Perl Toolchain Summit 2025

Sponsor prospectus

The Perl Toolchain Summit (PTS) is an annual event where we bring together the volunteers who work on the tools and modules at the heart of Perl and the CPAN ecosystem. The PTS gives them 4 days to work together on these systems, with all their fellow volunteers to hand, without distraction.

This is an invitation-only event, with a focus on getting things done. As they're volunteers, our goal is to cover attendees' expenses through sponsorship. If your company builds on Perl and CPAN, this is a great way to support the language and tools that we all rely on.

This year's summit

The event moves around European countries, as the largest cohort of attendees is those from Europe. This year PTS is being hosted in Leipzig, Germany. The event will run from Thursday 1st May through Sunday 4th May 2025.

Why sponsor the Toolchain Summit?

- If your company uses Perl in any way, then you rely on the tools and services that are the focus of the Toolchain Summit. This is a relatively inexpensive way to reinforce the foundation that your company builds on.
- This event actively improves the quality of the CPAN toolchain, and indirectly improves the quality of many CPAN distributions.
- The event gets coverage that is disproportionate to its size, because of the calibre of its attendees and because it is so important to the Perl development community. This is a good way to establish your company as a friend of Perl, for example if you're hiring.
- If you have particular issues or concerns, sponsoring is a great way to get them heard.
- Many elements of the CPAN ecosystem started life at one of these gatherings, particularly those related to robustness and reliability of CPAN modules.
- Numerous improvements to the key components of toolchain started life, and in some cases were implemented at these events. In particular this has included PAUSE, MetaCPAN, CPAN Testers, CPAN clients, test frameworks, authoring tools, and the metadata formats.

Sponsorship levels

Diamond: €10000

- Please get in touch if you are considering this sponsorship level – we are happy to work with you on providing benefits that are meaningful to you.

Platinum: €5000

- Prime billing on all materials and blog posts.
- You can send one of your employees to the summit, which will give them access to the core developers of the Perl toolchain, and the chance to raise your issues.

Gold: €2500

- Your logo will appear on the front page of the web site for the event.
- We will do a dedicated blog post about your support for the event, which we're happy to iterate on with you. This will also appear in the Perl Weekly, a newsletter that goes to thousands of Perl developers each week.
- You can provide a poster, which we'll put up at the event (a lot of photos of the event get shared).
- If you're hiring, you can provide us with an overview of your positions, and we'll tell everyone at the stand-up which kicks off the weekend. The fact that you're hiring will also be mentioned in blog posts about the event. You're not likely to fill a position at the summit, but the senior developers in attendance have deep networks across many geographies.

Silver: €1250

- Your company name will appear on the front page of the web site for the event.
- Your company logo and a paragraph of text about you will appear on the sponsors page.
- You will be thanked in a blog post that will cover all silver-level sponsors. We'll work with you on the 1 or 2 paragraphs of text about your company.
- If you have any appropriate swag (mugs, t-shirts, stickers), you can provide these and they'll be made available for all attendees.

Bronze: €500

- Your company name will be listed on the sponsor page and in the event booklet.
- Tweets acknowledging your support, before, during, and after the summit.
- You'll be acknowledged in all communications about the event, and all attendees blogging about it afterward will be asked to thank all sponsors.

Additional sponsorship opportunities

- Group meal: €1000
  We like to have at least one group meal for all attendees. These generally get tweeted about, with photos, so you'd get more coverage that way. If you're hiring, that message can be part of the communications for this. If we get multiple group meal sponsors, we'll have multiple group meals.
- Snacks & lunch sponsor: €500
  Each day we have (mostly healthy) snacks laid out. This is sponsorship of one day's snacks and lunch, which you'll get tweeted about on the day.

Who attends?

The group of attendees gradually evolves from year to year, as it's based on the people who are currently maintaining and evolving the toolchain. This year about 30 experienced developers will attend.

These are the people working on "the CPAN ecosystem":
- CPAN – the library of reusable Perl modules – and component systems such as PAUSE and CPAN clients.
- The developer tools used to create those modules, and the metadata standards used when packaging them in distributions for release.
- The test frameworks and utilities used by almost all Perl developers to write test suites for their packages.
- The CPAN Testers service, which runs those tests across a variety of operating systems and all recent versions of Perl, giving developers early notice when their code fails its test suite on one of those.
- The MetaCPAN search engine used to find modules, and the tools used to download and install them.
- The CPAN Security Group – a community effort for supporting and responding to security incidents on CPAN. It also cares about security-related topics around CPAN, its infrastructure, supply chain, and tooling.
- Additional services and tools that help developers write more robust and reliable libraries and improve the quality of what's already on CPAN.

What do they do?

As with all software systems, everyone attending has lists of outstanding bugs and feature requests. If nothing else, the summit gives them dedicated time to work on these issues. Often these are thorny cross-system issues, which benefit from having all the right people on hand to help hammer out solutions and compromises.

Before the event, a wiki is used to gather projects to work on and topics for discussion. Discussions at these events have often led to important changes in the Perl developer ecosystem. More significant decisions have been captured in "consensus documents": the Oslo Consensus (2008), the Lancaster Consensus (2013), the Lyon Compromise (2014), the Berlin Consensus (2015), and the Lyon Amendment to the Lancaster Consensus (2023).

A big part of the value of this event is just bringing the people together, letting them work with and alongside each other, and socialising together in the event. The end result is that everyone goes home with longer to-do lists than they came with, and renewed passion. All of that benefits everyone who uses or develops in Perl.

The organising team

The organisation is handled by a small distributed team of people experienced with the event:
- Philippe Bruhat (BOOK) is the lead organiser and will help with planning and logistics, from Lyon, France. He organised this event 8 previous times.
- Laurent Boivin (ELBEHO) will be handling the money from Paris, both inwards (getting it from the sponsors) and outwards (covering expenses and refunding attendees). He helped organise PTS 6 times.
- Breno G. de Oliveira (GARU) will be supporting the local team of organisers in Leipzig, from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He has attended several PTS, and this is his second time as an organiser.
- Tina Müller (TINITA) will be helping with planning and experience, from Berlin, Germany. She organized the 2015 PTS in Berlin.
- Daniel Böhmer is the local organizer in Leipzig. He has organized several German Perl Workshops.

Please contact Philippe Bruhat if you would like to discuss this further.
Email: philippe@bruhat.net, phone: +33 680 746 958. (He lives in the Europe/Paris timezone.)

A French non-profit organisation is handling the finances of the event: Les Mongueurs de Perl. While the organisation deals primarily with Euros, it can handle British Pounds and US Dollars as well.