DEALING WITH OPEN SOURCE IN A LARGE COMPANY

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Who is Intel?

You may have heard of us...

• Leading manufacturer of computer, networking and communications products
• Headquartered in Santa Clara, California
• Over 100,000 employees, 190 sites in 90+ countries
  • Over 15,000 employees developing software
Intel and open source

Both consume and contribute

- Consistently a top or #1 contributor to Linux
- One of top contributors to AOSP/Chromium, Apache Spark, OpenStack
- Deliver enabling, tuning and optimizations to hundreds of open source projects

Entire business unit devoted to open source software development and evangelism

- But many other business units are active in open source, too!
Challenges (these might be familiar?)

Size and scope of operations
  • Who is doing what, where?

Heterogeneous org structures with varying levels of OSS knowledge
  • There’s a whole spectrum

Policies and practices must scale
  • Repeatable and understandable

Like a giant game of whack-a-mole
Formal OSS governance/compliance program is necessary to mitigate risks

Compliance isn't just a matter of law, but makes us better community citizens

Ideas for attributes of an effective program:

- Mandatory training
- Use of detection tools
- Review by panel of experts
Mandatory training

Open source licensing basics
- What it is, how it works
- Understand license obligations and how to fulfill them
- Identify potential license conflicts

Other topics
- Handling 3rd party IP
- Handling proprietary IP
Use of detection tools

Many tools available to detect presence of open source software—choose what works best for you.

But... don't rely on scanning alone to “know” what’s in your code.

- PLAN BEFORE DETECTION!
- Development teams should be trained to document the name, source, and license of any 3rd party code before incorporating into a project.
The ‘secret ingredient’: review by panel of experts

“Given enough eyeballs, all bugs are shallow”

Technical and legal representation

Peer review functionality (but not code review)

- Architectural review
- Feedback on likely community acceptance of a particular action or strategy
- Advice on community etiquette

Operates like an open source project

- Group of committers, maintainers, and BDFL
- All are welcome; members ‘rise to the top’ based on contributions
Demonstration of review by panel of experts

Francisco Goya, Escena de Inquisición (1808/1812)
Recommendations for companies of any size

Educate, educate, educate

Develop internal OSS community that role models best of OSS norms

• Forms basis for ‘expert review panel’