

# **BEDIFFERENT**

ACE GERMANY



# Browser Neutral Client

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# Background

## ▶ Internet Explorer has been the primary browser for Aras Innovator since the beginning

- Initially the only browser in mainstream use
- Until recently, IE was the only browser that could handle the controls needed for the Aras UI
- Corporate adoption of alternate browsers and operating systems has trailed consumer adoption



## ▶ Controls (grid, toolbar, etc.) built using .NET

- Allows for UI similar to a desktop application
- Inherently Windows-only
- Require .NET security settings to work properly



# ECCO Project



## ▶ Aras subscriber ECCO decided to sponsored a project to provide an Aras client to their Mac OS X users

- Launched in late 2011 in cooperation with Aras partner Minerva
- Direct port of existing client to preserve familiar screens and functions
- All customizations needed to work cross-browser
- Required a path forward to standard product when released
- No support of Aras solutions or admin functions required
- Separate clients for IE users and Firefox users

❖ **Currently live and stable in production**

# Technology Decisions



## ▶ Multiple options considered

- Cross-platform .NET implementations (Mono, etc.)
- Compiled RIA technologies (Flash, Silverlight)
- Pure HTML5 vs. HTML5 with a framework



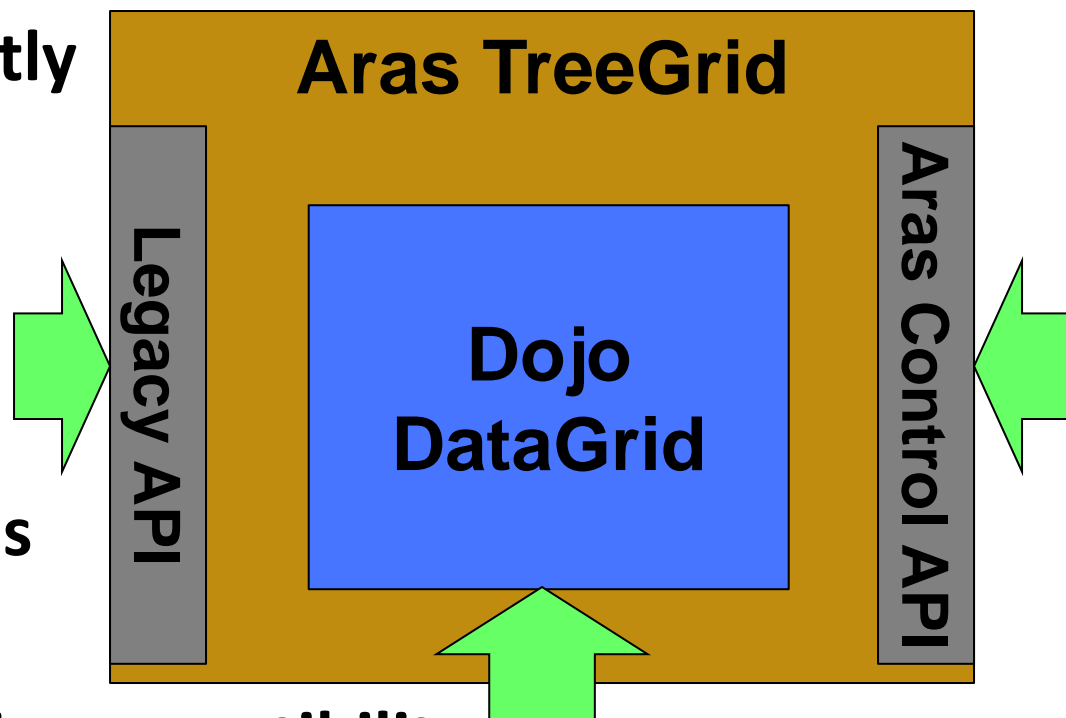
## ▶ JQuery vs. Dojo

- Engaged outside expertise for advice
- Prototyped controls using both technologies
- Dojo selected
  - Better suited for web applications (not web sites)
  - More consistent control library
  - Fits better with existing code style
  - Less pervasive than JQuery, but still widely adopted



# Dojo-based Controls

- ▶ Aras controls are mostly wrappers around existing Dojo controls
- ▶ Implement behaviors not present in standard Dojo controls
- ▶ Implement the legacy control API to maintain compatibility
- ▶ Create a new Aras control API that is more modern, more complete and better documented
- ▶ Dojo APIs still accessible if necessary



# Productization Process



- ▶ **Begin with codebase from the ECCO project**
- ▶ **Rewrite and refactor most of the existing Javascript code used by the IE client**
- ▶ **Create Aras controls and APIs**
- ▶ **Add support for solutions and administrative features**
- ▶ **Build a foundation for a proper client API**
- ▶ **Test extensively on all supported platforms**
- ▶ **Converge on a stable build**
- ▶ **Document, package and release**

# Roadmap



## ▶ **Beta to be available in the next few days**

- Currently in final packaging
- Installs as a separate instance for testing purposes only
- No upgrade path from existing db to beta or from beta db to final release

## ▶ **Additional beta version likely in early 2013**

- Depends on customer demand

## ▶ **Final release as Aras Innovator 10.0 in first half 2013**

- New client only – no more .NET client
- Upgrades expected to be both popular and time consuming
- Advance planning required for a smooth upgrade



# Platform Support



## ▶ Aras Innovator 9.4

- .NET Client only
- Browser Support: IE7, IE8, IE9, IE10
- Client OS Support: XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8
- Server OS Support: Windows Server 2003 +



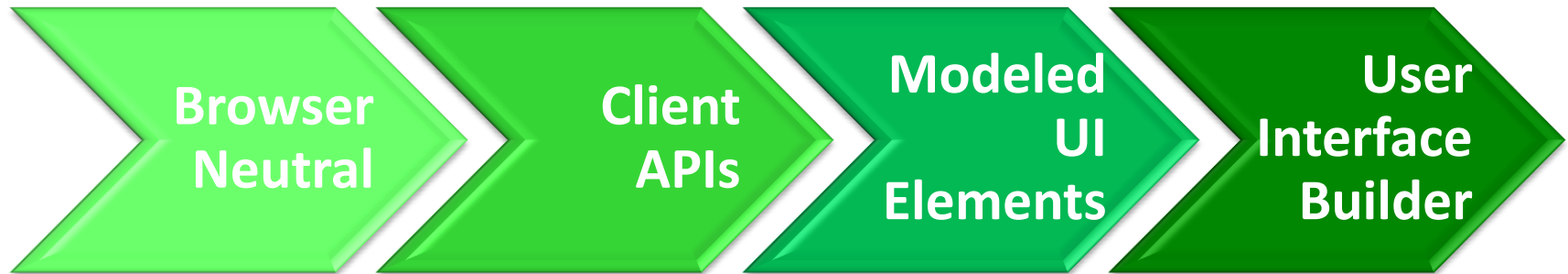
## ▶ Aras Innovator 10.0

- HTML5 Client only
- .NET security policies no longer required
- Browser Support: IE9, IE10, Firefox (Latest)
- Client OS Support: Windows 7, Windows 8, OS X (Latest)
- Server OS Support: Windows Server 2008 +



# Path Forward

- ▶ **Long term goal to deliver a set of client building blocks**
  - Drag and drop interface to combine UI elements
  - Deploy to browser, mobile or native platforms
  - PLM data to appear in many places, not just a monolithic client
- ▶ **Four step process to move forward**



- ▶ **Aras is aggressively adding development resources**
- ▶ **Momentum is growing...**

## ACE Germany

# Questions?

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