# How OSS Failed Dispersed Teams

Or...

Writing OSS that People Will Actually Use

### Who I Am

### Why you should care

### Why you should care

### I Love FLOSS

## GNU/Linux Hippie

## **Emacs Fiend**

## Corporate Infiltrator

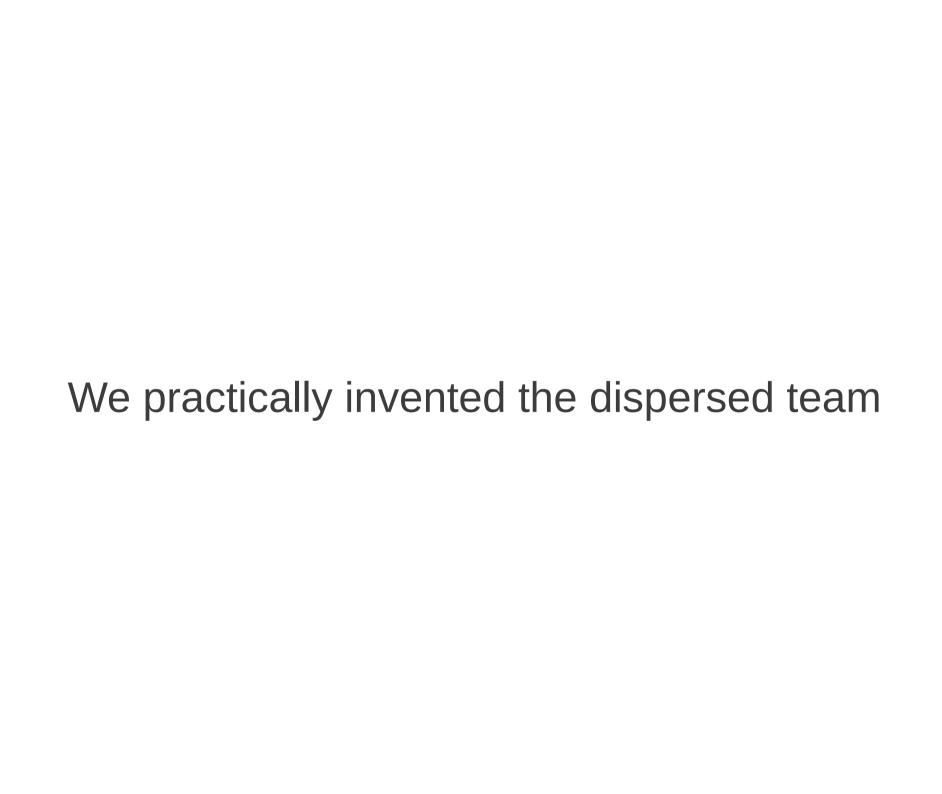
#### Creator/Contributor

http://github.com/avdi

## Dispersed Teams



## Sound Familiar?



Developers love FLOSS tools

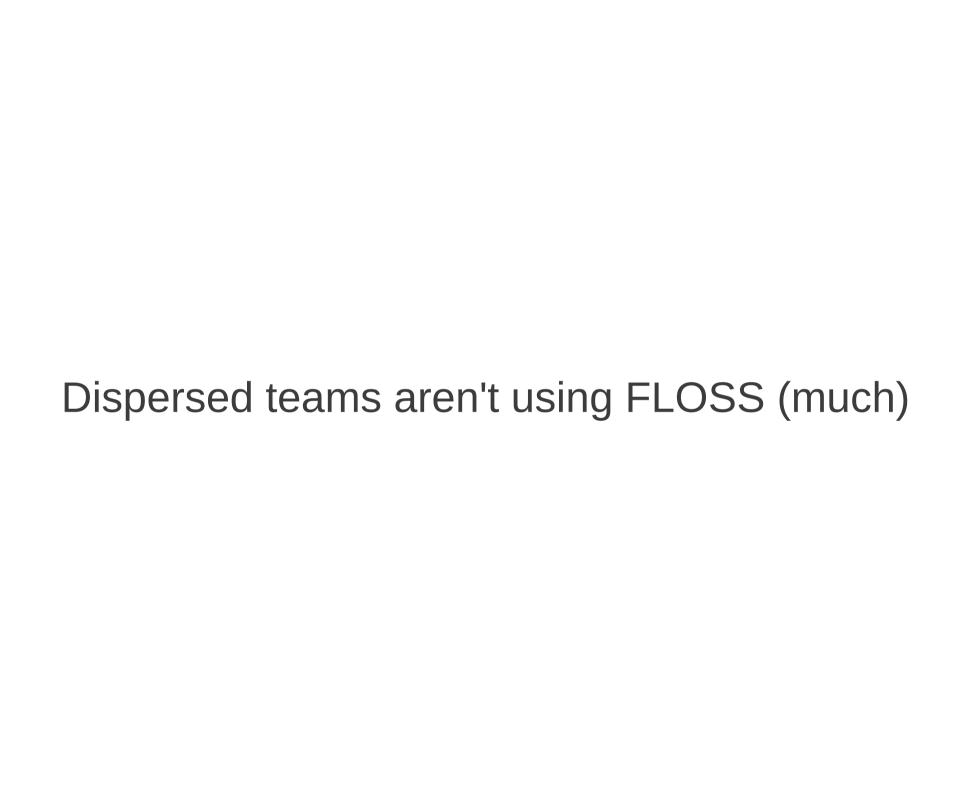
FLOSS: It's not just cheaper, it's better

## ...right?

#### So I have this website

http://wideteams.com

## Interviews



## Why not?

## The remote toolkit

- Voice/Video Chat
- Chat Rooms
- Screen Sharing
- Version Control

### Voice/Video Chat

## SIP/H.323

## 1. Choose a Protocol

#### 2. Host a Server

## 3. Find clients

## 4. Set up accounts

## 5. Tell everyone how to connect

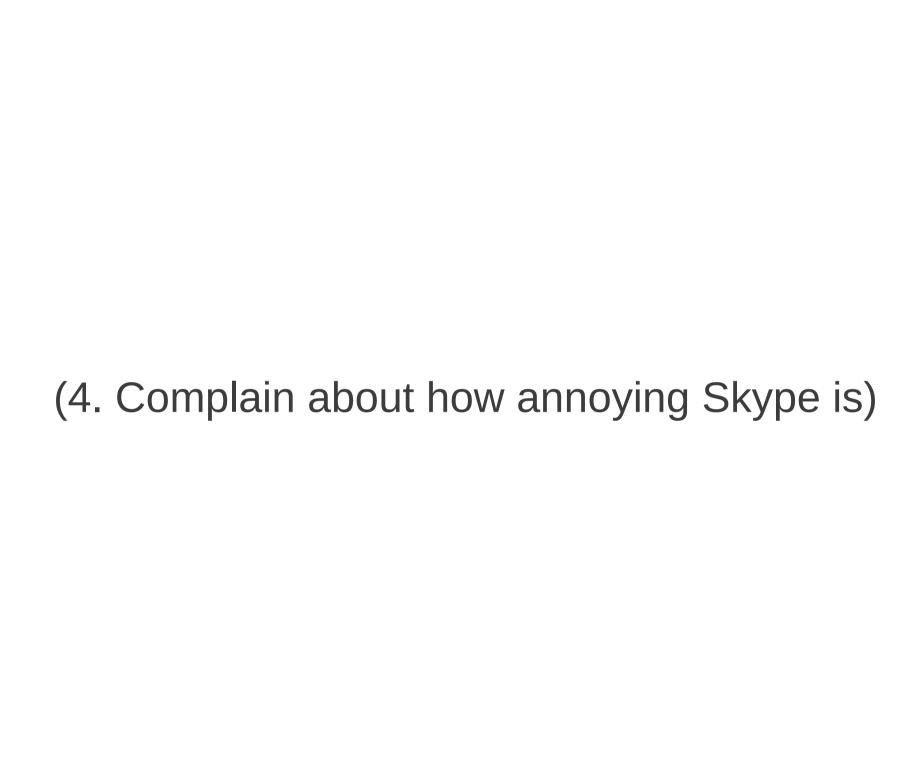
## 6. Maintain it

## Skype

## 1. Download it

### 2. Create accounts

# 3. Log in



## Chat Rooms

## IRC/Jabber

### 1. Host a server

# 2. Set up a log server

## 4. Set up accounts

# 5. Get everyone connected

## 6. Maintain It

# Campfire

## 1. Set up account

## 2. Define Users

## 3. Send a link

## Screen Sharing

## VNC

#### 1. Get [compatible] software

#### 2. Punch hole in firewall

#### 3. Figure out SSH tunneling

#### 4. Look up your IP address

#### 5. Connect

6. Public wifi? Forget it.

## TeamViewer

## 1. Download it

## 1. Download it

## 2. Start it

## 3. Send session ID

## 4. Connect

## Version Control

## FLOSS!

## GIT

## ...hosted on GitHub

# Most teams do centralized version control

No one wants to host their own

## Observations

## Social Software

# "How will it help to get your users laid?" - JWZ

### A Means to an End

# Connecting people

#### The Distributed Mindset

#### Centralization is underrated

Jabber: Gtalk, GIT: GitHub

#### Everyone else is there

# Small Teams

# No DevOps

# Lessons

#### 1. Do one thing well easily

What's happening?		140
New! Add a location to your tweets. Turn it on - No thanks	edit	Tweet
Latest: intridea That's us! via @wideteams New on the Wide Teams		
Podcast: an interview with a 50+ member globally distributed team		
http://bit.ly/a48czu Retweeted by you about 12 hours ago		

#### 2. Lower the Barrier to Entry

#### Do the Web UI First

# Services, not protocols

#### Clients will follow

# 3. Release Early

# But you knew that

#### Diaspora

#diaspora - 500 forks, almost no merges. dscm gone bad.

http://github.com/diaspora/diaspora/network

10:04 AM Oct 5th via TweetDeck Retweeted by 3 people





# 4. Host it

#### One Well-Known Host

# Leave the distributed architecture for 2.0

#### ...or forget it entirely

# 5. Sell it

#### You need to pay for hosting

#### You need good feedback

#### You need an incentive

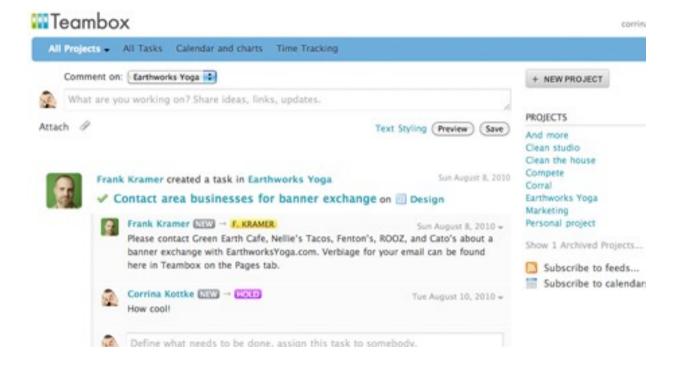
#### Your users need confidence

# Projects

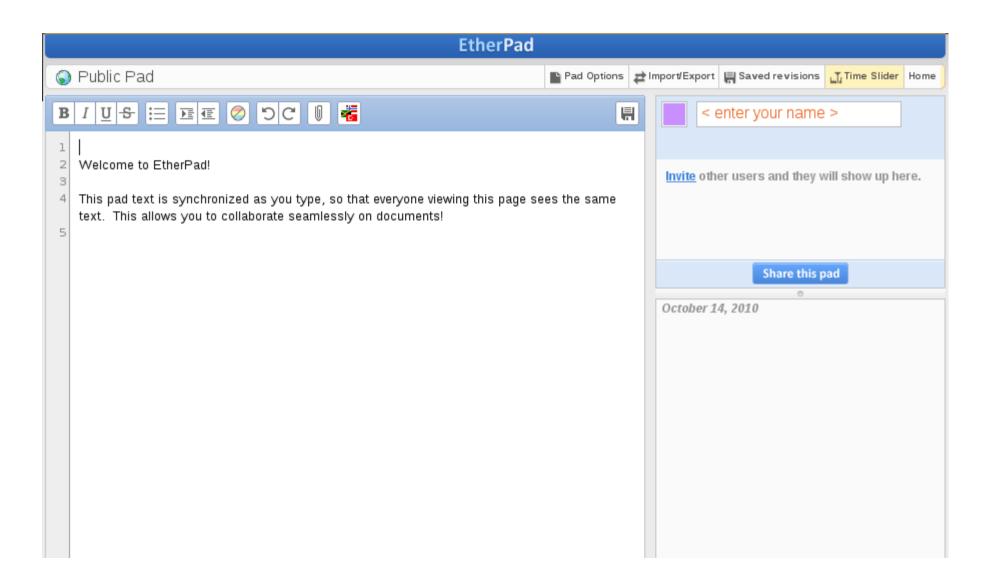
#### talkerapp.com



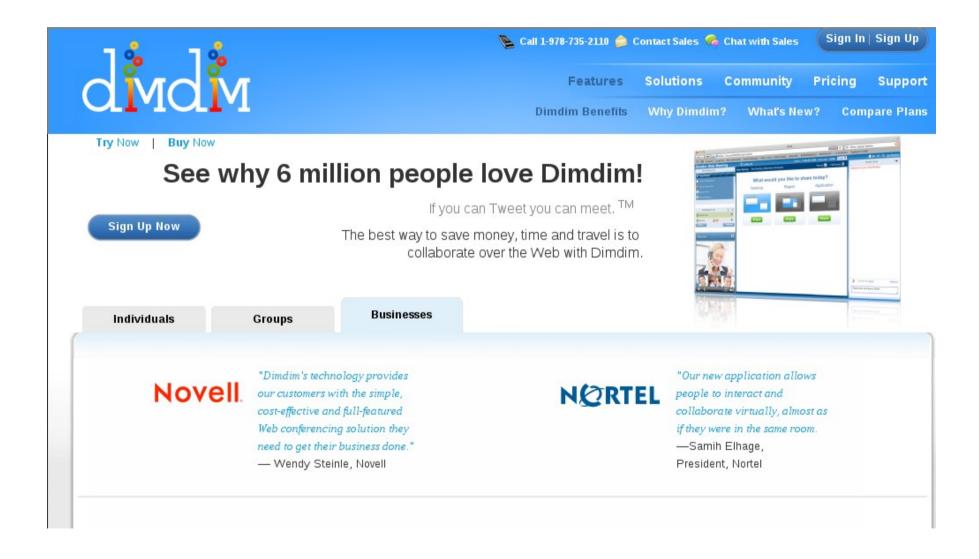
#### teambox.com



#### EtherPad



#### dimdim.com



# Google Wave

# Conclusion

#### We need more OSS

# Fix It!

# Thank You

# Avdi Grimm Twitter: @avdi / @wideteams http://avdi.org/devblog http://wideteams.com http://shiprise.net