



Community Welcome Guide

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1 Getting Started With the OpenNMS Community

Welcome to the OpenNMS community - The place where you can find the many strangers working on the worlds first enterprise network management platform developed under the open source model. This document is meant for anyone interested in learning about OpenNMS. It is intended for new community members and give information you are looking for to get started. In this document you will also find the way how the development process works, which kind of people are involved and the basic "rules" of our community.

2 What is OpenNMS

OpenNMS is an enterprise Java based network management platform developed under the open source model. The goal of this software is to establish a free platform enabling FCAPS¹.

3 OpenNMS Community

In *OpenNMS* we have a global community consisting of developers, corporations, service providers, researchers and users. The following section will give you a short overview which main roles exist in the community.

The OpenNMS Group, Inc.

The OpenNMS Group, Inc. is the biggest sponsor to the project. The software itself is licensed under GPLv3+. The company *The OpenNMS Group, Inc.* provides professional support and gives people a place who want to spend significant time of their life to the project. Code development in commercial environment is reflected as a code contribution to the free software project. Beside code contribution there are other topics like packaging and continuous integration which is also provided publicly to the project.

Order of the Green Polo

The super secret brotherhood (OGP) and developers of the *OpenNMS Project*. You can recognize and *OGP* member by their good looks as well as their super-flashy, very coveted *OpenNMS Green Polo*. As Tarus Balog said:

Back in fall of 2004, I wanted to find a way to recognize those people who make *OpenNMS* what it is, and to thank them in some fashion. Ever since the advent of "business casual" workplace attire, the "logo" polo shirt has become a fixture

¹Fault-, Configuration-Management, Accounting, Performance- and Security-Management

in IT departments around the world. We sell black and white polos with the *OpenNMS* logo on our web site.

But this is much, much, much, different. These are "green" polos, very rare, and they will never be available for sale. Think of them as equivalent to winning *The Masters* golf tournament's green jacket - only harder to get. In order to get one, all one has to do is give up all hope of having a life outside of *OpenNMS*, work long hours for free, and basically become a closed superhero, squashing bugs (or uncovering existence) in a single bound.

OpenNMS Foundation Europe

The *OpenNMS Foundation Europe e.V.* (OFE) was founded in July 31st. OFE is a registered non-profit organization in Germany. The objective of the organization is to promote, develop, educate and research around free software and network (management) technologies, especially *OpenNMS*. To do this, the *OFE* organizes the OpenNMS User Conference Europe (OUCE) running by foundation members and volunteers. The OFE web site with links to material of the conference can be found under <http://www.opennms.eu>.

4 Get in contact

Communication is very important. The main communication established over many years is the mailing list and the IRC channel. For generic questions the OFE provides also a question and answer platform under <http://ask.opennms.eu>. For discussions and exchanging experiences in the world around network management, we provide different mailing lists. The different list topics can be found in on the wiki page in <http://www.opennms.org/wiki/<linkhere>>. As a direct communication channel we use IRC. This is the place where you can find a lot of guys hanging around. We follow in our communication netiquette, respect each other and don't click on links ;) The OpenNMS people can be found in IRC on [irc://irc.freenode.org](http://irc.freenode.org) on channel #opennms. If you want to volunteer the OUCE or you want to help improving the project you can get in contact with OGPs or using the mailing list. You can find a volunteer link on <http://www.opennms.eu>.

5 Contribution

There are many ways to contribute an open source project. Most of new users start reporting and help to verify bugs. More advanced user help to improve documentation and try to help others solving issues. It is also common to share configuration which solve a special problem in the network management domain.

If you are a developer and you would like contribute source code to fix a bug or make an enhancement in OpenNMS, you have to sign the *OpenNMS Contributor Agreement*. It allows *The OpenNMS Group, Inc.* to publish your code contribution under GPLv3+. You

can find the agreement at the following link http://www.opennms.org/wiki/Contributor_Agreement.

Where can I start with the source code

The source code is hosted on *GitHub*². Code contributions can be merged into *OpenNMS* with *pull requests*. The workflow to get your source code into *OpenNMS* is shown in picture 5.1 on page 6.

Get your IDE up and running

The *OpenNMS* project is written in *Java*. To maintain and handle external libraries it uses *Maven*. It contains even more advanced technologies like *OSGi* for class loading and *Vaadin* as user interface framework. As version control system the project uses *git*. To get an introduction working with *git* and get your development environment up and running you can find documentation on the following wiki pages:

- http://www.opennms.org/wiki/Developing_with_Git
- http://www.opennms.org/wiki/Eclipse_and_OpenNMS

6 Support Tools

The development process is very active. Many developers around the world improve the code and add new features. To control our development and track issues we use different tools in our project. Most of the tools are maintained by the OpenNMS Group and all of them are publicly available. This section gives an short overview where you can find the tools and how they are used.

- *Atlassian JIRA*: is used as issue tracker. You can document bugs create feature requests to enhance the software. The application can be found on <http://issues.opennms.org>. To create a good bug report or feature request for an enhancement it is necessary to provide some information. You find an introduction using JIRA on the wiki page <http://JIRA-WIKI-USAGE>.
- *Atlassian Bamboo*: is used as continuos integration system. The codebase from GitHub is checked out and will be compiled, tested and deployed. You can find the build system on <http://bamboo.internal.opennms.com:8085>.
- *Atlassian FishEye*: is used as a code browser. It allows developers to visualize changes in the code base. You can also have a look at the code to understand how a special monitor works in detail without check out the code with *git*. The code browser is available on <http://fisheye.opennms.org>.

²<http://www.github.com>

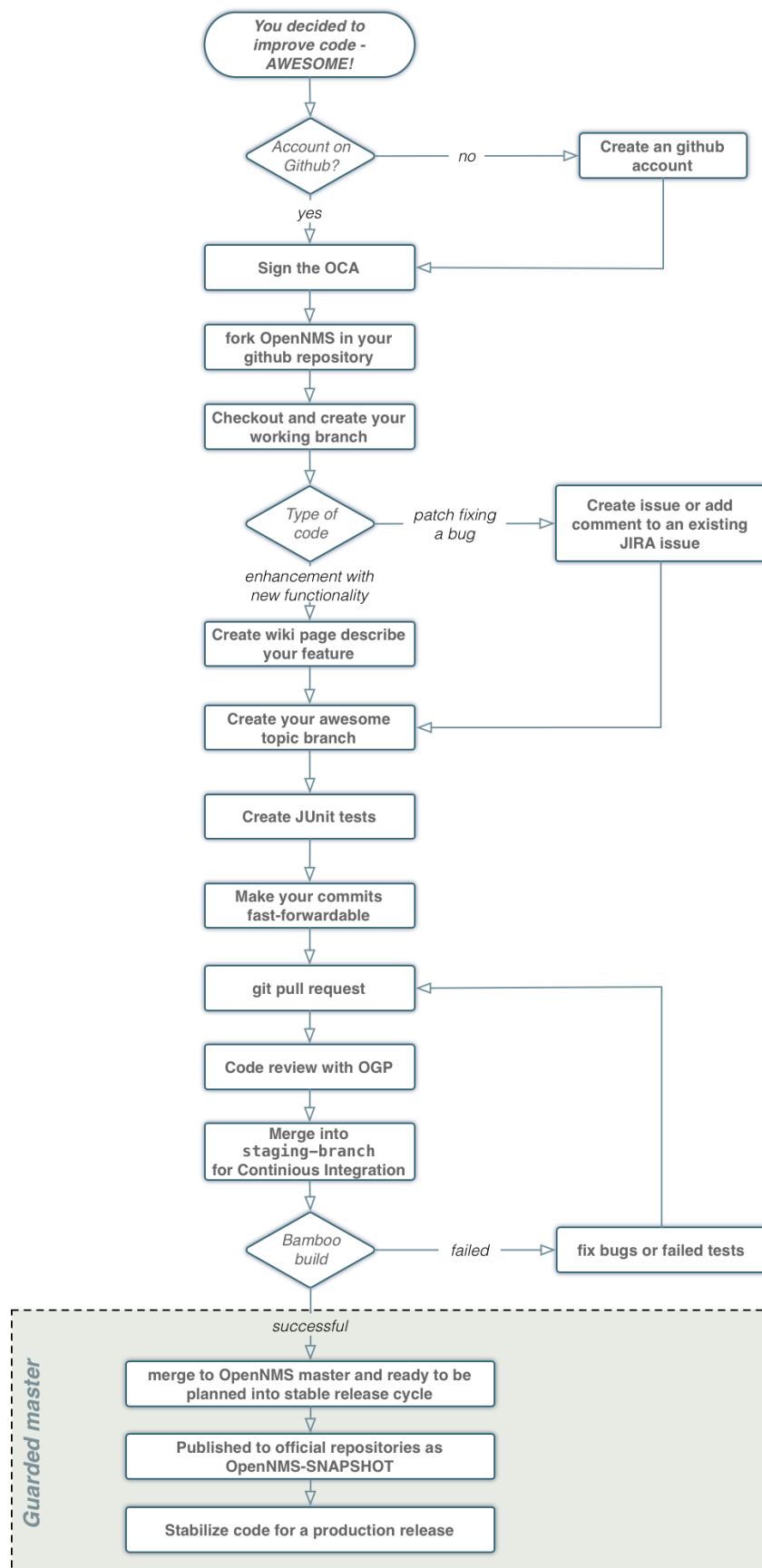


Figure 5.1: Workflow for code contribution

7 Documentation

8 Events

Most of the time, the project is developed over the internet. People come from different countries and continents. To get people in touch and give them a place to create, share and discuss topics.

8.1 Developers unconference - DevJam

Organized by the *The OpenNMS Group – DevJam* is the annual developers conference held at the *University of Minnesota*. Everybody who wants to create and shape the project is invited to join. The conference topics are self organized and reach from community work until feature development, prototyping or bug hunting. Documentation about projects will be public documented on <http://www.opennms.org/Wiki/Dev-Jam>.

8.2 OUCA and OUCE

The *OFE* organizes the *OpenNMS User Conference Europe/Americas*. This conference gives *OpenNMS* users the platform to learn, share and discuss how they use *OpenNMS* in real world scenarios. The conference contains speeches, workshops and trainings.

9 OpenNMS Wiki Layout