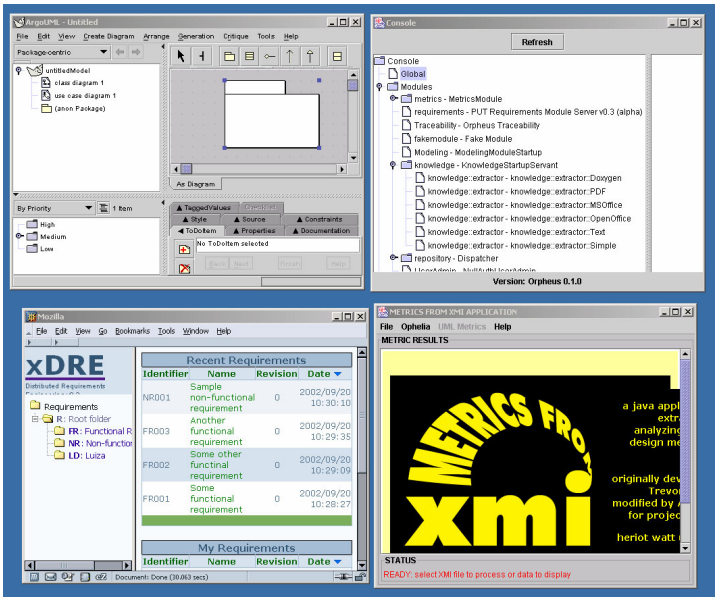
What is Orpheus?

Orpheus is an integrator, which works as a sort of reference implementation for the Ophelia technology. To understand its relationship with OPHELIA one can compare it to the web: while OPHELIA is a compilation of many different technologies (html, http), Orpheus is the implementation of a specific web browser. However, Orpheus has a much higher potential.



What does it consist of?

- A generic implementation of the kernel tools
  The implementation of each interface. Such implementations are required in any Ophelia enabled platform. Some administrative tools allow to look at what happens and to configure each single module.

- A set of tools addressing all the steps in the development process

- Abstract tool services implementation
  It provides services to the applications that are unable to "understand" the differences among object types. The advantages are: reduced complexity of modules implementation, de-synchronization, coaching of events, generic enumeration.

- Integrators and inter-tool applications
  These applications benefits from the homogeneous representation of the development environment provided by the Ophelia Technology. The most important samples are presently the Traceability and Knowledge Management module. They could be reused in any Ophelia enabled development platform.

- The portal
  It provides a customizable personal workspace based on the user and project identification. Additional external tools may also provide user interfaces to some or all of the information available from the Ophelia environment.

What is Orpheus for?

- Orpheus is the first real use of Ophelia technology
  Orpheus was created to validate the concepts introduced by Ophelia, it is meant to be used only as a demo. A special configuration, called "demo-server", allows to set it up on any type of O.S., only by a click, but it's not useful for a real environment. Anyone can download a copy and self install it. In alternative, it is possible to "play" with a test environment at www.opheliadev.org site, just using a java enabled web browser.

- A real development platform: for every day use
  Orpheus was built to meet the requirements of some large European software houses.
  It contains some of the "best of breed" development tools in the open source market, that have proven to be valid alternatives to the applications.

- An easy way to customize the development process
  The tool interchangeability feature of the Ophelia technology makes the replacement of an existing tool with an in home grown one, a straightforward process.
  It allows, in addition, to have mixed functionalities for a tool (for instance, repository functionalities can be provided by a set of tools, instead of just one).

- A collection of blocks to enable existing platforms to use the Ophelia technology
  Orpheus is highly modular, being composed by several blocks that can be easily reused elsewhere. Therefore, an existing development platform does not need to re-implement every interface required by Ophelia, it could, for instance, get from Orpheus just the kernel module implementation or some integration applications.

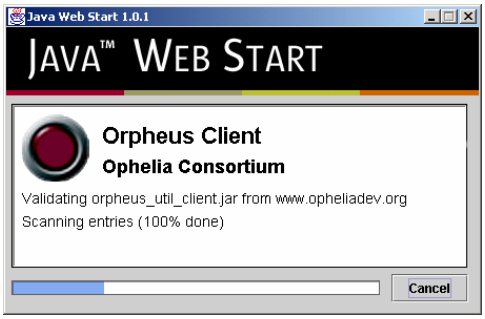
The technologies behind Orpheus

Orpheus is O.S. neutral, even if its customization could have as target a specific O.S.

On the server side:
To boost the performance, it is possible to start every server on the same machine in a single process.

On the client side:
It was built on Web & Java applet, with a significant use of JavaBean

- to simplify the integration inside the IDE.
- to reduce the administrative activities on the client side close to zero



Orpheus doesn't include any IDE, or privileges a particular one.

The **OPHELIA** (Open Platform and metHodologies for devELopment tools IntegrAtion) project is a European-funded research project that aims to produce a framework to support the information systems development lifecycle.

The framework, referred to as the OPHELIA platform, will provide a mechanism for the integration of tools in a distributed environment through the definition of a set of CORBA interfaces. This will enable users to establish customized OPHELIA solutions that best fit their development environment. The platform will deliver the potential for data management, traceability and decision support across international boundaries.
Internet: http://www.opheliadev.org/

The **OPHELIA consortium** is

OMEGA SISTEMI, Italy (http://www.omega-sistemi.it)
AZERTIA, Spain (http://www.azertia.es)
GUTURA, Germany (http://www.gutura.de/)
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY, United Kingdom (http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk/)
I.C.C.C., Czech Republic (http://www.iccc.cz/)
POZNAŃ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, Poland (http://www.put.poznan.pl/)

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