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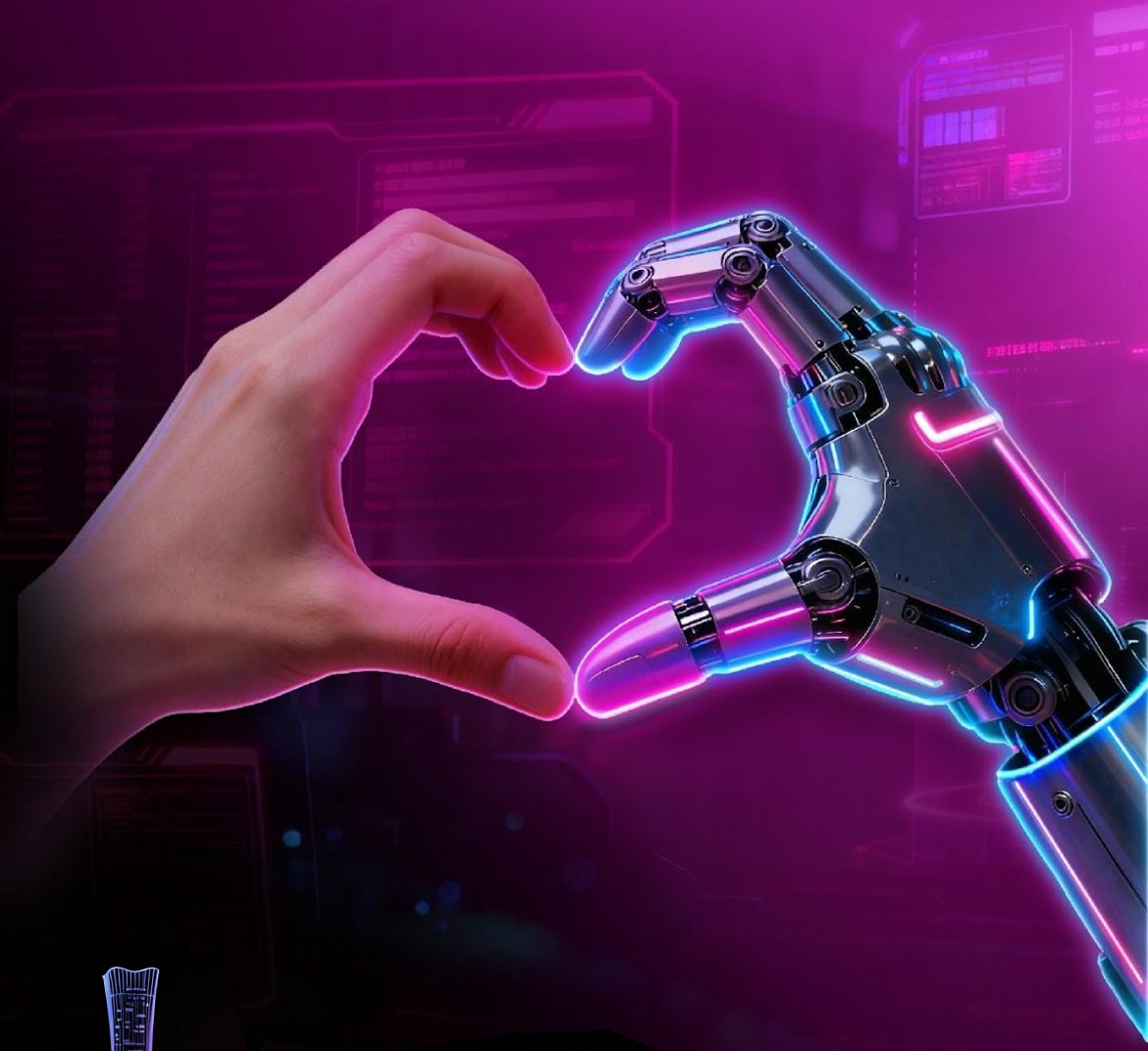
COSCon'25
第十届中国开源年会

众智开源 | Open Source, Open Intelligence



FOSDEM

what it is, why we do it, and how

Richard “RichiH” Hartmann

FOSDEM

Open Source Club

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FOSDEM 101

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- Université libre de Bruxelles in Brussels, Belgium, Europe
- Yearly, one weekend in late winter, since 2000
- No commercial angle
- Completely about Open Source, run mainly with Open Source
- No paid staff, volunteers only
- Largest Open Source conference on Earth

Content

- Main track – staff selects talks
  - Lightning talks
- Devrooms – “conference as-a-service”
- Booths
- 40 fringe events
  - Some companies organize their yearly global engineering all-hands around FOSDEM (e.g. Red Hat)

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Largest on Earth?!

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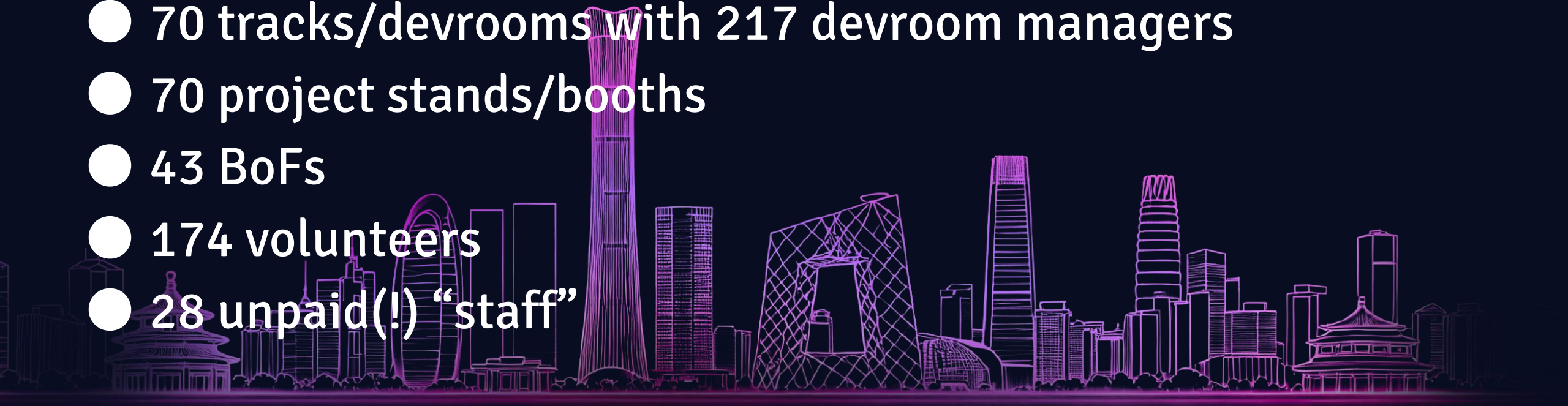
- 1105 talks/events
  - 38 lightning talks
- 1184 speakers
- 70 tracks/devrooms with 217 devroom managers
- 70 project stands/booths
- 43 BoFs
- 174 volunteers
- 28 unpaid(!) “staff”



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Why?

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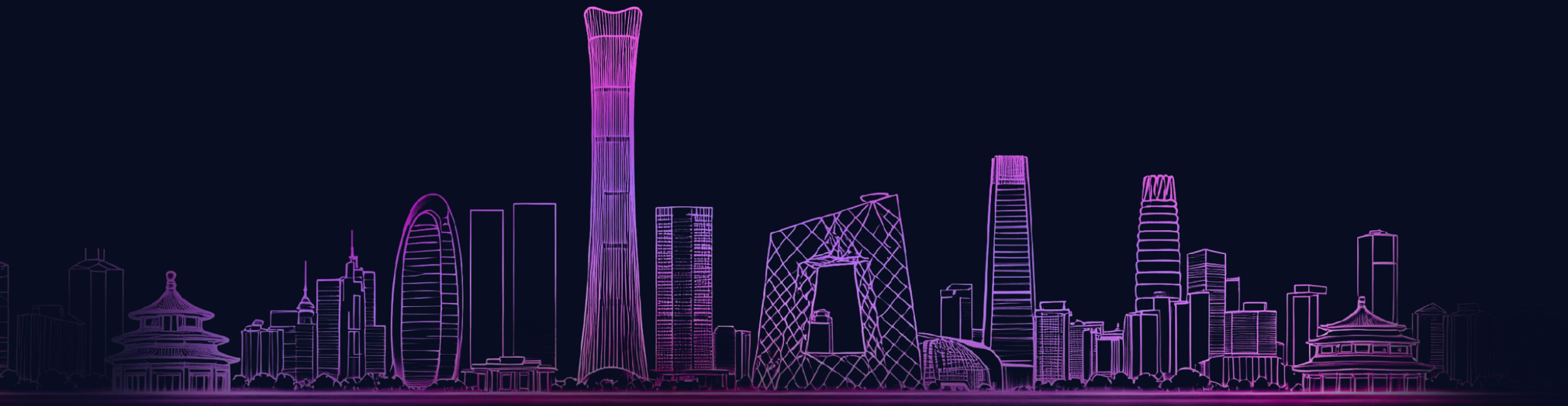


Why?

We’re stupid?

Why?

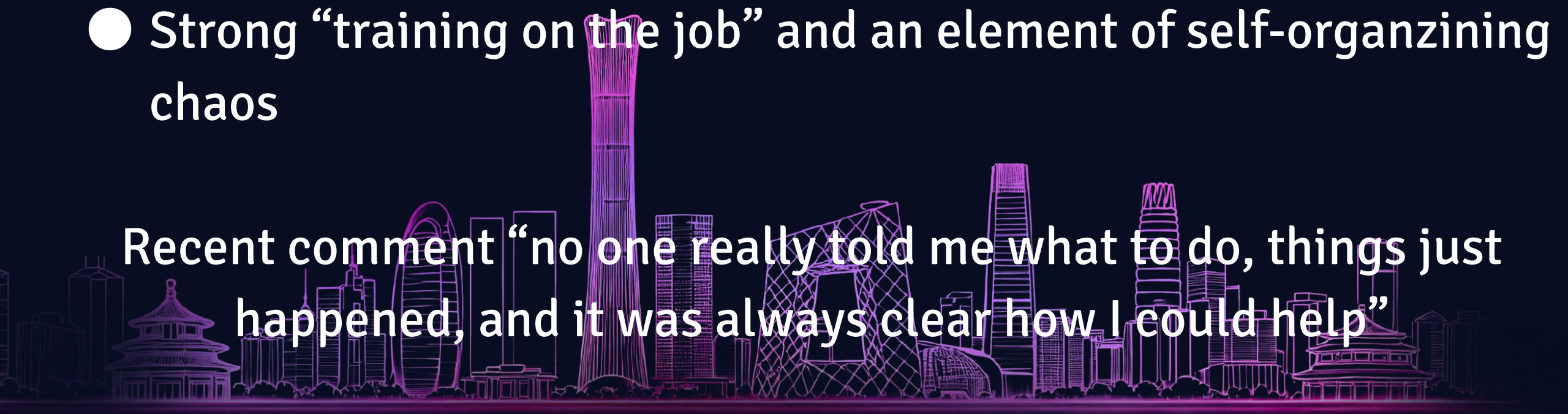
We don’t believe in sleep?

Why?

BUT: We believe in Open Source!

How: people

- FOSDEM staff: working over many years, and under the year
- Devroom managers: Running on top of conference-as-a-service
- Volunteers: Doing everything else; many of them for years
- Strong “training on the job” and an element of self-organzining chaos



Recent comment “no one really told me what to do, things just happened, and it was always clear how I could help”

How: software

- Call for Papers: Pretalx (Penta format, mobile apps, etc)
- Maps: c3nav
- Chat: Matrix & Element
- Infra: Proxmox, Prometheus, Grafana, Loki
- Inventory: Hopefully eventinfra's tooling soon
- Point of Sale: Not currently OSS, working on it

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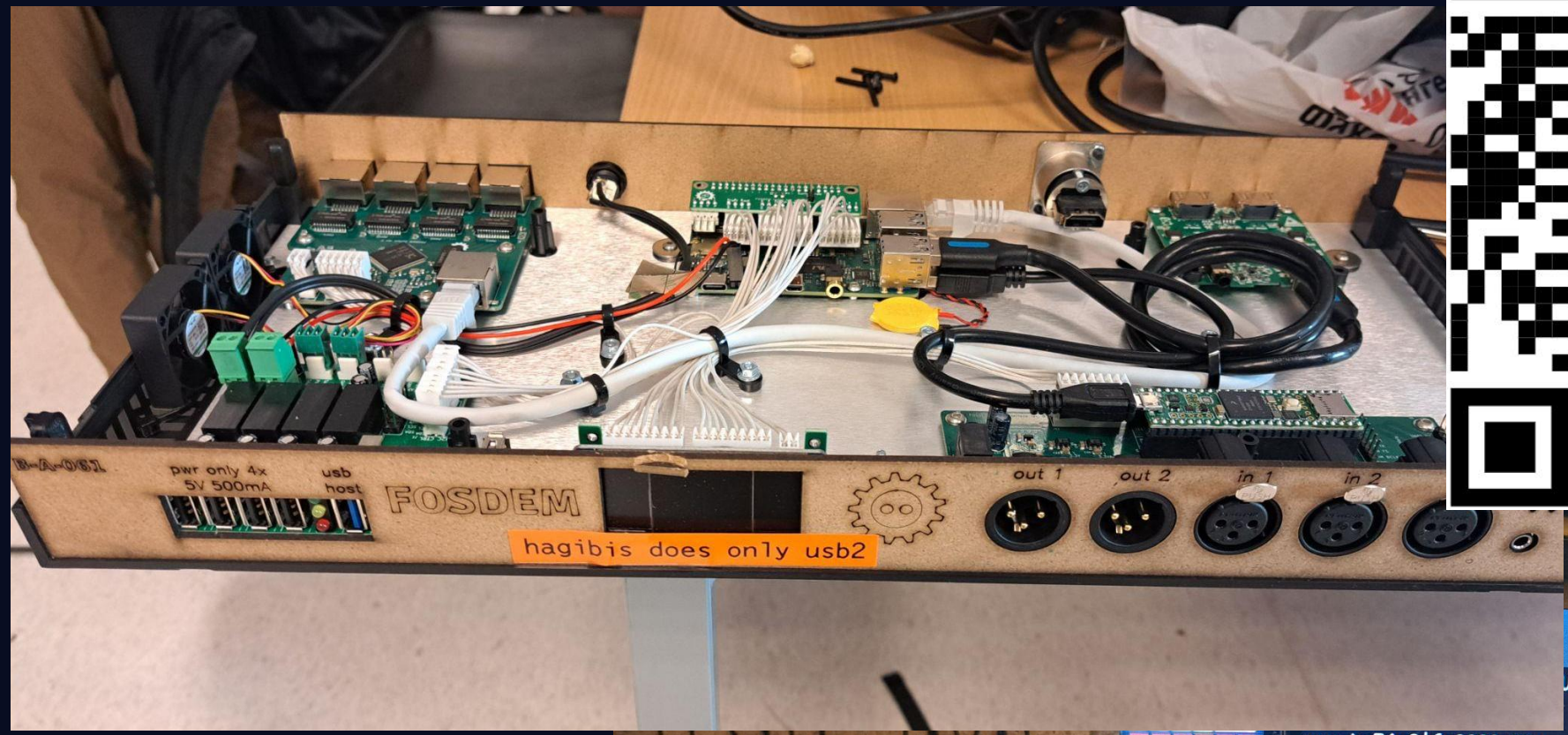
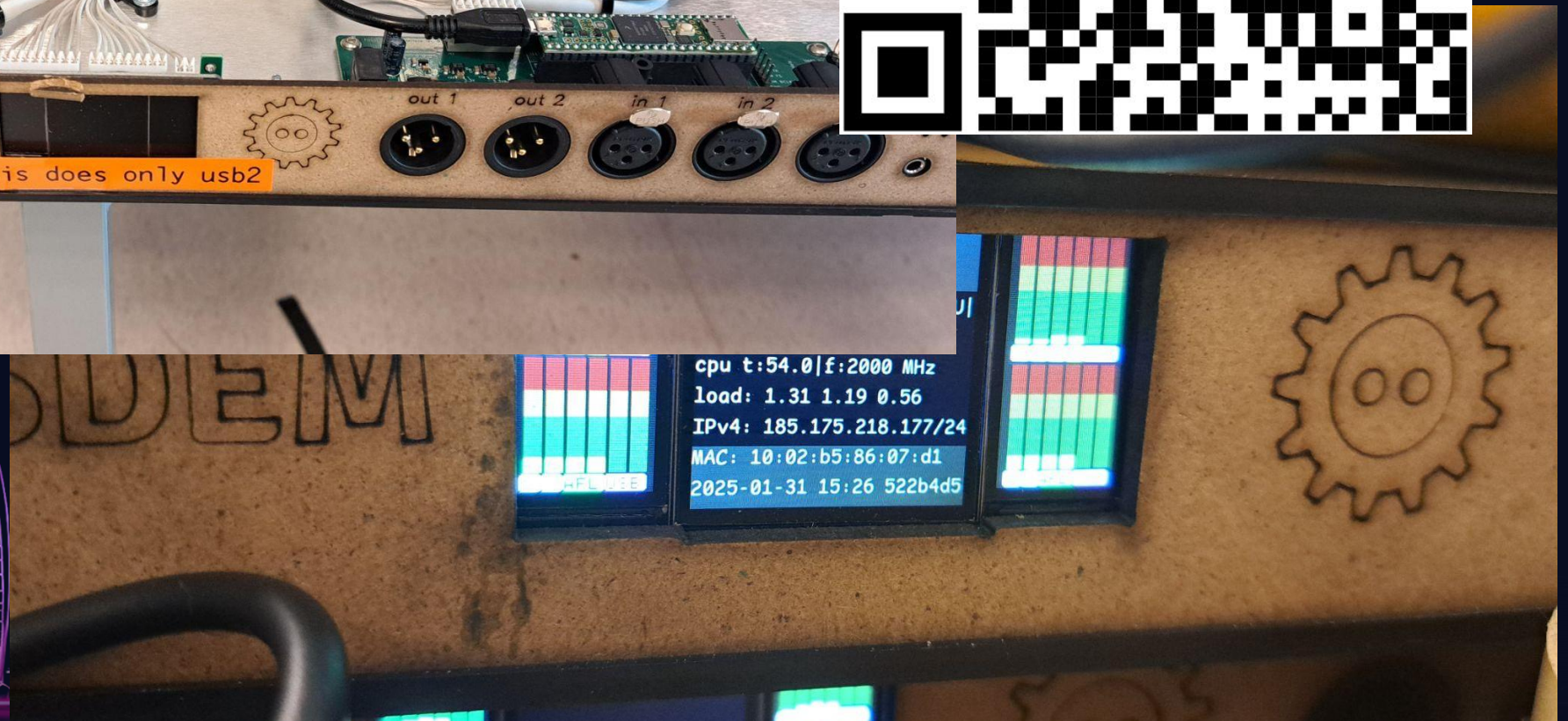
Video





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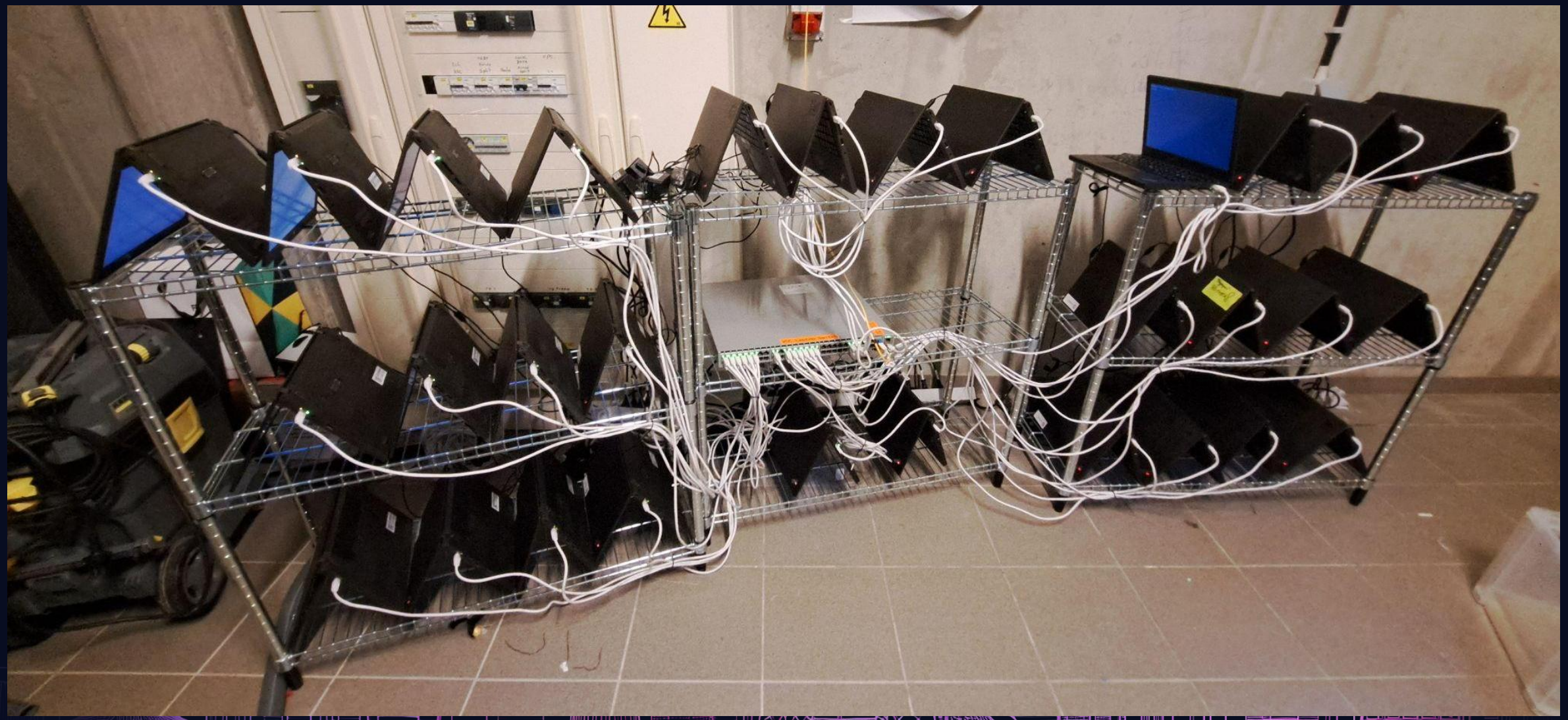
Video

- Fully open source
- We are happy to help you adopt it, can loan it, can help explain

Video render farm



Financing

- Sponsorships
  - Almost zero benefits for sponsors
  - Logo on website etc
  - NO input on content
- Selling of t-shirts and hoodies
  - Some years, we resold the render farm laptops to get the money back

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Clone our conference

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- Clone our Infrastructure:
  https://github.com/FOSDEM/infrastructure
- Check out our video setup:
  https://github.com/FOSDEM/video/

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How to get involved

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- If you want to attend FOSDEM, come find me
- If you want a booth for your conference, I can't promise anything, but let's talk
- We also started ConfConf, a conference about running conferences:
  - https://confconf.org/

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Thanks

https://chaos.social/@RichiH

https://github.com/RichiH/talks