

# FESA3 Eclipse Plugin & User-Friendliness

# Motivation

- A software that is easy and intuitive to handle is more likely to be used...
- Basic steps / techniques and workarounds may be expected to be known by a developer, but...

# User Feedback 0

## Comments on FESA 3.0-beta @ GSI

- "FESA? Oh my god!"
- "Fesa eclipse plugin is working great and efficiently"

# User Feedback I

- **XML-Editor**
  - **Design-View**: in principle ok, but not always up-to-date, newly inserted elements may take some time and require extra-clicks
  - **Design-View** / Outline: sudden and unexpected jumps may happen, the currently displayed elements may change and irritate the developer
  - **Source-View**: XML-formatting of automatically inserted elements may be difficult to read because of missing line breaks
  - Best to use in combination of design and source view

# User Feedback II

- **XML-Editor**
  - Addition of child elements and attributes: sometimes not all possible entries are displayed.
  - Delayed updates lead to focus changes after addition of attributes, even when the user is already typing. → Result may be loss of newly typed content!

# User Feedback IV

- **FESA error messages should:**
  - be understandable
  - help to solve the error
  - be grammatically ok and should not contain spelling mistakes...
  
- **Desired FESA menu operations:**
  - copy of a class (automatic re-name)

# Issues to consider

- Simplicity of Installation / Updates
- Intuitive, efficient and pleasant GUI
- Easy troubleshooting
- Effective error handling

# Ideas for Improvements I

- **Development of FESA software**
  - More transparent error output
  - Less validation steps in XML documents
  - Better SVN integration
  - Possible improvements of built-in XML-Editor?
  - More C++-Code-Templates
  - Proper C++-Indexing and auto-completion
  - Improve view of C++-project display
- **Debugging**
  - Offer remote debug possibility



# Ideas for Improvements II

- **Deployment**
  - **During deployment of a deploy-unit:**
    - offer a wizard that offers the available instantiation documents for the available front-ends and lets the developer decide which instantiation will be deployed
- **Monitoring FESA3 software**
  - Better integration of FESA3 Navigator

# Ideas for Improvements III

- **Documentation**
  - better integration by automatically inserting the description element for every element automatically
- **SVN usage**
  - e.g. pre-configuration of `.svnignore` to ignore binaries and intermediate-files
  - simplify by commit at push of a button

# Way to go

- Evaluate improvements on XML editing
- Improve user-friendliness wherever possible
  - general work-flow / wizards / ...
- Improve error messages and error display:
  - let the user know what went probably wrong
- Simplify SVN usage / integration
- Database integration
- Improve deployment process of binaries and instantiation files



- Questions?
  - Ideas?
  - Wishes?
- Suggestions?