



## **GemStone Update**

Norm Green and:[ James Foster ]  
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**GEMTALK**  
SYSTEMS

## **Part 1**

# **GemTalk the Company**

# Our History

- 42 Years of Continuous Operation
  - Founded: 1982 (as Servio Logic Corporation)
  - First Version of GemStone Shipped: 1986
  - Name Changed from Servio to GemStone: 1995
  - Acquired by Brokat: July 2000
  - Management buyout: June 2001
  - Acquired by VMware: May 2010
  - Acquired by GemTalk Systems: May 2013

# GemStone Powered Business

## Financial and Trading Vertical

The logo for JPMorganChase, featuring the text "JPMorganChase" in white on a dark blue background, with a small white icon of a square with a circle inside.

**Kapital** is the world leading derivatives trading and management system – since 1993

The logo for ICE, featuring a blue square outline with the text "ICE" in blue and "TRADE THE WORLD™" in a smaller font below it.

**ICE** is the world's fastest growing electronic trading exchange – since 1994

The logo for momentum, featuring the word "momentum" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font, with the "m" in red and the rest in black.

**MMI Holdings** – Financial portfolio management system. – since 1995

The logo for Lifeware, featuring a red arrow pointing right, followed by the word "Lifeware" in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

**Lifeware** – Cloud-based insurance management solutions – since 2000

The logo for Guava, featuring the word "Guava" in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.

**Guava** – Financial & treasury Software – since 1998

# GemStone Powered Business

## Manufacturing Vertical



**Works** application for semiconductor manufacturing  
– since 1991



Semiconductor manufacturing software – since 1998



HVAC software – since 2012



Adhesives Manufacturing – since 1997

# GemStone Powered Business

## Utilities Vertical



*TCMS II*- Trouble Call Management System V2

GemTalk provides remote administration and emergency on-call support to augment FPL staff

# GemStone Powered Business

## Telecommunications Vertical

The logo for Atos, consisting of the word "Atos" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

*CONDIS* – Inventory and cable management – since 1993

The logo for Telecom, featuring the word "TELECOM" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font above a blue curved line.

Telecom Service Provisioning for Argentina – since 2004

The logo for SPL TELE, featuring the letters "SPL" in a large, blue, sans-serif font, followed by "TELE" in a smaller font and three colored squares (blue, green, blue).

Telecom Workflow Management – since 2013

# GemStone Powered Business

## Government Vertical



Canada Border Services Agency  
Agence des services frontaliers du Canada

Border Security – since 1996



Norwegian Directorate  
of Immigration

Visa Processing – since 2004



Dutch Agricultural Institute – agriculture data collection  
– since 1998



# GemTalk Partners



**SIEMENS**



CCK. Financial Solutions.



sophisticated simplicity

**HOKUS**



# GemTalk In the Community...

- **Conferences and Groups**

- Pharo Consortium (Industrial Member)



- ESUG (Platinum Sponsor)



- FAST (Platinum Sponsor)



# The GemTalk Team





**GEMTALK**  
SYSTEMS

## **Part 2**

# **GemStone Software: A Lightning Tutorial**

**How Many Have A Good  
Feel For What  
GemStone Is?**

**How Many Have Actually  
Used GemStone ?**



## So What Is This GemStone Thing?

- A solution to the limitations of traditional Smalltalk:
  1. Object space limited to one VM.
  2. Object space limited to one host.
  3. Object space limited to available RAM.
  4. Object changes (since last image save) lost when VM exits.

# Welcome To The World Of GemStone!

- Object space visible to thousands of VMs on thousands of machines.
- Object space limited by disk, not RAM.
- Object changes managed by ACID transactions
  - Atomic
  - Consistent
  - Isolated
  - Durable
- Object changes guaranteed persistent once committed.

# Key Features Of GemStone

- Scalability
  - Billions of objects
  - Thousands of users.
  - Thousands of machines.
  - Thousands of transactions per second.
  - Terabytes of data.



# Key Features Of GemStone

- Concurrency
  - Multiple user sessions.
  - Built-in database transactions.
    - Commit
    - Abort
    - Continue
  - Optimistic Concurrency
    - Reduced Conflict Collections
  - Pessimistic Concurrency
    - Object-level read/write locks.
  - Namespaces
    - Shared and private.

# Key Features Of GemStone

- Security
  - Object-level security.
    - User, group, world permissions.
  - Login Security
    - User-id / Password
    - Single-Sign-On (GSSAPI / Kerberos)
    - LDAP
    - PAM
    - X509 Certificate
  - Administrative Privileges
    - #GarbageCollection
    - #OtherPassword
    - #SystemControl

## Key Features Of GemStone

- 100% Smalltalk (*“It’s turtles, all the way down”*)
  - All objects, all the time.
  - Classes, methods, blocks, exceptions.
  - ANSI Smalltalk compliant

# Key Features Of GemStone

- Very Large Collection Support
  - Collections of millions of objects.
  - Optimized searches using b-tree Indexes:
    - Equality Indexes ( $a = b$ )
      - *AllEmployees detect:{:each| each.lastName = 'Ducasse' }*
    - Identity Indexes ( $a == b$ )
      - *AllEmployees select:{:each| each.countryOfOrigin == #France }*

## Key Features Of GemStone

- Interfaces to Other Smalltalks
  - VisualWorks® - GemBuilder for VisualWorks®
  - VA Smalltalk® - GemBuilder for VA Smalltalk®
  - Pharo – tODE, GsDevKit, Sparkle, gt4Gemstone
  - Jade / Jadeite (Dolphin, open source)
- Interfaces To Other Languages
  - C/C++ - GemBuilder for C
  - Java – GemBuilder for Java
- Interfaces to Relational Databases
  - Oracle – GemConnect for Oracle
  - Postgres – GemConnect for Postgres (open source)
  - Sybase – GemConnect for Sybase (open source)

# GemStone/S 64 Platforms

- Object Server (Database)
  - Linux:
    - x86\_64 (Intel / AMD)
    - aarch64 (ARM)
  - Apple MacOS:
    - x86\_64
    - M1, M2 (Apple Silicone)
  - Oracle Solaris: x86\_64
  - IBM: AIX PowerPC 64 bit
  - Raspberry Pi aarch64
  
- Object Clients
  - All of the above, and:
    - Microsoft Windows 10,11

# GemBuilder for Smalltalk (GBS) Platforms

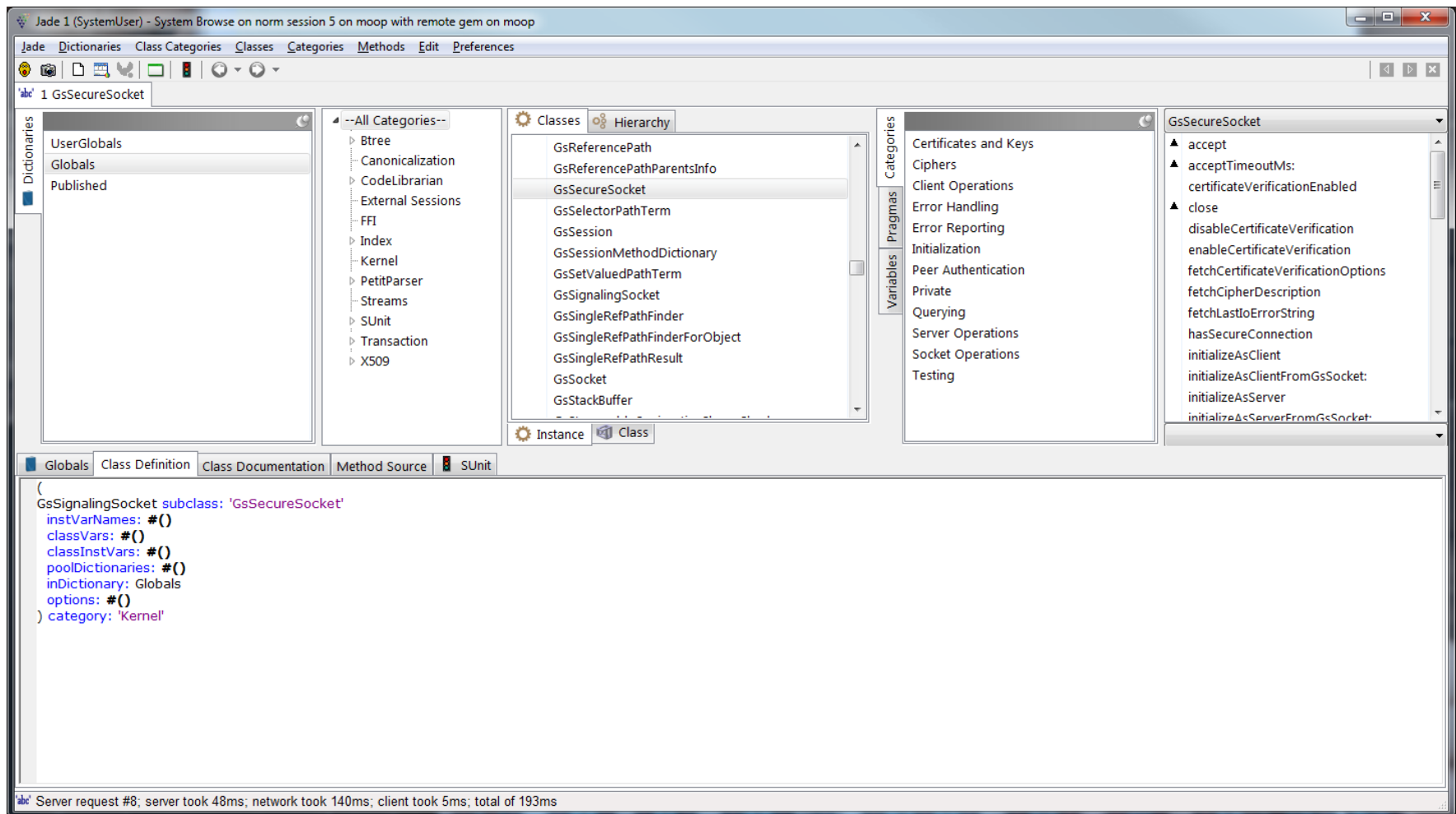
- Cincom<sup>®</sup> VisualWorks<sup>®</sup> 9.1.1, 9.3, 9.3.1
  - MS Windows 10/11
  - Linux 32/64 bit
- Instantiations VA Smalltalk<sup>™</sup> 11.0.1, 10.0.2, 8.6.3
  - MS Windows 10/11

# Jade IDE

- Open source IDE for all versions of GemStone
- Written in Dolphin Smalltalk by James Foster
- MS Windows only
- Supports all versions of GemStone
- Free of charge
- Rich set of tools
  - Browsers
  - Inspectors
  - Debuggers
- <https://github.com/jgfoster/Jade>



# Jade System Browser



The screenshot shows the Jade System Browser interface. The main window displays the class hierarchy for `GsSecureSocket`. The left pane shows the class hierarchy, and the right pane shows the class definition. The bottom pane shows the source code for the `GsSecureSocket` class.

**Class Hierarchy:**

- Kernel
  - GsSocket
  - GsStackBuffer
  - GsSingleRefPathResult
  - GsSingleRefPathFinderForObject
  - GsSingleRefPathFinder
  - GsSignalingSocket
  - GsSetValuedPathTerm
  - GsSessionMethodDictionary
  - GsSession
  - GsSelectorPathTerm
  - GsSecureSocket
  - GsReferencePathParentsInfo
  - GsReferencePath

**Class Definition:**

```
(
GsSignalingSocket subclass: 'GsSecureSocket'
instVarNames: #()
classVars: #()
classInstVars: #()
poolDictionaries: #()
inDictionary: Globals
options: #()
) category: 'Kernel'
```

**Source Code:**

```
(
GsSignalingSocket subclass: 'GsSecureSocket'
instVarNames: #()
classVars: #()
classInstVars: #()
poolDictionaries: #()
inDictionary: Globals
options: #()
) category: 'Kernel'
```

Server request #8; server took 48ms; network took 140ms; client took 5ms; total of 193ms

# Jadeite IDE

- Fork of the Jade project
- Currently in development at GemTalk for a customer in Europe
- Support for source code control with Rowan and Git
- Support for Tonal file format
- Migration tools from other SCM systems

# GemStone/S Licensing Models

- Community Editions
  - Free (as in beer) for any use (including commercial)
- Perpetual
  - Buy once, own it forever
- Annual Subscription
  - Pay annually, cancel any time.
- Value Added Reseller (VAR)
  - Percentage of royalties

# GemStone Community Edition

	<b>Starter</b>	<b>Limited</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Extended SPC</b>	<b>Extended CPU</b>	<b>Extended Full</b>
<b>License Kind</b>	Perpetual	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription
<b>Cores</b>	2	2	2	2	4	4
<b>SPC</b>	1 G	2 G	2G	4G	2G	4G
<b>Gems</b>	10	20	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Disk</b>	10G	50G	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Development DB</b>	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Production DB</b>	1	2	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Tech Support</b>	Community	Community	5 tickets	10 tickets	10 tickets	20 tickets
<b>Price</b>	Free	Free	\$1500/yr	\$3000/yr	\$3000/yr	\$6000/yr
<b>Distribution</b>	With Product	Email addr	Sales	Sales	Sales	Sales

# Support Models

- Web Support (24 x 7)
  - <https://techsupport.gemtalksystems.com>
  - Help requests processed 8 am – 5 pm Pacific Time
- Emergency 24 x 7 Support
  - Available for a premium
  - GemTalk provides an emergency phone number
  - Call back to the customer within 15 minutes
- Mailing Lists
  - GLASS – Open source projects: Seaside / GLASS / tODE
  - GemStone Smalltalk – GemStone-specific
  - Sign up at:
    - <https://lists.gemtalksystems.com/mailman/listinfo/>



**GEMTALK**  
SYSTEMS

## **Part 3**

# **Roadmap**

# Recent GS/64 Server Releases

- Version 3.7.x
  - 3.7.1: March 2024
- Version 3.6.x
  - 3.6.8: January 2024

# Version 3.7

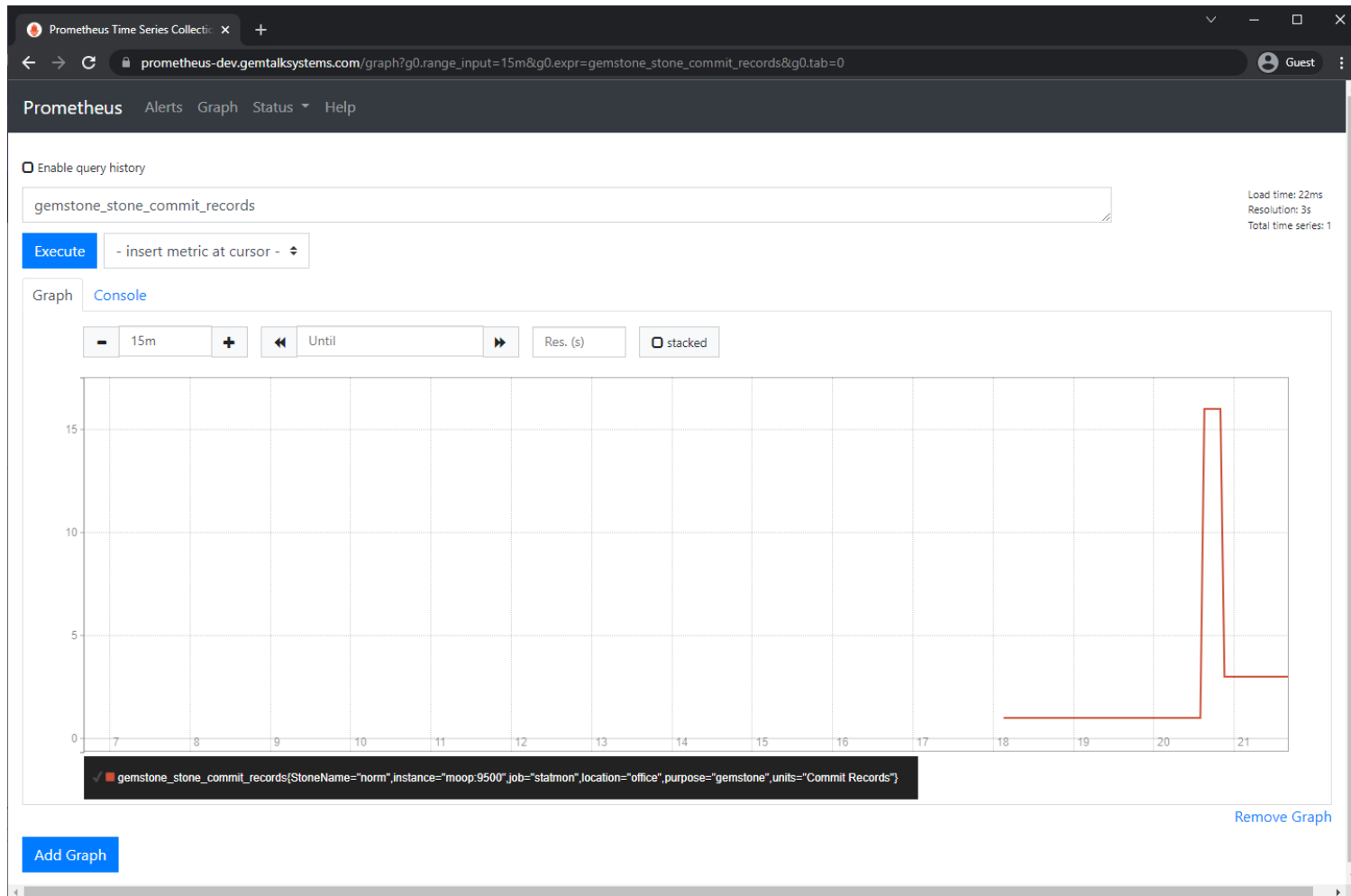
- Performance, performance, performance!
  - We've made (almost) everything faster
    - startstone
    - stopstone
    - markForCollection
    - Backup
    - Restore
    - page reclaim
    - Smalltalk VM (thanks Andres!)



# Version 3.7

- Support Monitoring GemStone with Prometheus
  - *“Prometheus is an open-source systems monitoring and alerting toolkit originally built at SoundCloud. Since its inception in 2012, many companies and organizations have adopted Prometheus, and the project has a very active developer and user community. It is now a standalone open source project and maintained independently of any company.”*  
- <https://prometheus.io>

# Prometheus Monitoring Sample



# Version 3.7

- Faster Smalltalk VM on x86\_64
  - Native code generator optimized by Andres Valloud
  - Reduce number of instructions and number of branches
  - Better branch prediction
  - Average ~35% improvement

# Version 3.7

- Microsoft Azure Customer Master Key (CMK) Support
  - Encrypted data stored in GemStone.
  - Encryption keys managed by Azure.

# Version 3.7

- Fast Instance Migration
  - Migrate and commit all instances of up to 2000 classes in a single operation.
  - Multi-threaded: uses multiple C threads for speed.
  - Typical Use Case: Add a new instance variable.

# Version 3.7

- OpenSSL upgraded from v1.1.1x to version v3.0.x
- ssh Support
  - New Class: GsSshSocket
  - Execute remote commands via ssh
- sftp Support
  - New Classes: GsSftpSocket, GsSftpRemoteFile
  - Upload and download files via sftp

# Version 3.7

- Faster Read Streams on Strings
  - New Class: ReadByteStream
  - Optimized for reading String and byte objects.
- String Auto Promotion to Unicode16
  - When a code point greater than 255 is added to a String, it is promoted to Unicode16.

# Version 3.7

- New Cryptographic Hash Methods (to play nicer with Pharo...)
  - We can now a hash result as any of:
    - LargeInteger
    - String
    - ByteArray (new)

```
`abc' perform: #sha256Sum
```

**-Answers a String of hex digits**

```
`abc' perform: #sha256SumBytes
```

**-Answers a ByteArray**



# Version 3.7

- Native Support for *FileSystem*
  - *FileSystem* is now included in the GemStone base image
  - Code ported from Pharo
  - Major Classes
    - *FileReference*
    - *FileSystem*
    - *FileLocator*
    - *FsFileDescriptor*

# Version 3.7

- New GsSecureSocket features:
  - GsSecureSocket == GemStone's TLS Socket Interface
  - Pre-shared keys (PSK)
    - Connect using a secret known to both the client and server.
  - Anonymous TLS
    - Encrypted connection with no authentication

# Version 3.7

- Customer-defined Special (Immediate) Objects
  - 16 new Immediate classes for use by customers
  - Each instance stores up to 56 bits of customer-defined data
  - Example: Money
    - Currency (4 bits):
      - Euro
      - US\$
      - CAN\$
      - Yen
    - Amount (52 bits)
      - Answers a Scaled Decimal
    - Example code shipped in:
      - `$GEMSTONE/examples/smalltalk/Money.gs`

# Version 3.7

- One-time Passwords
  - Create a temporary password valid for a single login.
  - Password lifetime specified in seconds.
  - Example:

```
GsCurrentSession currentSession  
    createOneTimePasswordForUserId: 'NormG'  
    validForSeconds: 60
```

# Version 3.7

- Rowan – GemStone's New Package Manager
  - In Progress
  - Preview Version Only (Rowan3)
  - Talk to Dale

# Version 3.7.1

- Native Code Support on Linux ARM64
  - 3.7.0 supports only interpreted mode
- Still More VM improvements on Linux x86\_64
  - Thanks Andres!
- Multiple Encryption Key Support
  - DARE = Data At Rest Encryption
  - Applies to encrypted extents, tranlogs and backups
  - Up to 24 public/private key pairs

# Version 3.7.1

- #dbTransient Support For Inst Vars
  - Previous support was “per-class”: all inst vars or none.
  - Now classes can mix #dbTransient inst vars with “normal” inst vars.
  - #dbTransient means “do not persist”.
    - nil stored at transaction commit time.

# Version 3.7.1

- New Collection Classes (thanks Martin!)
  - TreeDictionary
  - TreeSet
- Advantages:
  - Scalable
  - Optimized for GemStone
  - Better performance and space efficiency
  - No expensive hash table rebuilds
  - Shrinks as elements are removed



# Version 3.7.1

- `GsTsExternalSession forkAndDetachBlock:`
  - Forks a child session and detaches from the parent
  - Child continues if parent dies

# Version 3.7.2 and Beyond...

- GsSecureSocket Methods
  - #peerCertificate
  - #peerCertificateChain
  - #setExpectedHost: aHostName
  - #matchedPeerName
- GsX509Certificate Methods
  - #isSelfSigned
  - #issuerName
  - #subjectName
  - #subjectAlternateNames
  - #notBeforeTime
  - #notAfterTime
  - #isValidNow

# Version 3.7.2 and Beyond...

- Login with OAuth2
  - UserId and JSON Web Token (JWT)
- Traits are coming to GemStone!
  - Based on Pharo 12 Traits
  - API will differ from Pharo

# Version 3.7.2 and Beyond...

- Traits Features
  - Supported:
    - Abstract Methods
    - Stateful Traits
    - Traits Initialization
    - Tonel File Format
    - Trait Class Variables (not yet in Pharo!)
  - Not Supported:
    - Customize Method Received from a Trait
    - Customize inst vars received from a (stateful) Trait
    - Trait Composition
- **See:** <https://github.com/pharo-open-documentation/pharo-wiki/blob/master/General/Traits.md>

# Version 3.7.2 and Beyond...

- Native ROWAN support
  - ROWAN is a new package manager that supports FileTree and Tonel repositories.
  - <https://github.com/GemTalk/Rowan>
- Sparkle Project
  - *Not* GBS for Pharo
  - Inspectors and debuggers
  - (Still) a work In progress.
  - <https://github.com/GemTalk/Sparkle>
  - Martin's UK-STUG talk: <https://vimeo.com/676889959>

# Version 3.7.2 and Beyond...

- QUIC Network Protocol Support
  - New encrypted network protocol based on UDP.
  - Designed to replace TCP.
  - To be investigated once OpenSSL fully supports QUIC

# New Open-Source Projects

- Jadite For Pharo
  - Pharo IDE for GemStone Code Development Using Rowan
  - Work in progress, NOT ready for prime-time
  - Talk to Dale
    - <https://github.com/GemTalk/JadeiteForPharo>

# New Open-Source Projects

- GemConnect for Postgres
  - 100% Smalltalk code via FFI
  - Requires GemStone/64 v3.6.2 or later
  - Available as open source on github:
    - <https://github.com/GemTalk/GemConnect-for-Postgres>
- GemConnect for RabbitMQ
  - 100% Smalltalk code via FFI
  - Requires GemStone/64 v3.6.4 or later
  - Available as open source on github:
    - <https://github.com/GemTalk/GemConnectForRabbitMQ>



# Questions?

**Norman R. Green**

Senior VP & Chief Technical Officer



**GemTalk Systems LLC**

**15220 NW Greenbrier Pkwy., Suite 240**

**Beaverton, Oregon, 97006**

**Mobile: (503) 804-2041**

**[norm.green@gemtalksystems.com](mailto:norm.green@gemtalksystems.com)**

**[www.gemtalksystems.com](http://www.gemtalksystems.com)**