

FreeBSD

An open source foundation

Rethinking commercial user interactions
with the FreeBSD Project

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FreeBSD Foundation

- 501(c)3 non-profit founded in 2000
- Board of Directors, 1 part-time employee
 - Justin Gibbs, Deb Goodkin, Erwin Lansing, Dru Lavigne, Sam Leffler, Marshall Kirk McKusick, George Neville-Neil, Hiroki Sato, Robert Watson
- Part-time contractor pool from community
- Financially stable, open-book company
- Worldwide representation



Why a foundation?

- Trusted entity to hold project IP
- Survives changes in personnel
- “Consortium-style” development

Intel graphics support

IPv6 maturity project

HAST (storage mirroring and failover)

Network stack virtualisation

Superpages support on ARM

- Corporate-friendly legal arrangement



Funding

- 100% donor funded
- \$1M raised in the last 3 years
- \$500K goal for 2012

Additional hardware donations



What we do

- Conferences and developer summits
 - Toolchain summit, travel grants, ...
- Project Infrastructure
 - NYI East Coast mirror, Netperf cluster
- Legal support, IP protection
- Funded research and development
 - \$200K budget for 2012 projects
- Volunteer, academic, and industrial coord.



A vendor with an open door policy

- Public access to source code, revision control and bug tracking data
- A path to developer status: directly commit to FreeBSD, access to internal developer communications, and release planning.
- Support for extensible APIs, KPIs that allow clean and maintainable integration of FreeBSD and your private IP.
- Stable APIs; a track record of documenting API changes when they do occur.



Commercial FreeBSD

A symbiotic relationship

For commercial users

- High quality, robust, extensible software
- Business-friendly license
- Source of highly skilled employees
- Reference platform for new technologies
- Consortium-style development
- Shared maintenance of non-critical IP

For the community

- Infusion of new technologies, vendor support, bug fixes
- Financial support of contributors, infrastructure, community activities
- Endorsement of the FreeBSD platform



Conclusion

- Non-profit foundation supporting open source operating system community
- Extremely widely used desktop, server, and embedded/appliance operating system
- Millions of units shipped by downstream consumers over a broad range of hardware, from phones to storage clusters
- Improving our relationship with vendors is critical to supporting our users
- Can we help you with FreeBSD?

