Creating Projects with The Linux Foundation

Call for Code Briefing

Introduction

› The Linux Foundation (LF) currently hosts well over 750 open source communities.

› Projects considering the LF generally seek:
  › A neutral host and governance models
  › Resources (e.g., community events, community CI/build resources)
  › Build momentum within the LF community
  › Ability to raise funds (optional)

› Projects often start with individual developers seeking to elevate their project or companies interested in working together under a neutral home.

› We also big fans of Call for Code: https://www.linuxfoundation.org/projects/call-for-code/

THE LINUX FOUNDATION

The Linux Foundation is a Critical Part of the Tech Ecosystem

2300+

Members From
41 Countries

100%
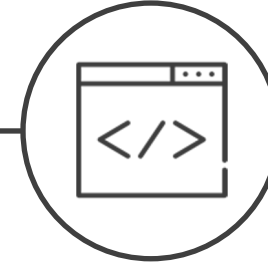
of Fortune 100
Tech & Telecom

730,000+

Developers
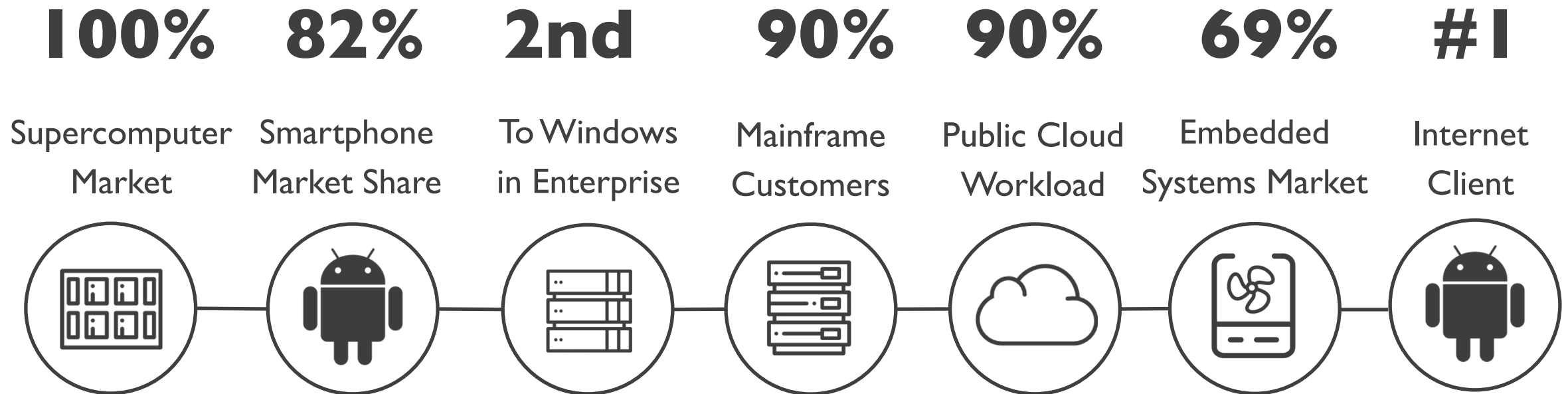Contributing Code

750+

Open Source
Projects

$20+B

Shared
Value

Since 2018, we have added a new member every day.

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The Linux Operating System Has Grown into the Most Important Software Platform in the World

100%	**82%**	**2nd**	**90%**	**90%**	**69%**	**#1**
Supercomputer Market	Smartphone Market Share	To Windows in Enterprise	Mainframe Customers	Public Cloud Workload	Embedded Systems Market	Internet Client

Every market Linux has entered it eventually dominates

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Today the Linux Foundation is Much More than the Linux Platform...

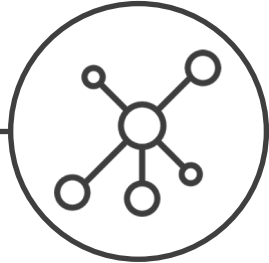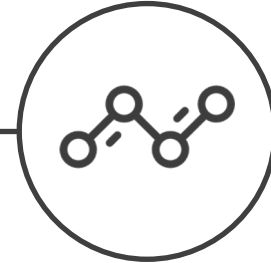| Security	Networking	Cloud	Automotive	Blockchain	Edge/Embedded	Web
We securing the internet as home to world's largest certificate authority securing100M web sites.	We are home to 9 of the top 10 open source networking projects in the world backed by the majority of global network providers.	We are creating a portability layer for the cloud, driving standards and developing reference tools for cloud native development.	Our Automotive Grade Linux platform is backed by 12 automakers and is either in or slated for production in millions of vehicles worldwide.	We are creating a permanent, secure distributed ledger that makes it easier to create cost-efficient, decentralized business networks.	We are creating projects used in building the majority of embedded Linux distributions and rationalizing edge computing.	We are providing the application development framework for next generation web, mobile, serverless, and IoT applications.

Let's Encrypt
CORE INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

ONAP
OPEN NETWORK AUTOMATION PLATFORM
OPEN DAYLIGHT

kubernetes
CLOUD NATIVE COMPUTING FOUNDATION

AUTOMOTIVE GRADE LINUX

HYPERLEDGER

Zephyr
yocto PROJECT
EDGE X FOUNDRY

node JS
JS Foundation

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Recognized Leader in Open Source Collaboration

"The Linux Foundation has shown it can manage competing visions and egos, a bit like when Phil Jackson ran the Bulls."

Newsweek.

"The Linux Foundation … created a new platform for automating the management of communications networks, a labor-intensive process that is widely viewed as a bottleneck in the the world of corporate information technology."
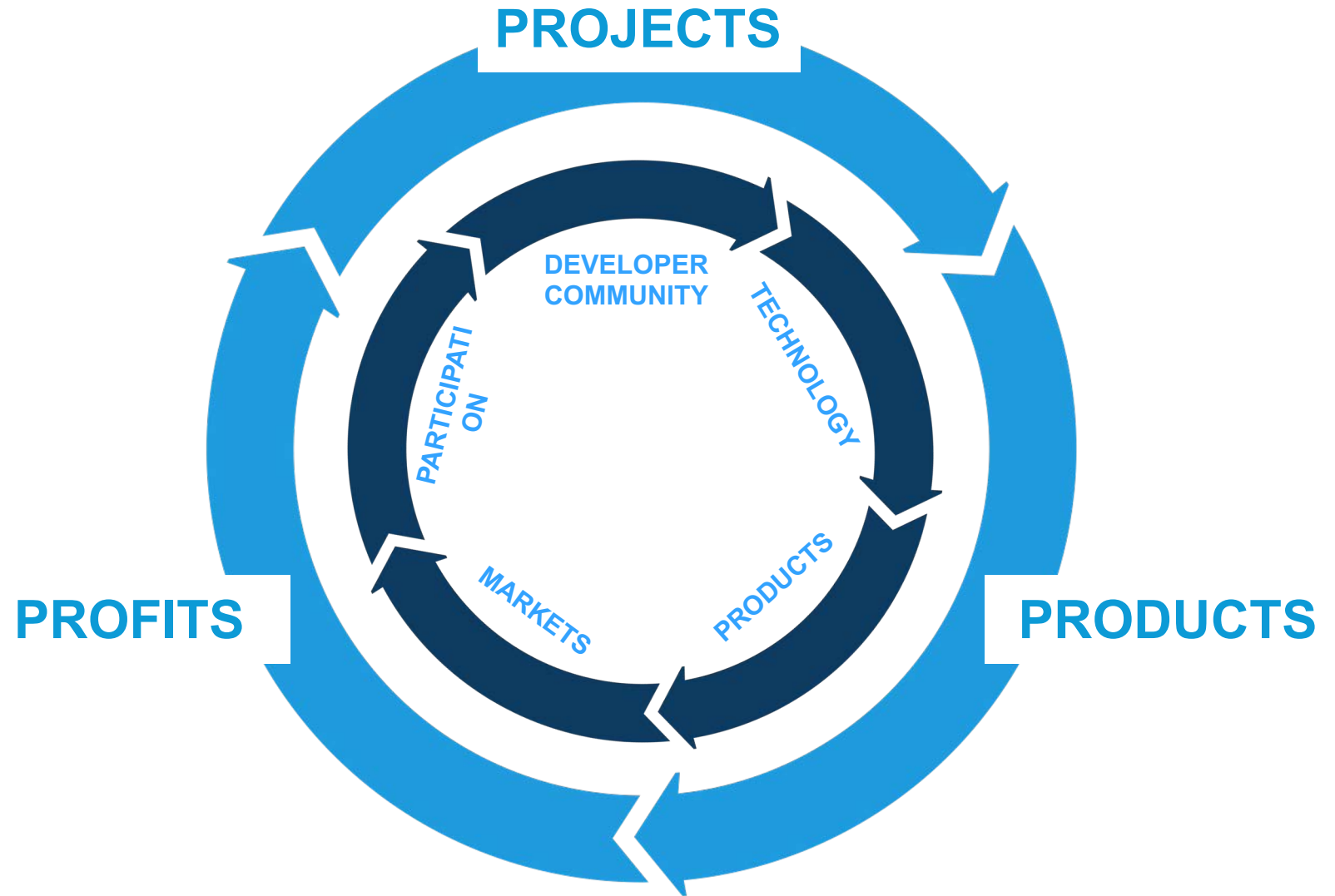
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"Hyperledger Fabric 1.0, a collaborative effort, launched a production-ready blockchain this week, the culmination of more than a year of collaboration. Hyperledger Fabric is hosted by The Linux Foundation."

Forbes

The media and industry recognize the value provided by The Linux Foundation

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The Linux Foundation Focuses on Creating Innovation Engines

Successful projects depend on an ecosystem to develop solutions that the market will adopt. Adoption drives sustainability.

PROJECTS

PRODUCTS

PROFITS

DEVELOPER COMMUNITY

TECHNOLOGY

PRODUCTS

MARKETS

PARTICIPATION

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How can the LF help?

› Leverage the LF's governance practices

› Expand the visibility reach of and participation in the project

› The LF ecosystem of projects and members are often great co-collaboration communities

› Fundraising

› Provide a neutral home for project assets including trademarks, infrastructure, and other community assets

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The Linux Foundation Methodology

Governance and Membership	• Incorporation, Tax status, Bylaws, Member Agreements, Antitrust, etc. • Ongoing business development and membership recruitment
Development Process	• Technical Decision Making • Project Life Cycle • Release Process
Infrastructure	• Custom infrastructure using open source best practices • Security and reliability
Ecosystem Development	• Marketing • Events • Training
IP Management	• Provenance • Licensing expertise, compliance, process management • Trademark management • Legal defense and Collaboration

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Project trademarks

› Our project communities control the name of the project, not any one member or company contributor

› We also like to make sure communities are not infringing on someone else's trademark

› In the event that a trademark is already in use by the sponsoring organization, we recommend that the project create a new name to operate under or the owner assign the interest in the existing mark to the LF.

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Requirements for LF Projects

› The project must:
  › use an approved OSI open source license
  › be supported by a LF member
  › allow neutral ownership of project assets such as a trademark, domain or GitHub account (the community can manage them)
  › technical do-ocracy and open governance clearly documented in a charter
  › allow anyone to participate in the technical community, whether or not a financial member or supporter of the project

› Our projects often also leverage licensing and contribution best practices such as the Developer Certificate of Origin signed-off-by process, CII security best practices and SPDX identifiers.

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Projects come in all shapes and sizes

› There is no "required" or "right" size or shape for a project at The Linux Foundation.

› Some raise funding and have members, others do not.

› Some use fundraising to have dedicated staff to work on the project, while others benefit solely from the community contributing to efforts.

› Some have thousands of developers, many start off with a dozen or even less.

› Many are focused on code, while others are building specifications, standards, open hardware, data communities or just collaborating to document best practices.

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Topics to consider

› There are basic threshold questions communities should consider and assess.

  › What is the mission and scope of the project?

  › How many developers do you currently have working on this project or within the scope of the project?

  › What is the universe of organizations that will potentially be interested in contributing to the project?

  › Are there different constituencies within the project community, and how do their needs differ? E.g. do you need an architecture committee or end user committee to directly engage particular groups?

  › What are the upstream dependencies that are expected to be leveraged by the project?

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How We Structure Projects

TYPES OF PROJECTS

Community Projects

These projects take advantage of the governance structure and back-end resources that The Linux Foundation provides to all hosted projects. Examples of these projects include: SPDX, FOSSology, CHAOSS, LinuxBoot, and OpenBMC.

Community Projects + Funding

These projects benefit from community-raised funding to provide resources and infrastructure like enhanced code repositories, continuous integration systems, testing resources, conformance program resources, and developer events. Membership or funding support for these projects is never required to contribute to the technical project. Examples of these projects include: Let's Encrypt, Node.js, OpenAPI Initiative, Open Container Initiative, Open Mainframe, Xen Project, and Zephyr.

Umbrella Community + Funding

These projects support several technical projects under the same funding structure and are focused on a technology area. This allows the community to pursue a strategic vision across a spectrum of opportunities while balancing demands on resources. Examples of these projects include: Automotive Grade Linux, Cloud Native Computing Foundation, Hyperledger, LF Deep Learning Foundation, and LF Networking.

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Call for Code – example projects

› Pyrrha – measure toxins from fires - https://pyrrha-platform.org/

› ClusterDuck – comms for natural disaster areas - https://clusterduckprotocol.org/

› ISAC-SIMO – system to validate intervention work so people can return to their homes - https://www.isac-simo.net/

› OpenEEW – early earthquake warning system - https://openeew.com/

› DroneAid – system for visual comms to drones from the ground in disaster areas - https://github.com/Call-for-Code/DroneAid

How we build communities

› Once we have worked out the intended mission and scope of the sponsored project, we work to build out a formation group to draft the governance documents and finalize the project structure as a community.

› Towards the end of the formation process we often convene a marketing team, and the LF will prepare the launch press release with input and feedback from the marketing team.

› In addition to increased efficiency, working in formation teams allows for the community to begin collaborating before the project even formally launches.

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Project Launch Timeline

› Many variables go into the timeline for launching any specific project. We have seen projects launch in as little as a week, but more generally weeks and months are required.

› While there is no "typical" project, often we see the following type of timeline:

  › We start formation meetings and invite participants from the interested community

  › Over a period of weeks we finalize the governance documents for the project

  › We circulate the press release roughly a week before launch with the press and analyst community under embargo

  › Create/update websites, logos in place, charters made visible

  › We announce the project and formal meetings begin

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Questions?

› Please fee free to reach out to any of us here at The Linux Foundation on the project formation team:

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