

# The Prometheus Conformance Program

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**You might never see this talk**

“

**I hope you don't**

# The 101

- The Prometheus project will publish a list of compatible projects, products, and services, starting today
  - We will also list incompatible ones if they claimed compatibility in the past
- As of this recording, I don't know who will make the cut
- You, the end user, should be able to choose solutions with confidence

# Rationale

- Prometheus is the standard in cloud-native metrics and beyond
- We have hundreds of thousands of installations, millions of users
- The market segment we lead is worth billions of dollars, at least
- It's easier to claim compatibility, than to implement it

This leads to confusion, unintentional or otherwise

# The inner workings

- Prometheus created a suite of tests at <https://github.com/prometheus/compliance>
- CNCF (actually LF) uses **trademark law** to grant the usage of the “Prometheus Compatible” mark
  - Sign paperwork with LF, including clauses on good faith testing
  - Submit test results/have Prometheus-team test you
  - Receive time-limited permission to use mark
  - Keep up to date, or lose mark

# Conformance, Compliance, and Compatibility

- Conformance: The name of the program
- Compliance: Pass test suite of specific interface test
  - E.g. OpenMetrics, PromQL, Remote Write
- Compatibility: 100% conformance with all relevant compliance tests
  - $\text{Compatibility \%} == \text{Conformance \%} \times \text{Compliance \%}$

End users should only look for “Prometheus Compatible”

# Incentives

- A lot of informal knowledge about incompatibility exists
  - Direct monetary incentive to improve tests
  - Incentive is money, result is more comprehensive tests
- Initial cadence very aggressive
  - 12 weeks/two minor releases, whichever is longer
- If you need help convince your manager, talk to us :)



# Results

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- None, really
- Prometheus, Cortex, and Thanos will be compatible
  - And anyone running them properly aaS
- Beyond that... let's move into the Q&A for a presentation

# Thank You!

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