

The Apache Way

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Overview

- ▣ Why does the ASF exist?
- ▣ How is it structured?
- ▣ How do projects work?
- ▣ Why should I get involved?
- ▣ How can I get involved?



Why does the ASF exist?

- To support collaborative development
 - of open-source software
 - controlled by developers themselves
 - from diverse organizations
- No strategic goals



What is the ASF?

- A US non-profit corporation
 - operated by volunteers worldwide
- Nearly 100 projects
 - with thousands of contributors



Apache Philosophy

- Community is critical
 - good code will follow
- Apache License
 - non-viral, permits proprietary distributions
 - carrot, not stick



Structure of the ASF

- ▣ Bottom-up organization
 - ▣ volunteer organization cannot be top-down
- ▣ Composed of
 - ▣ Projects
 - ▣ each a community
- ▣ Board of Directors
 - ▣ monitors projects
- ▣ ASF Members
 - ▣ elect board and new members



How do projects work?

- Contributors contribute code
- Committers commit code to project
- PMC votes to make
 - releases
 - contributors into committers
 - committers into PMC members
- PMC Chairman reports to board



How do projects make decisions?

- operate transparently, in public
 - email & bugtracker preferred
 - decisions not made in real-time
- code changes are by consensus
 - must collaborate or fork
- releases are by simple majority
- new committers by consensus
 - to ensure community cohesion



How are projects created?

- Most projects start in the Incubator
 - make a proposal
 - proposal is accepted, creating podling
 - podling builds community, makes release(s)
 - podling graduates, becoming full project (TLP)

Why is this good?

- Projects are durable
 - diversity & openness ensures longevity
- No vendor lock-in
 - users can control their own fate
- Competition permits evolution
 - survival of the fittest



How do I get involved in the ASF?

- Contribute patches
 - fix things that are important to you
 - have developers contribute directly
 - listen to feedback
 - be polite, patient and persistent
- Bring code to the incubator
 - help build a new community

Thanks!

Questions?