Navigating the Incubator Trenches

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Who am I?

http://twitter.com/johnament | http://github.com/johnament

Apache DeltaSpike PMC - it’s how I got started!
Active in the Incubator - how I learned The Apache Way
Other ASF projects - ActiveMQ, Usergrid, Juneau, Tamaya, Aria
Tosca, Pony Mail
Outside the ASF - Arquillian, Hammock
How to get these slides?

https://s.apache.org/jda_acna_2017
What is the Incubator?

• Where you (as a community) go to learn The Apache Way
• The main entry point for new projects
• The ASF does accept new Straight-to-TLP projects
  • Sometimes..
• This is for everything else
Why Come to the ASF?

- Open development community
- Move away from vendor driven development
- Strengthen an existing community
Why Incubate?

• You're unsure of the ASF's policies and need to learn them more
• You’re looking to learn The Apache Way
• You need to prove out your community growth
• You’re unsure of the actual licensing stance of your project
How to Incubate

• Find a Champion, someone who will answer your questions on a personal basis
• Draft a Proposal, giving good details about the project and why you think it's suitable
  • Your Champion will help you draft the proposal
• Find Mentors, who will help guide the podling into maturing
  • Hopefully your Champion is your first Mentor
Discuss & Vote

• Your discussion thread will lead to finding more potential contributors and mentors
  • Be selective

• Hold your first vote!
  • Someone from the incoming project should start the vote
  • Sometimes the Champion does it
Acceptance

• Once the incubator has approved you to join, it's time to get started at Apache
  • This is the time when you can start calling yourselves “Apache Foo”
• The Champion’s role is done
  • We hope they’re a mentor still
• Mentors should start helping with Podling Bootstrap
Migrating Development Over

• E-mail, e-mail, e-mail!
• Use our JIRA, or BugZilla
• GitHub is OK, with prior approval
  • If you’re using GitHub, may make sense to use GitHub Issues
Keeping Your Source Code Clean

• Start with a grant, ideally
• If you're an existing open source project, may not be needed
• Ideally, we want a consistent code base with appropriately licensed code
Grants & IP Clearance

• Either provide a software grant for the ASF to use the code
• Or go through IP Clearance to vet the code
Watch What you Import

• Always credit the original author
• Prefer transitive dependencies
Build a Community

• Open discussions get more people participating
• E-mail avoids “the loudest voice”
• It also helps with asynchronous processing - ensuring that your diverse community can be located anywhere in the world
Dependencies

• Take a close look at what licenses are approved, and what are banned
• If you don't see what you're using, don't assume, ask!
Getting a Release Out the Door

- Get in the habit of frequent releases
- Releases should get better each go around, fixing common license and notice content issues
Release Contents

• Apache produces Source Code Releases
• Convenience binaries can be published in addition to the source code
Naming Your Release

• The most common is "apache"-"podling"-"version"-"incubating"
• Incubating isn't part of the version
What goes in it?

• All of your source code
• Everything required to build it
• Don't include binaries in the source release
Stick Around for Justin's talk in a few minutes about Incubator Releases!
APACHE INCUBATOR

APACHECON

North America