

# PC Engines post-EoL firmware

Survey summary and next steps



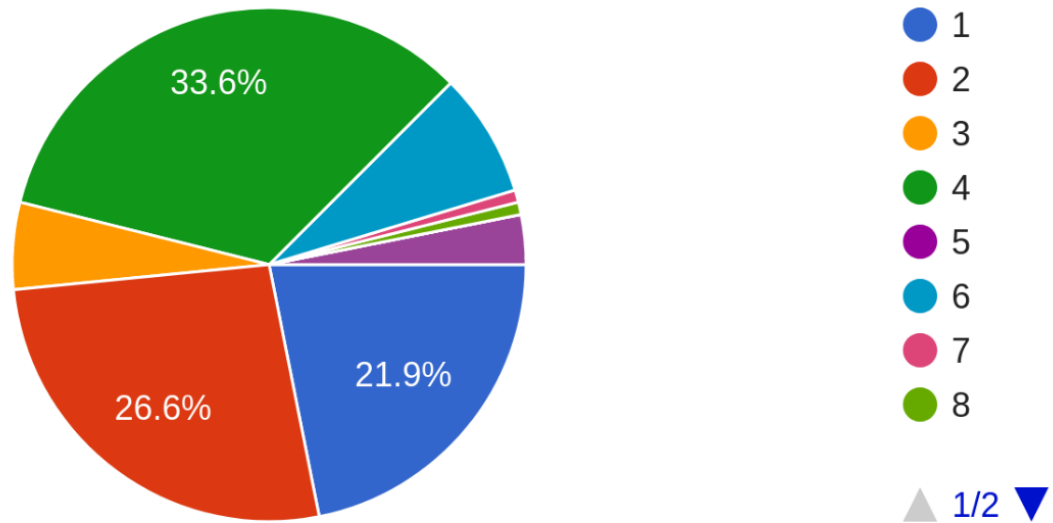


PC Engines<sup>TM</sup>

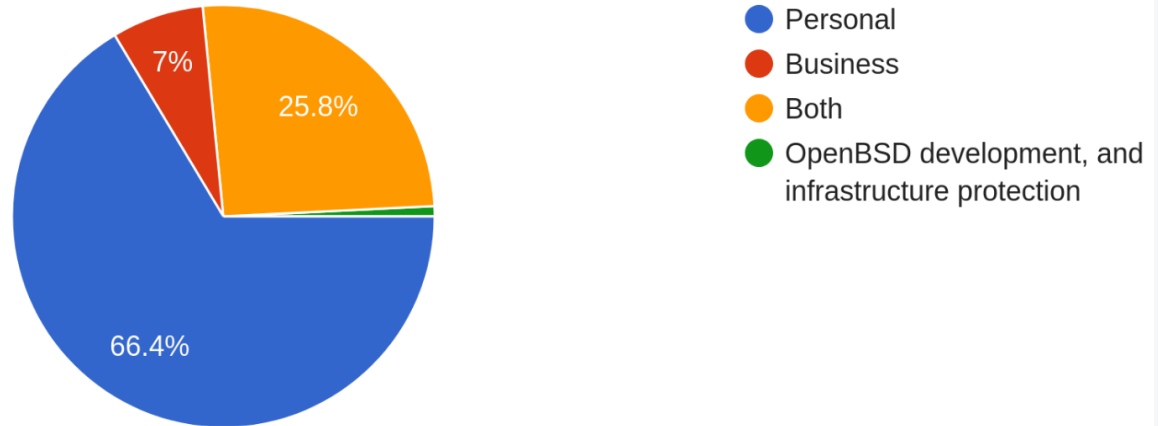
- In September 2022 PC Engines decided to discontinue sponsorship for open-source firmware on their devices.
- We announced that recently after v4.19.0.1 release (Feb 2023).
- We sent survey to community to ask, if there is interest in continuation of open-source firmware support through potential subscription model.
- In following presentation we want to share summary and next steps regarding PC Engines open-source firmware support future.

- We would like to thank all of the respondents for taking the time and providing valuable feedback.
- Some questions in survey could be explained better, maybe with example.
- We received 100+ answers.
- Respondents report over 600 PC Engines hardware units for update.
- Most valuable features:
  - ECC,
  - OpenBSD, FreeBSD, OPNsense and pfSense support,
  - Core Performance Boost,
  - TPM support,
  - Stability and security,
  - Debian and NetBSD support.

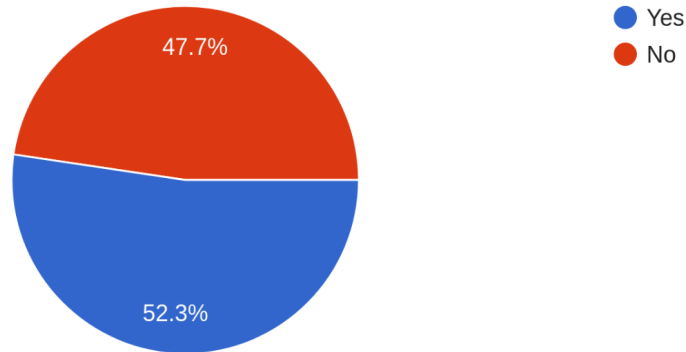
How many firmware releases per year would you expect?



How do you use PC Engines hardware?



Are you interested in a paid subscription?

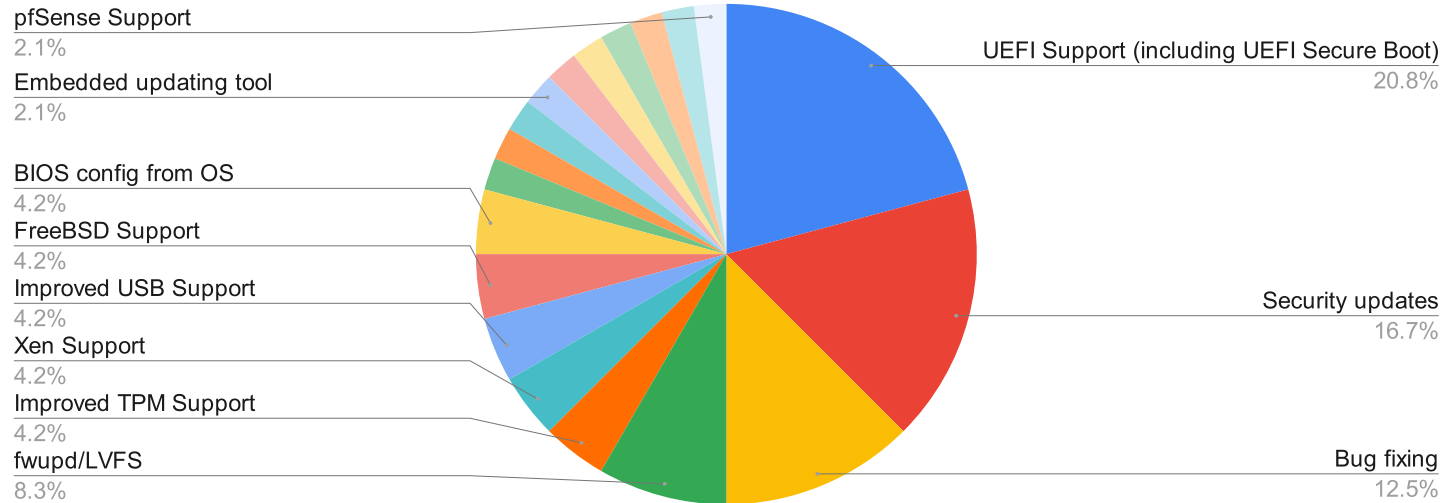


- Over 50% of respondents are interested in paid model.
  - Many respondents requested yearly subscription instead of monthly.
  - Subscription-interested respondents represent 66% of all devices reported in survey.

- Use donation-driven development instead of subscription.
- On-demand custom firmware builds.
  - We will add that to 3mdeb offer.
- Charging for each release.
  - We don't think it is economically feasible,
  - Payment would be **maybe** after release (investment from our side),
  - Not enough market demand right now to take this risk.
- One-off upgrades.
  - Similar as above.
- Paid Technical Assistant Center (TAC) support.
  - We already deliver such services through Dasharo Support Package using JIRA Service Desk and we would be glad to extend it to support PC Engines customers.
- Provide roadmap you are planning to implement.
  - We will do that quarterly during DUGs.

- Because of feedback we received we opt for donation-only model for now.
  - Subscription model with expressed interest is not economically feasible.
- What may change our decision in future?
  - More business customers interested in supporting open-source firmware updates.
  - Critical mass of users who want to see subscription model.







### DASHARO COMMUNITY SUPPORT ROADMAP (*subject to change*)

		2023			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Network Appliance	PC Engines		<b>apu2/3/4/6 v1.0.0</b>  - collecting donations - scope depending on the donation collected	<b>apu2/3/4/6 v1.0.0</b>  - FreeBSD 14, pfSense 2.6.0 - Debian 11, - Ubuntu 22.04 LTS - DTS support	<b>apu2/3/4/6 v1.0.0</b>  - coreboot 4.20 - SeaBIOS 1.16.1
				<b>apu2/3/4/6 v1.1.0</b>  - collecting donations - scope depending on the donation collected	

Discovery

Evaluation

Porting

Validation

Community Release

Supporters Release

Dasharo Community Support Roadmap | March 2023 (v0.1) | CC-BY-SA 4.0

- LiberaPay: <https://liberapay.com/dasharo>
  - There is only one goal and it is donation for PC Engines firmware release.
- OpenCollective: [https://opencollective.com/3mdeb\\_com](https://opencollective.com/3mdeb_com)
  - There are two goals here, one dedicated to PC engines.
  - We plan to enable cryptocurrencies donations before DUG#2.
- Other methods including cryptocurrencies:
  - <https://docs.dasharo.com/ways-you-can-help-us/#donate-money>
  - If you make crypto donation please send us transaction link, since crypto wallets are owned by NLNet.
  - For other form of donations please leave a note, which describes the purpose, while making donation.

Q&A