers around the globe





Thank You!

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