

Vorstellung eines erfolgreichen OS-Projektes: Apache Lenya

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Short Bio of Michael Wechner

- Math. Physics at ETH (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich)
- Computer simulations on dendritic growth (Max-Planck Institute)
- Co-Founder Wyona
- Co-Founder and former president of OSCOM
- Original Creator of Apache Lenya and ASF member
- Director of documentary movie "FUD - Fear Uncertainty Doubt"

Apache Lenya

- Open Source Content Management Framework/System
- Wired News (Lycos), Atlantic Media Company, NZZ, Mobilier, University of Zurich, ...
- Everything XML
- No vendor lock-in

History of Apache Lenya

- 1998/1999: "Physics": Journal of Pattern Formation
- 2000/2001: NZZ (Neue Zürcher Zeitung)
- 2003: Incubator of Apache Software Foundation
- 2004: Top Level Project of Apache Software Foundation
- 2006: Release 1.4
- 2007: Yanel/Yulup (Leaving the room ...?)

Apache Software Foundation

- 1995: To develop a HTTP server
- 1999: Incorporated as 501(c)(3) (non-profit)
- Provide a foundation for open collaborative software development
- Provide a legal entity
- Provide a shelter from legal suits
- Protect the Apache brand

Some ASF numbers (2006)

- approx. 1000 ASF committers
- approx. 200 ASF members
- 9 board members
- approx. 34 top level projects
- approx. 34 incubator projects

ASF philosophy

- Collaborative software development
- Commercial-friendly standard license
- Consistently high quality software
- Respectful, honest, technical-based interaction
- Faithful implementation of standards
- Security as a mandatory feature

"Classical" FOSS project/community

- One person has a need and starts a project
- People start to contribute
- People get involved with decisions
- The original creator is having new interests or is getting bored (leaving the room)

ASF Hierarchy

- User
- Contributor
- Committer (contract to be signed)
- Project Management Committee member
- ASF member (owner, contract to be signed)
- ASF board member
- ASF chairman/president

ASF Incubator

- Filtering the creation of new (sub-)projects
- Help on operational infrastructure
- Supervise and mentor the incubated community
- Quality assurance resp. evaluation of maturity

Sustainability

- Self-Regulation
- Critical Mass
- Socialization is not enough
- Guidelines/Bylaws, whereas the reasons are more important
- Knowing the reasons for "collaboration"
- Transparency

More Principles (Lessons learned ...)

- Eat your own dogfood
- Continuous integration
- Simplicity/Out-of-the-box
- Performance/Scalability/Redundancy
- Down/Upgradeability
- Forwards/Backwards Compatibility
- ...

Companies running OS projects

- Employees (Salaries)
- Shareholders (Profit)
- Business instead Development driven
- Conflicts of Interests re Open Development

Open Source "versus" Open Development

- Open Source: License "authorized" by OSI (Open Source Initiative)
- Open Development: Bylaws "authorized" by nobody yet!

It's about freedom

- What freedom?
- Who cares?
- Bruce Perens: It's time to talk again about free software

Being Pesimistic

- The monopoly is dead, long live the monopoly
- The revolution is dead, long live the revolution
- Media can be very misleading ...
- The summer of love
- Volunteer Fatigue

Being Optimistic

- Shift from one equilibrium to another equilibrium
- Competition has increased
- Prices have decreased
- Look back on what we have accomplished

Thanks and QA

- Thanks
- Questions and Answers