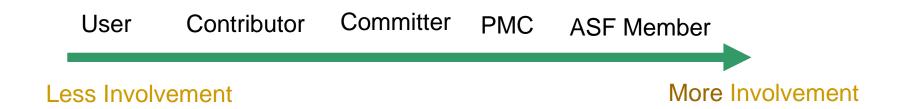
How to get more involved in Apache Open Source Projects?

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Apache Roles



- Apache Contributors/Committers are viewed as individual contributors, independent of their potential company affiliation
- Individuals are recognized for their contributions and can assume more responsibility as they gain karma.
- Products are owned by project community.
- Emphasis on community stewardship.

Aaron Farr, http://www.slideshare.net

Apache Roles Definition (1 of 2)

User

Uses the software and provides feedback in the form of bug or feature requests.

Contributor/Developer

- Contributes to the development of the project.
- Takes the extra steps to participate in the project: Active on the mailing list, participate in discussions, provide patches, documentation, website updates, new features, etc.

Committer

 Committer is a developer that has been given write access to the code repository and has a signed Contributor License Agreement (CLA) on file. They have an @apache.org mail address

Apache Roles Definition (2 of 2)

PMC (Project Management Committee) Member

- Each project has a project management committee who makes decisions for the project, such as software releases and community related decisions.
- A committer become a PMC member as a result of their involvement in the community matters related to the project.

PMC Chair

- The Chair of a Project Management Committee (PMC) is appointed by PMC Members.
- The Chair is the interface between the Apache Board and the Project. He/she reports status of the project on a regular basis.

Apache Software Foundation (ASF) Member

An ASF member is a person that was nominated by current members and elected due to merit for the evolution and progress of the foundation. Members care for the ASF itself.

The Apache Philosophy – "The Apache Way"

The Apache Software Foundation

Meritocracy in Action.



- Meritocracy It's about what you do, those who contribute decide
- Peer to Peer
 - We work with people, not companies.
 - Committers and members should hold one another with respect.
 - All votes hold the same weight.
 - Community over code.

Consensus decision making

- Most decisions made on mailing list without voting, sometimes by way of lazy consensus
- Typically use Wikis for proposals and design sharing
- □ Voting rules : Yes (+1) Abstain (0) No (veto or -1)
 - A -1 veto requires proposal of an alternate solution

Open, online communication

- □ Email lists are preferred form of communication. ← The most used and preferred
- Most communication is publicly archived.
- Most lists are open to any subscriber

Responsible oversight

- Security is mandatory
- Ensure license compliance
- Release only high quality software
- No abuse of Apache brand or community

What is Karma?



- A Buddhist/Hindu conceptions of the sum of a person's actions which dictate his future (lives).
- Now, with regards to open source, your good actions and contributions come back to you as "karma" or "permission to a given resource" (e.g. when you become a committer, you receive karma to source code repository).

How to Become a User?



- Simply download and use the open source project.
- Report bugs
- Talk to the project community through user mailing list
 - Ask questions that will help you build your solution. Your questions will benefit others in the community who are not asking those questions themselves!
 - Share use cases, tests
 - Share your experience
 - Usage feedback is important Examples, here is how we are using the project. It is working well in these cases and it can be improved in these cases.
 - Helps the developers to create software that addresses real use case scenarios.
 - Creates a user community who can help each other to use the software properly

How to become a contributor?



- Actively participate on the project mailing list by answering user questions
- Participate in requirement, design discussions, etc.
- Provide fixes (patches) and enhancements: code, documentation,
 website, tests, ...
- Be interested in the project and help in whatever way you can

How to become a committer?



- Each project has a Project Management Committee
- PMC recognizes individual's contributions to the project and extends the committer role to project's high contributors. This means:
 - Write access to code and an @apache.org mailing address.
 - It requires a signed CLA in place.
- One gains committer status through contribution as well as by gaining the trust of the PMC.
 - The criteria is really defined by the character of each project, that is what the PMC believes is important to the project. Some general characteristics:
 - Dedication to doing the right things
 - Attention to code quality and project guidelines
 - How well this person collaborates with the rest of the community
 - How openly they work
 - How much they contributed

Summary



- Anyone can get involved in Apache open source projects
- You define your role in the Apache through your dedication and contributions. The karma you gain.