Navigating the Apache Incubator

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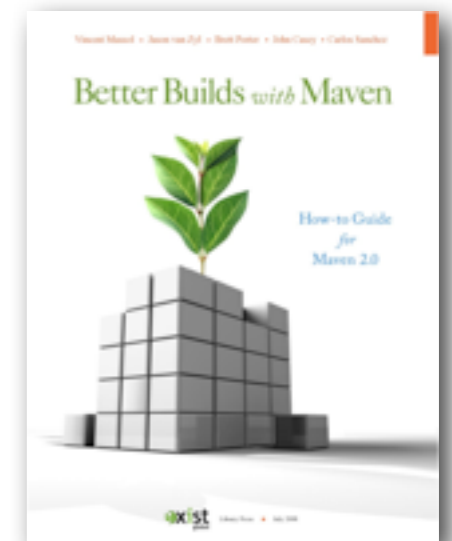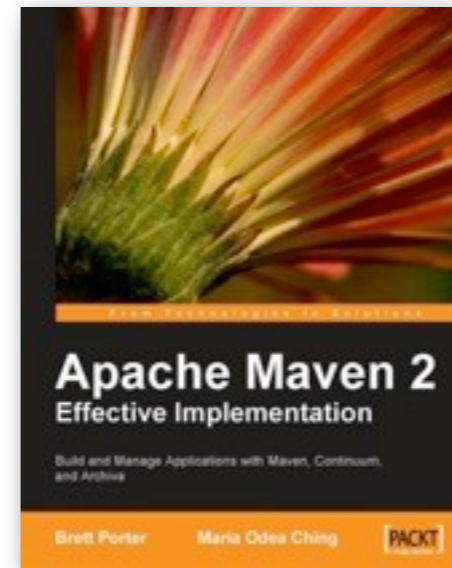Navigating the Apache Incubator - Brett Porter

Brett Porter

- Apache Software Foundation

  - Apache Maven, Archiva, Continuum, NPanday, Infrastructure, others

  - Mentor of a few podlings

  - Member and Director

- CTO, MaestroDev

- Apache Maven 2: Effective Implementation

- Better Builds with Maven

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Navigating the Incubator

- What is incubation all about

- Why Apache?

- Getting started

- Incubating

- Graduation, and the alternatives

- Examples

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What is the Incubator?

- Help existing projects join the Foundation

- Ensure all donations meet ASF legal standards

- Ensure they are compatible with ASF model of collaborative development

Becoming an Apache project is a process, not just a decision

-- Bertrand Delacrétaz

The incubator is not for projects

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Why Apache?

- "The Apache Way"

  - http://www.slideshare.net/jaaronfarr/the-apache-way

- Lots of support

- Opportunities for collaboration

- Be part of a wider community

- ... but not right for every project

What makes a successful Apache project?

- Many shapes and sizes

- Many different ways of doing development

- One common attitude to the approach

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Getting started

- Roles

- Proposal & Vote

- Infrastructure

- IP clearance

Roles

- Champion

- Mentor

- Incubator PMC

- Podling PMC (PPMC)

- Sponsoring project

Proposal

- More than a template - what is the project fit?

- Check the name you want to use is allowed!

- Improve it on the list

- Start a vote

Infrastructure

- Mailing lists

- Code repository and import

- Issue tracking and import, etc.

- Have a strategy in mind, and work it out on your new lists!

IP clearance

- Get it out of the way early!

- Use the status file as a guide

Incubating

- Community building

- Reports

- Releases

- Procedures

Community Building

- Often the most important part!

- ...but there is no "one size fits all" solution

- Make sure there are avenues of participation

- Be inclusive

Reports

- Quarterly reports, in the same way as top level projects

- Help Incubator PMC and Board understand current state of the podling

- Keep the status page up to date!

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Releases

- Incubator releases get the best review

- Release early and often

Other procedures

- Use the documentation, but don't obsess over it

- Borrow from other podlings

Graduating

- Don't get too comfortable

- Plan to graduate, don't wait for it to happen

- Be comfortable with your development and release process

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Graduation: How It Works

- Community discussion or vote

- Incubator vote

- Board resolution

What if it doesn't work out?

- Some fail to graduate

- Always "retired"

- Source code still available if it cleared IP

- Can be rebooted - inside or outside ASF

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Examples

- Subversion

- OpenEJB

- Heraldry

- Log4PHP

Summary

- Many types of projects can come to Apache

- Every new Apache project must survive incubation

- Incubation goes through phases

- It doesn't have to be painful

The incubator is not for projects

The incubator is not for projects

The incubator is for building community for your project

Set a course for graduation

Set a course for graduation

The incubator is just the beginning

Over to You!

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