

**JOHAN LINÅKER (RISE)**

# **Time to Rethink Collaboration and Competition**

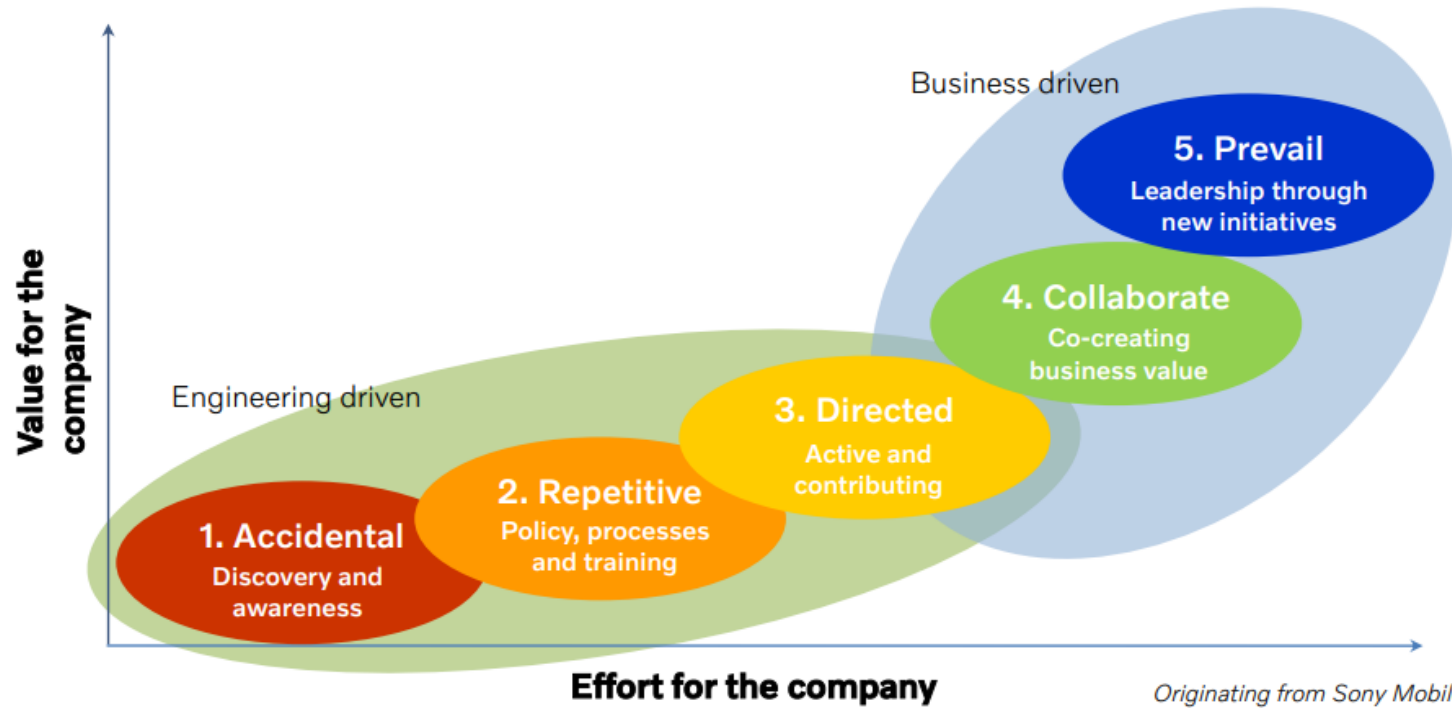
**A Study on the Role of Open Source Software in Enabling  
Tomorrow's Automotive Industry**

# **OSS is an established part of company strategies**

- OSS is today an established part on among companies in the industry
- Recognized tool for value creation in overarching business and software strategies
- Collaboration on common infrastructure and platforms expedites innovation, boosts development efficiency
- Driven by move towards software-centricity



# Slowly maturing as an industry



*Originating from Sony Mobile in 2011*

# Adoption higher outside than inside the vehicle

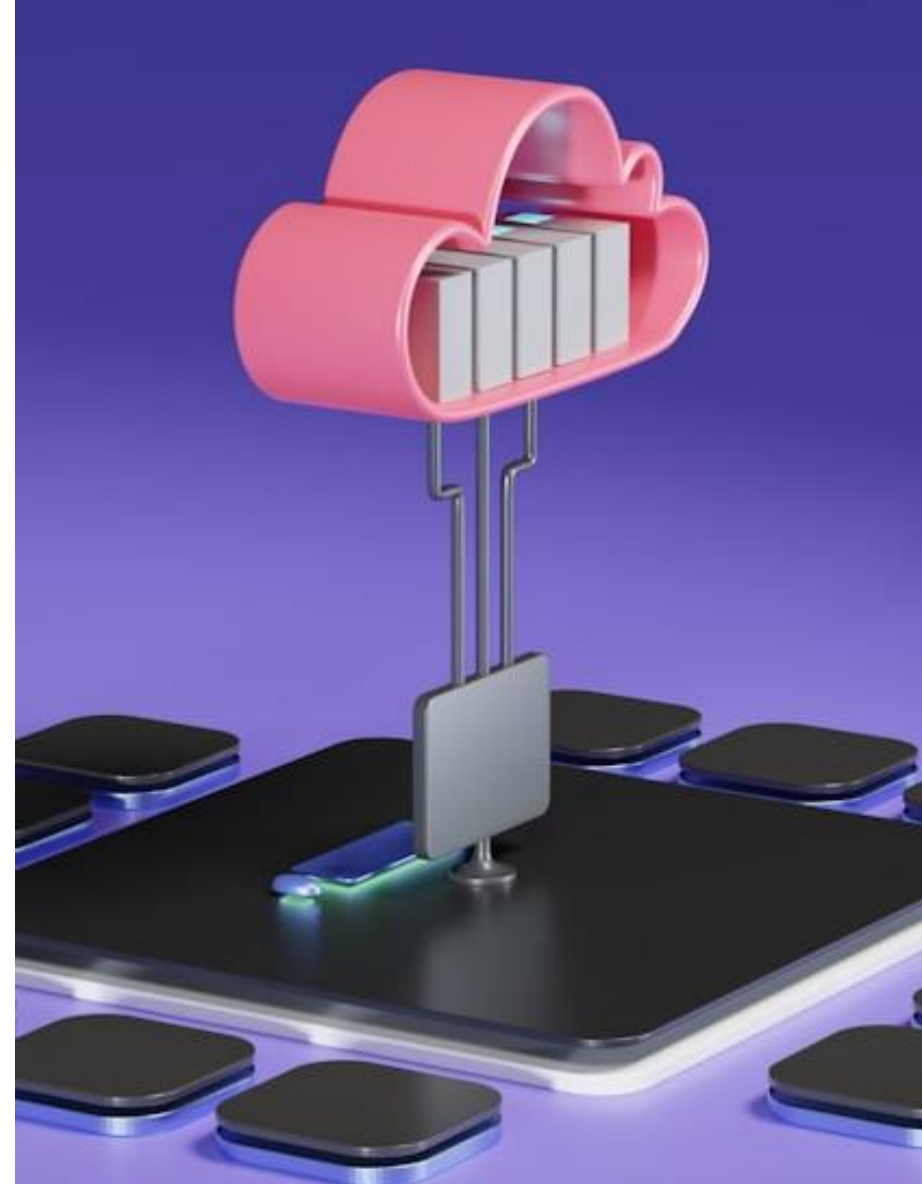
- Inside:
  - Infotainment systems
  - Increasing in other ECUs, mainly communication and connectivity
- Outside areas includes
  - Development tools and infrastructure,
  - Simulation and quality assurance,
  - Connectivity and service provisioning





# Centralisation of in-vehicle computing

- General move towards a centralised computing architecture
- Presently, most cars come with 150-250 ECUs, and trucks around 90. Notable exceptions, like Tesla, employ 2-3 main computing units
- Puts higher demands on performance and security, e.g., separating processes through virtualization and containerization



# Towards a common yet decoupled SDV platform

- A modular architecture with exchangeable building blocks, OSS and proprietary
- Several layers of middleware and infrastructure for containerization and parallelization of different services and operations.
- Abstraction layer to cloud and connectivity-based services, along with data transmission critical



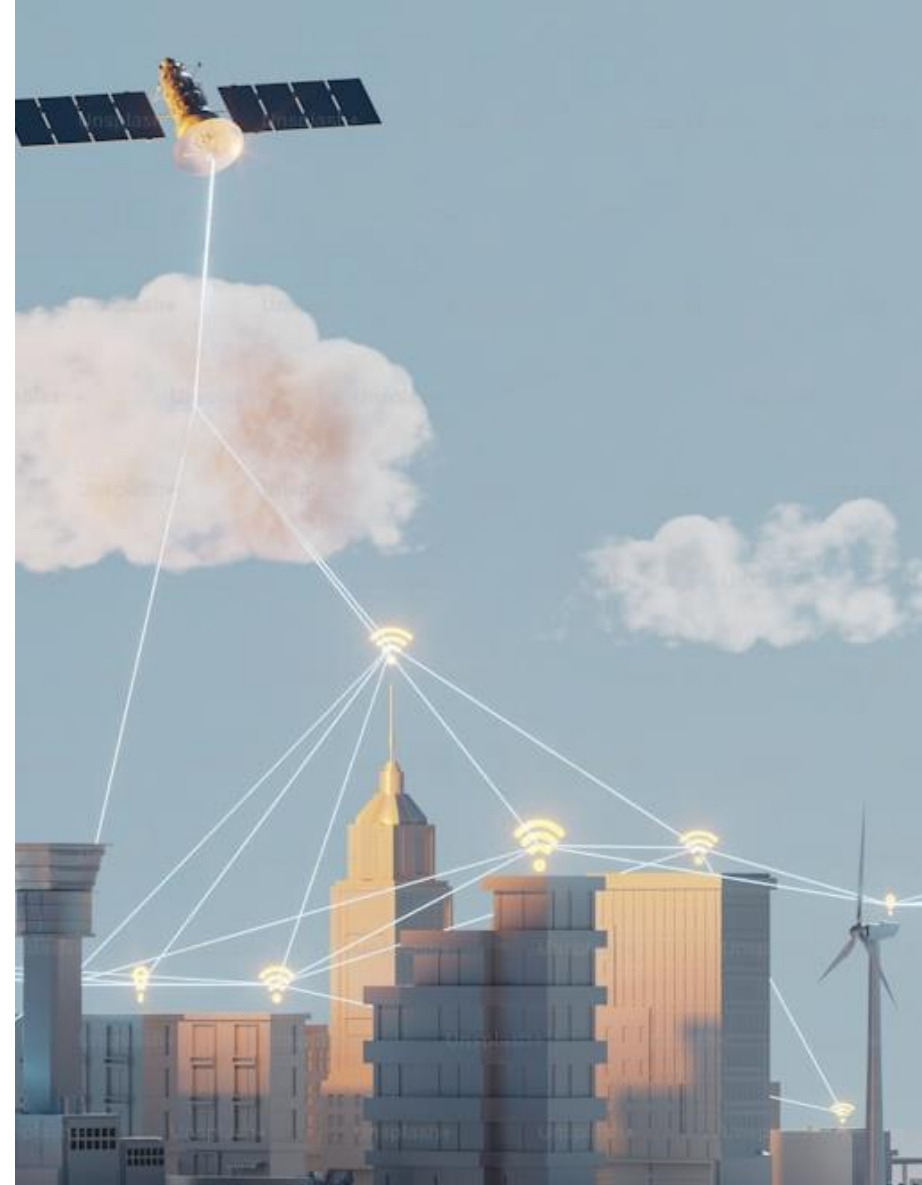
# **Standardization key for interoperability and breaking complexity**

*“Standardisation is crucial to ensure interchangeability and accelerate development for automakers.*

*The software complexity is skyrocketing now, and we need to make its development easier. “ - Intellias-representative*

# New technologies driving the transition

- Electrification, Autonomous driving Connectivity, and the transition towards service-oriented models driving the change
- Increases complexity and need for common platforms and standardized safety certified technology
- Beyond what any actor alone can or should manage alone.





# Moving from hardware to software-centric

*"We're becoming a software company, less of a hardware company as we've been in the past. We're still building a foundry, but most of the new developments are on the software side.*

*You control things with software, you don't change the hardware, you reconfigure using software." - Scania representative*

## Development ongoing but slow-paced

- Predictions about the establishment of a common SDV platform diverge within industry circles.
- Vehicles are safety-critical products with demands on functional safety
- Long life-spans lasting over a decade putting high demands on sustainability
- 100y+ industry with long-standing conservative and competitive nature
- Hierarchical supply-chains



# Knowledge and capacity needed to enable change

- Enhancing internal skills and knowledge is crucial for accelerating the cultural and software evolution in the automotive industry.
- Both engineering teams and management require training and empowerment
- Forerunners and OSS foundations can support and lead by example



## Availability and attraction of skilled personnel

- Fierce demand outweighs availability
- Technical and cultural legacy impacts attractiveness
- Adoption of OSS and transition towards SDVs can help but needs the drums and pipes



# OSPOs: enablers for OSS adoption and culture

- Internal centers of competency and support
- Helps to leverage OSS strategically and grow the culture, knowledge and processes needed to implement
- Increasing trend among OEMs and Tier 1s in alignment with other verticals and sectors





# **Hierarchical supplier structure incompatible with interdependent systems and actors**

*“We need to move from this classical OEM - tier one supplier working with a contract with a tier two supplier, and so on, into ecosystems and partnerships.” - Continental-representative*

# Moving to a collaborative ecosystem structure



- Challenging to maintain overview and engagement across the initiatives
- Complementary and increasingly integrating and collaborating with each other

# Government facilitation and funding a driver for change

- Governments and public institutions (e.g., EC) provides neutral grounds and trusted facilitation
- Directed funding can help development of neutral platforms
- Critical for pushing strengthening competitiveness and sovereignty



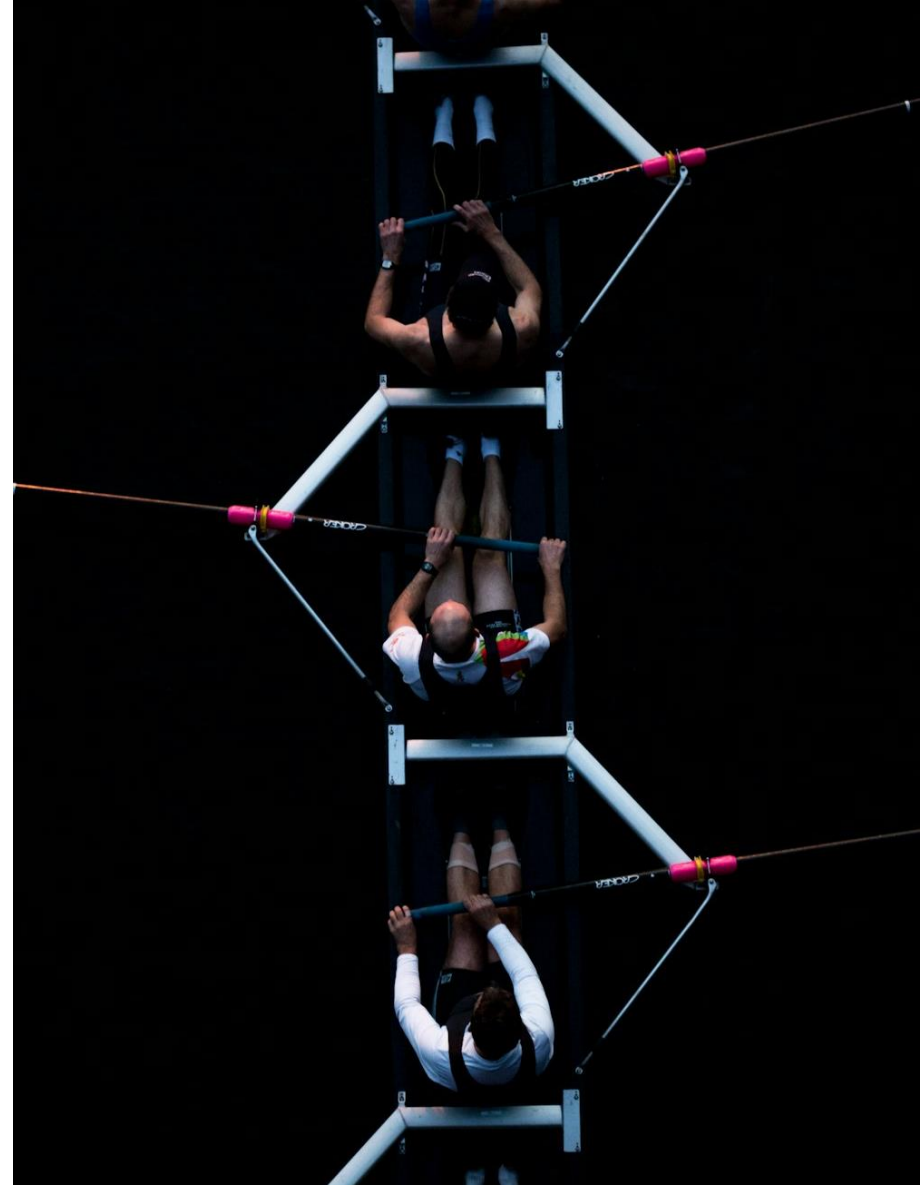
# OEMs and Tier 1 pushing and pulling each other

- Tier 1 suppliers play a pivotal role in driving OSS adoption and collaboration in the automotive industry.
- OEMs seek greater control over their software stack and align with upcoming regulations, they too are progressively embracing OSS.



# Strategic partnerships complementing internal capabilities

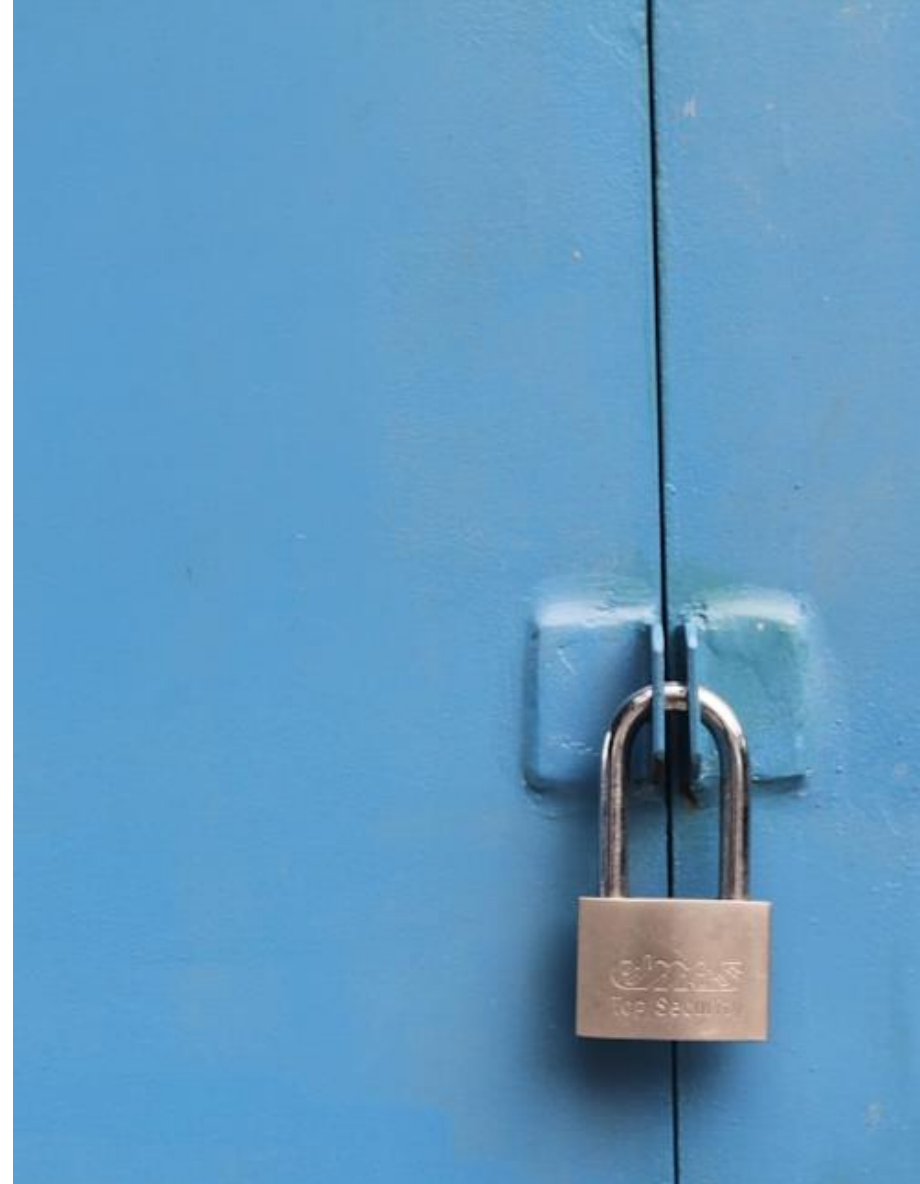
- Strategic alliances with tech giants are crucial for automotive entities
- Notably, Google's Android Automotive platform serves as a recurring example of this trend.
- Significant concern among several stakeholders is the looming threat of over-dependence on singular platform providers.





# Finding and Collaborating on commodity technology

- Identifying differentiating technology, and position in commoditization cycle a challenge
- Need to align on infrastructure technology and push to commodity layer faster to stay competitive
- Establishing standardized interfaces and common building blocks is seen as key
- Twitching on specific ECUs stifles innovation



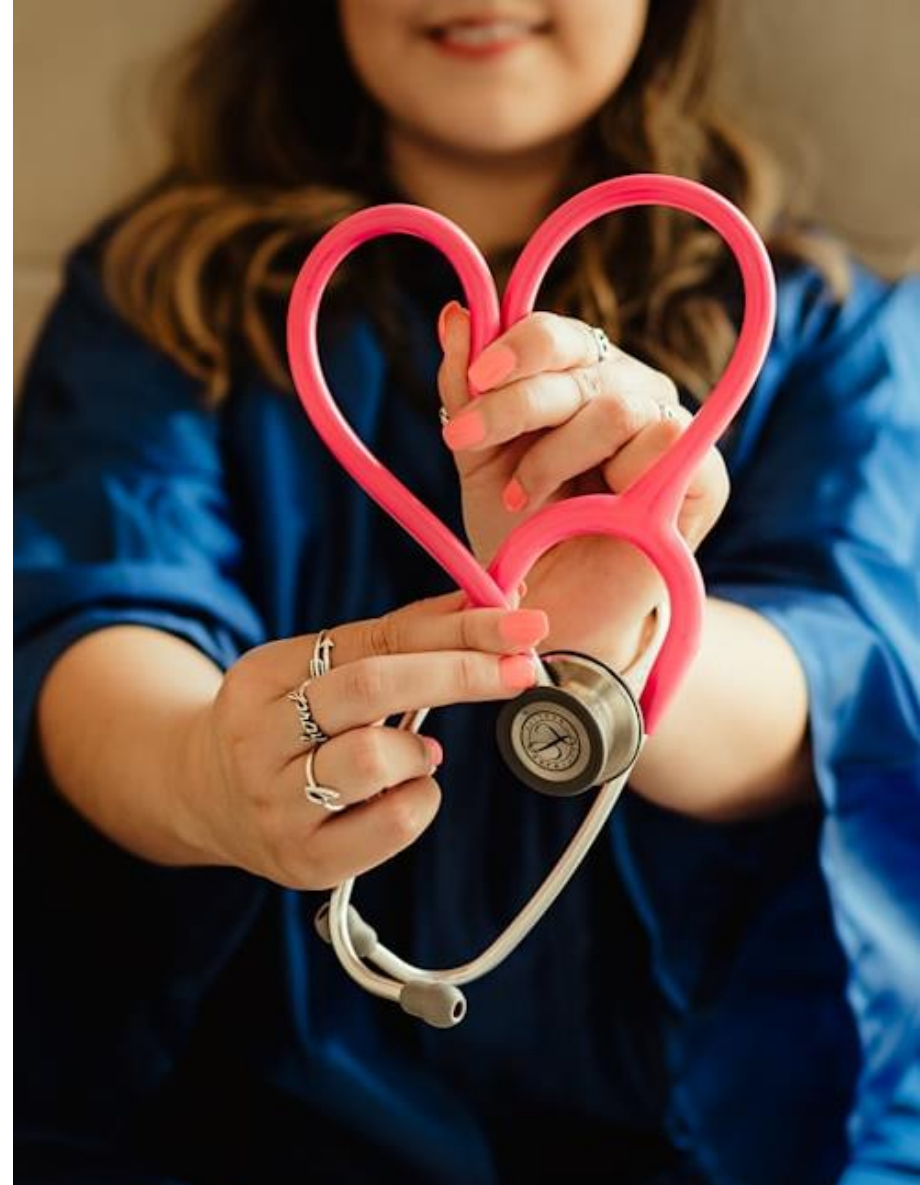
# Functional safety and OSS development

- Functional safety standards require stringent development processes for automotive software
- Beyond exceptions like infotainment systems employing Android Automotive or Automotive Grade Linux, the application of OSS components is largely restricted.
- Anticipation is growing around imminent launches of functional safety-certified Linux-based OS and associated middleware.



## Ensuring a sustainable and healthy OSS supply chain

- The assurance of safety and security through OSS necessitates a comprehensive understanding and proactive management.
- For the benefit of systems longevity, it is pivotal for OSS projects to be actively sustained.
- Requires prolonged commitment and investment from the automotive industry.



*"Open source software is indispensable. It is not just vital to the software industry, it is vital for the automotive industry; it is vital for every sector that uses software.*

*The entire European industry needs to champion open source to maintain digital sovereignty, increase efficiency, and remain competitive with the rest of the world."*

*- Representative from Mercedes-Benz Tech Innovation*

