# Danger in the Public Cloud Joe Levy

IEEE/ACM Information Technology Professional Conference at TCF March 20, 2015

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#### Introduction

- Business use of the Public Cloud
  - The Threat of Data Loss / Compromise
- Use Cases & Abuse Cases
- Private Resources Provide Protection
  - ownCloud as one alternative
  - Example
  - Quick Start





#### "The Cloud?"

- "The Cloud" = Your data, on someone else's servers
- "Public Cloud" = Services provided to the general public, at low / no cost, with nonnegotiated terms of service & privacy policies
- Not to be confused with contracted cloud services (e.g., AWS, Azure)





### Advantages of the Public Cloud

- Legitimate business need to store / move data
  - Multiple work locations
  - Multiple devices, including BYOD
  - Collaboration
- Ubiquitous, easy-to-use, and "free"
- Multi-platform support
- No worries about lost flash drives





#### **Public Cloud Providers**

- Lots of people have one, or more than one
- Google Drive, Dropbox, OneDrive, iCloud...
- Often "free"
  - (If it's free, are you the customer, or the product?)
- Accounts often created for personal use, but repurposed for business use





### Use (abuse?) Case

- Bob creates a Dropbox account for personal use
- Bob shares folders with friends & family, and shares his password with Alice
- Bob uses the Dropbox account to sync business documents between his laptop, and his tablet
- Business data may now be exposed

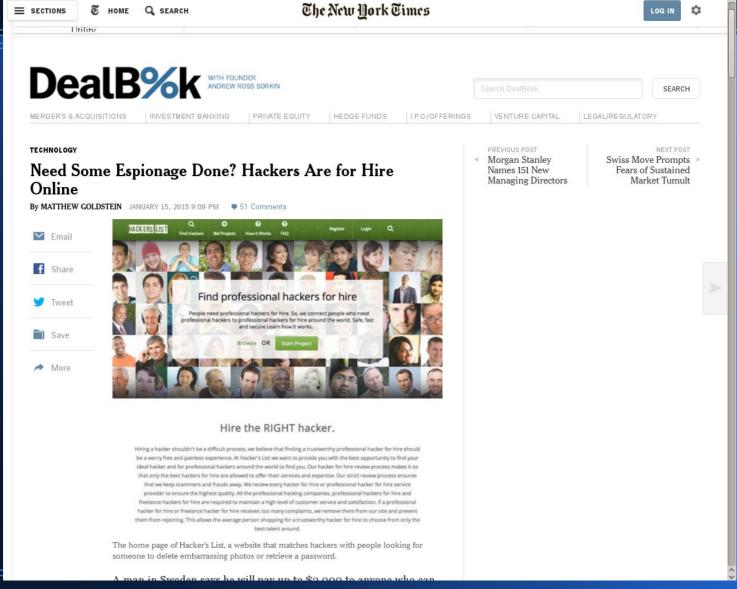


# Use (abuse?) Case #2

- Carol creates a Google Drive account for her Business Development department
- She shares folders with her staff, including Dave
- Dave leaves the company, IT deletes his accounts, but does not know about the Business Development Google Drive account
- Dave can still access Carol's shared folders



### **Hackers for Hire**





# Hackers working "on spec"

- iCloud "naked celebrity" data breach
  - Brute force, weak passwords, security Qs
- 5 million Gmail address / password pairs
  - Validity not clear
- Dropbox credential dump
  - Denied by dropbox
- Credential re-use aggravates the threat



### **Data Security Questions**

- What are the security requirements for the data?
  - Company confidential, proprietary
  - Customer data: HIPAA, FERPA, financial
  - Business partner data
  - Internal compartmentalized (e.g., HR, audit)
- Not all datasets require the same level of security





### **Public Cloud Weaknesses**

- Personal accounts lack BPA, are not acceptable for HIPAA, FERPA protected data
- Co-mingling personal and business use on the same account promotes data loss
- Automated password recovery processes are highly vulnerable
- The big public cloud providers are hacker magnets





### If You Must...

- Evaluate your security requirements
- Don't re-purpose personal accounts
- Don't use your personal credentials
  - E-mail addresses
  - Passwords
- Avoid "discoverable" answers to security questions
- Review access frequently





# Use Case – Proposal Team

- Ed, of ABC, Inc., wants to bid a "stretch" job
- Ed gets consultants Felicity, George, and Heather to work on the proposal
- ABC, Inc., needs to provide collaboration facilities, while limiting Felicity, George, and Heather's access to ABC's proprietary data
- Ed needs a fast solution



### Use Case – Startup IPO

- A startup, DEF, Inc., is quietly getting ready to go public
- Core group of executives, attorneys, and investment bankers are preparing financial statements and filings
- Work-in-progress very closely held, secret even from other employees





### **Use Case – Revolutionaries**

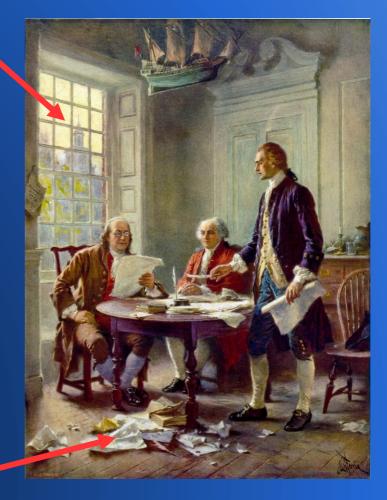
- Tom, Ben, and John are plotting to overthrow a tyrant, and institute new government
- Secure storage & collaboration facilities required for reference material, working papers, resolutions
- Data compromise might mean death by hanging





# Meeting the Need

- Requirements
  - Business
  - Security
- Develop
  - Facilities
  - Procedures
  - Training





#### **Secured Facilities**



- Control your facilities& services
- One size does not fit all
  - Large scale products not for everybody
- ownCloud is one solution





### What is ownCloud?

- Server data storage, file sync, collaboration apps
  - Written in PHP
  - Runs in a LAMP stack (or on Windows server)
- Scalable in operation
  - Supports external data stores, optionally encrypted
- Scalable for evaluation, deployment
  - Open Source AGPL or Enterprise

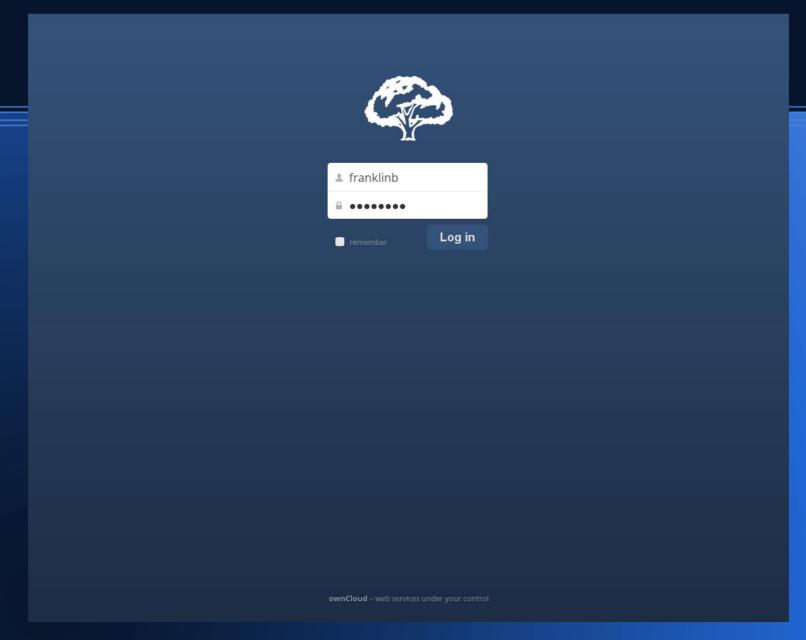




#### ownCloud Screen Shots

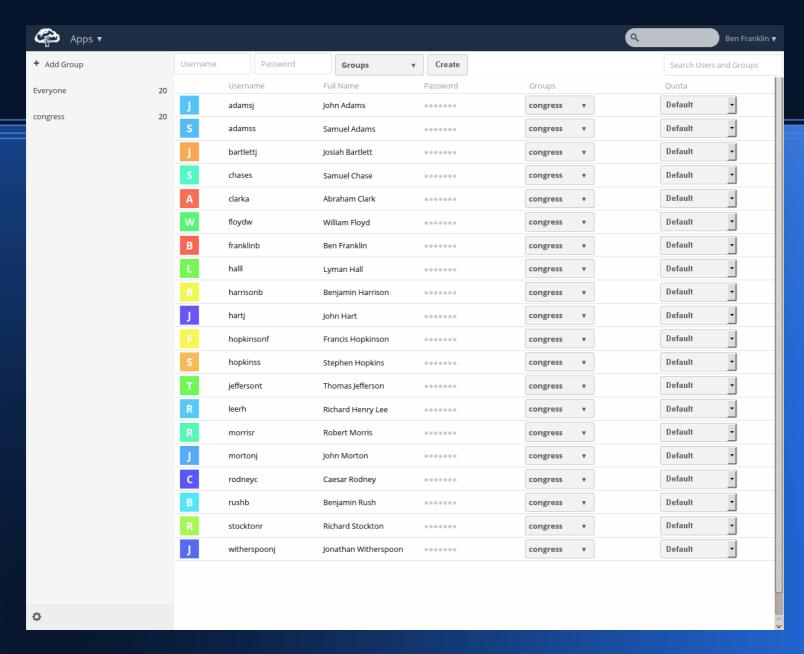
- From my private server, behind my firewall
- ownCloud 7 pre-built appliance
  - OpenSUSE Linux
  - Old, low-end PC, re-purposed
- New user group created for illustration





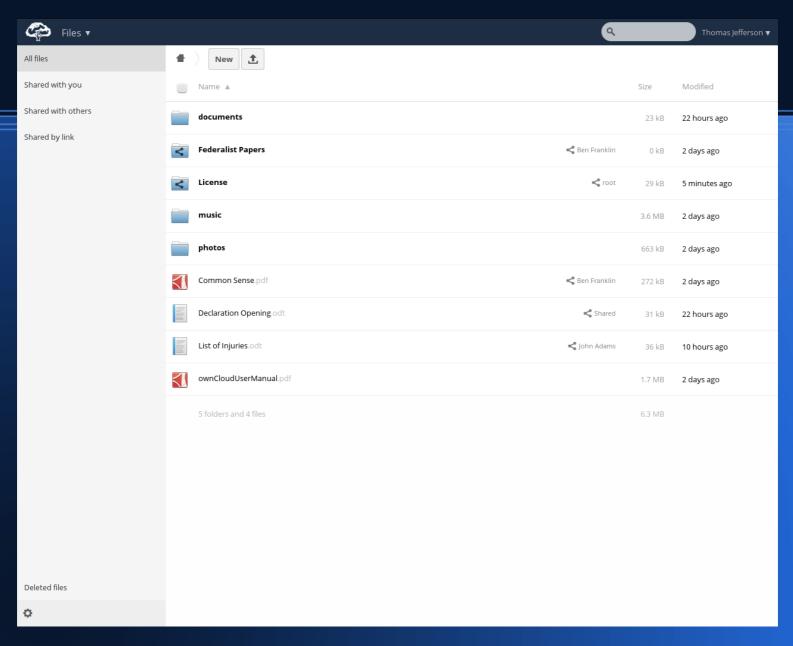




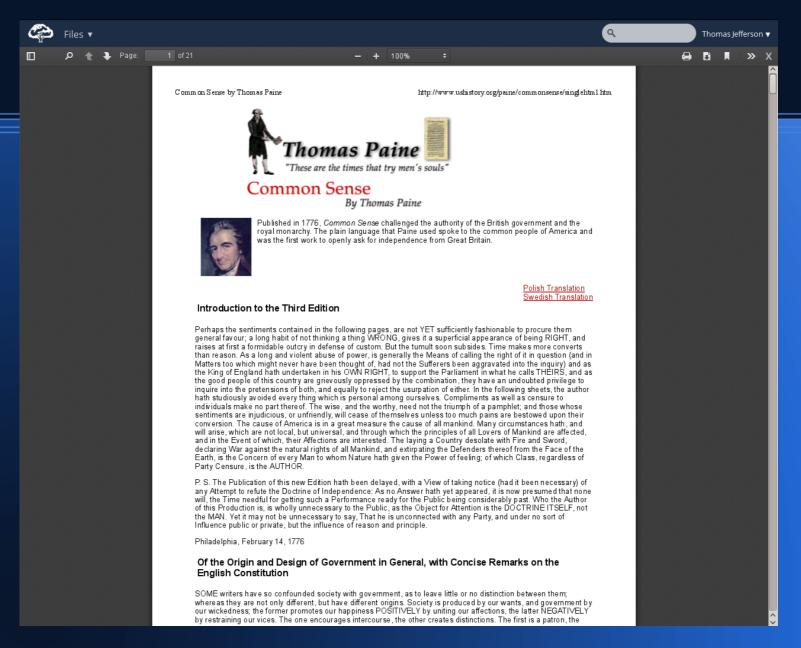




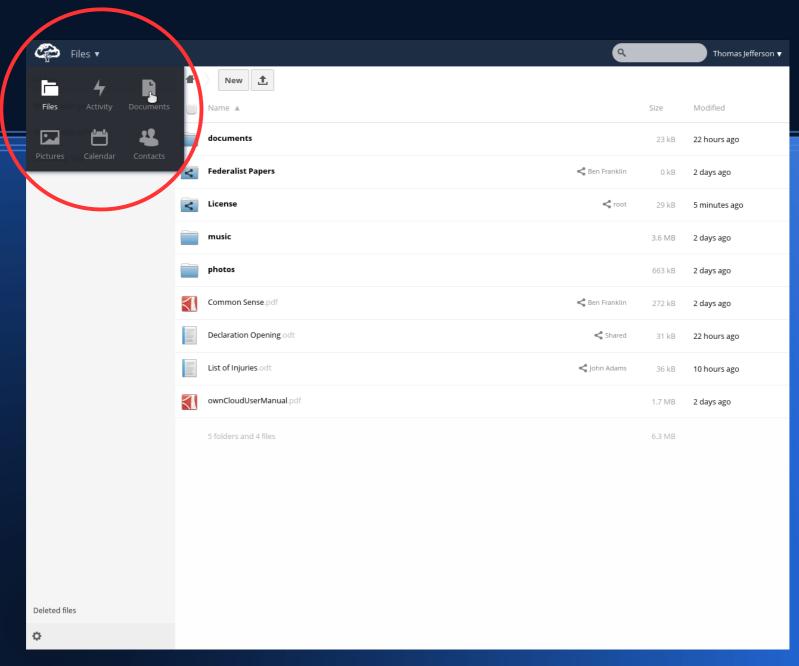






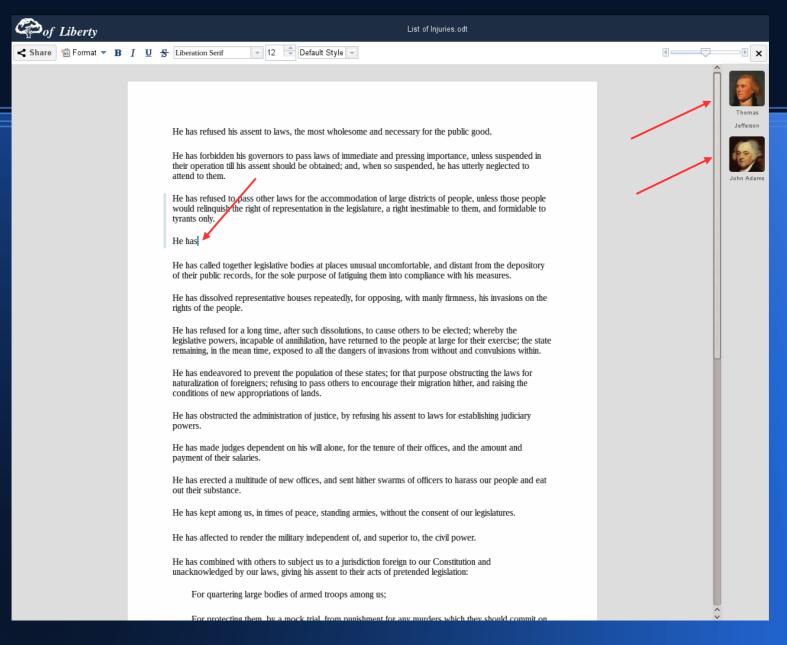




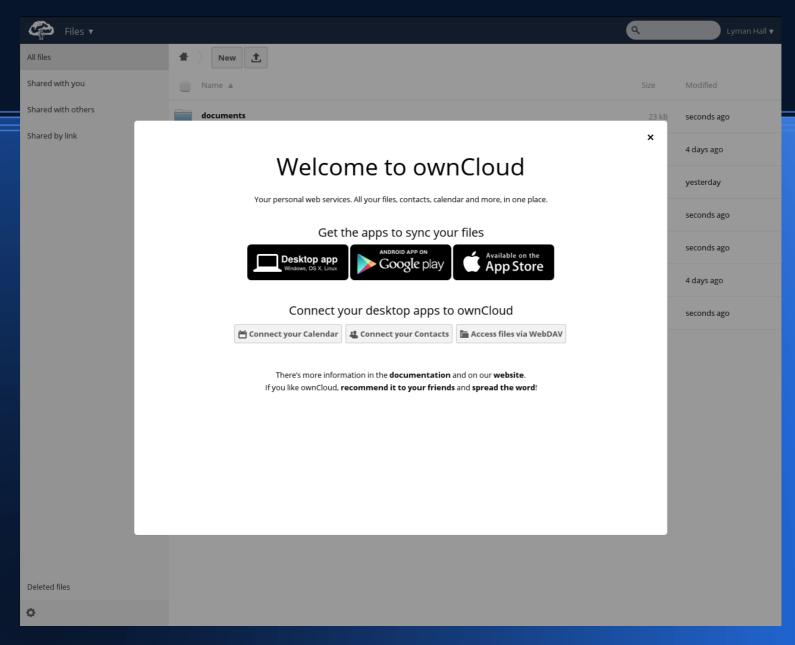














# ownCloud: low bar to entry

- Open Source development, licensing
  - Evaluate, initial deploy with AGPL @ \$0.00
    - Mobile apps at nominal cost
  - Buy enterprise support if needed
- Quick start
  - Configurable "appliances" available
    - . < 1 hour to build, load & go</p>
    - Virtual or physical

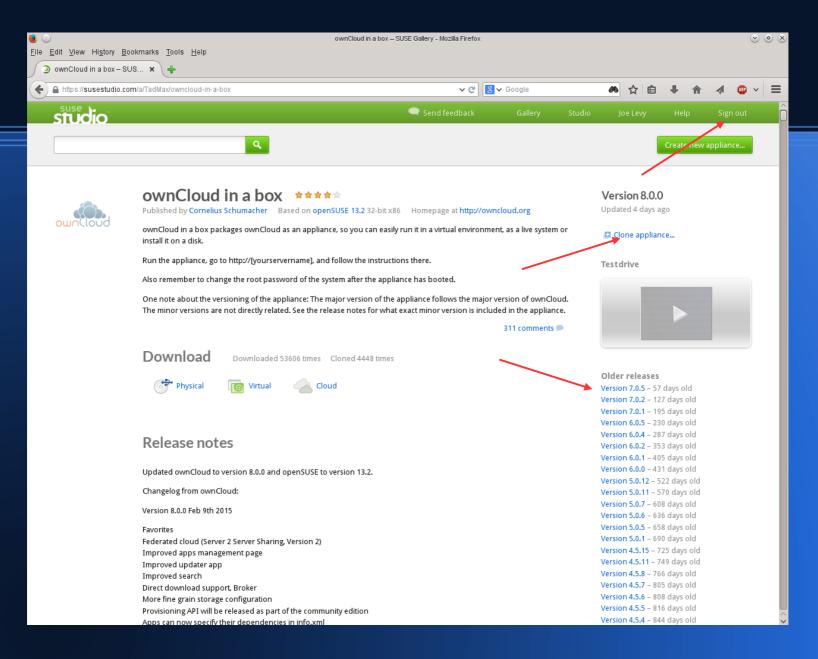




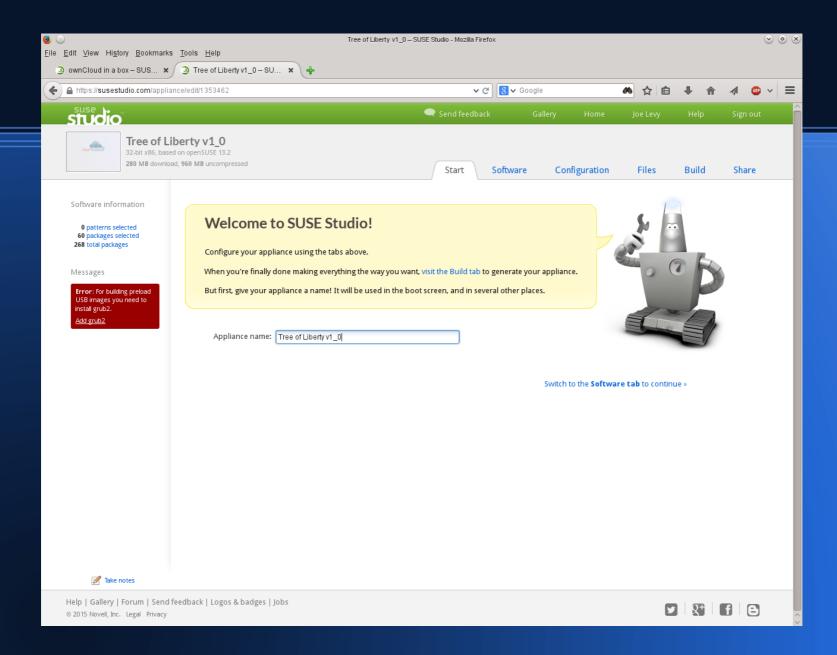
### ownCloud Quick Start

- Start at <a href="http://www.owncloud.org">http://www.owncloud.org</a>
- Navigate through
  - "Documentation"
  - "Administration Manual"
  - "Installation"
  - "ownCloud Appliances"
- Select SUSE Studio, or Amahi



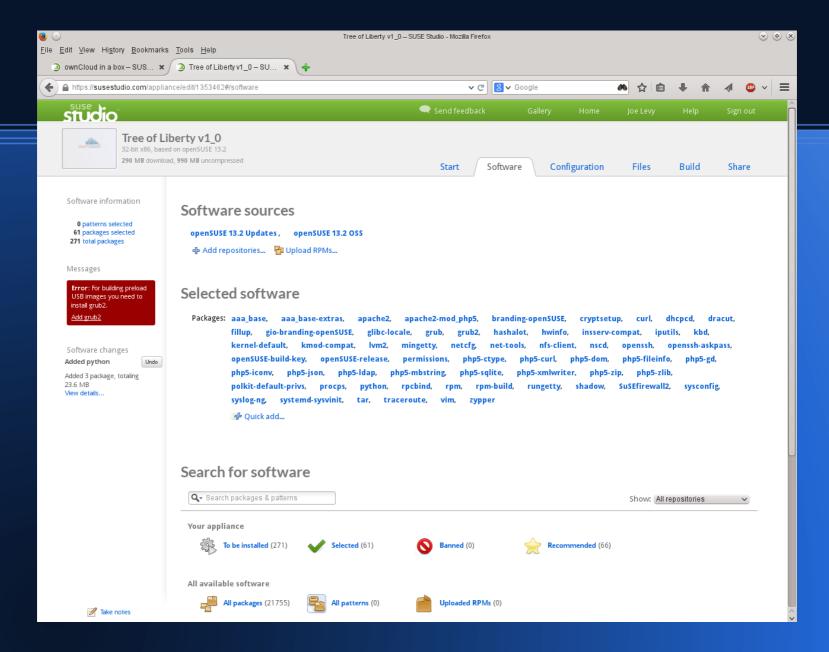


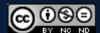


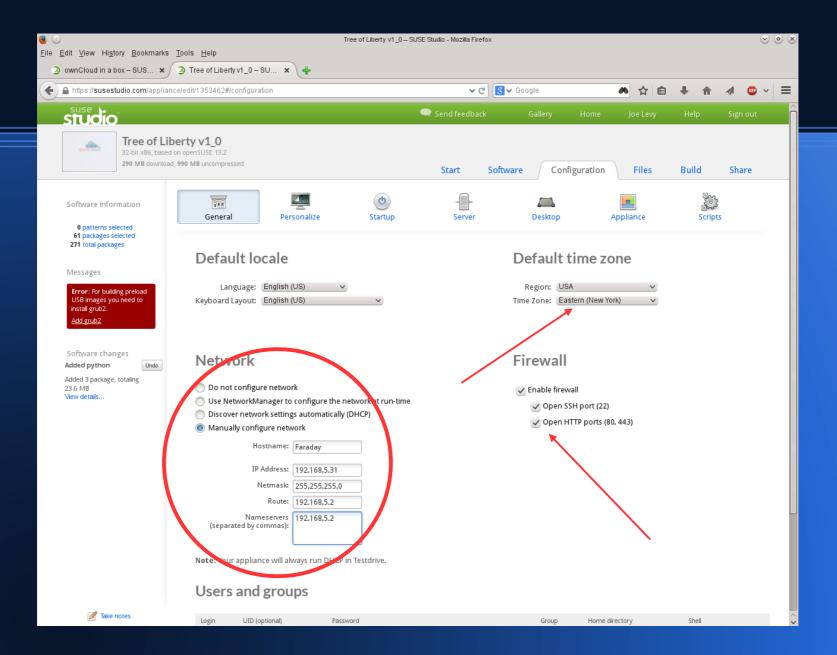




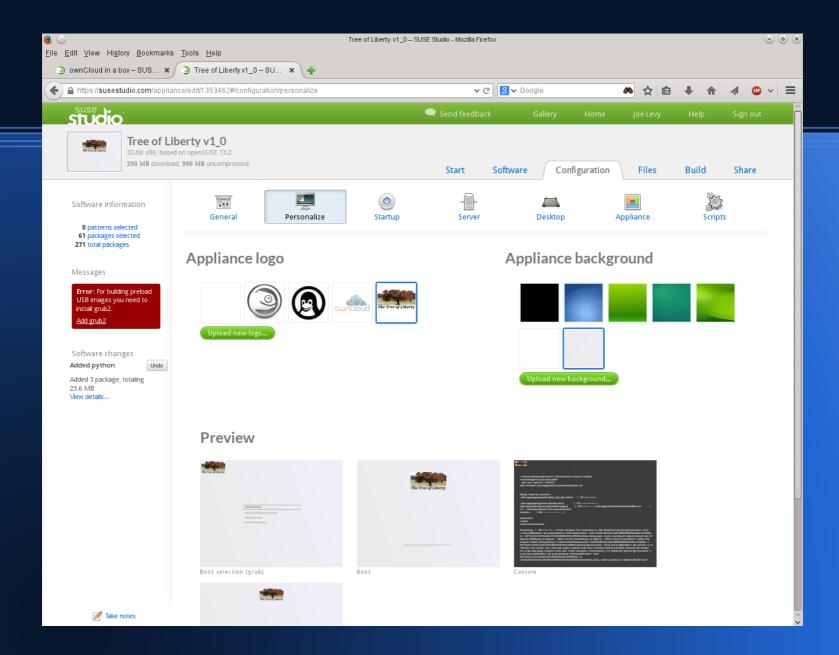




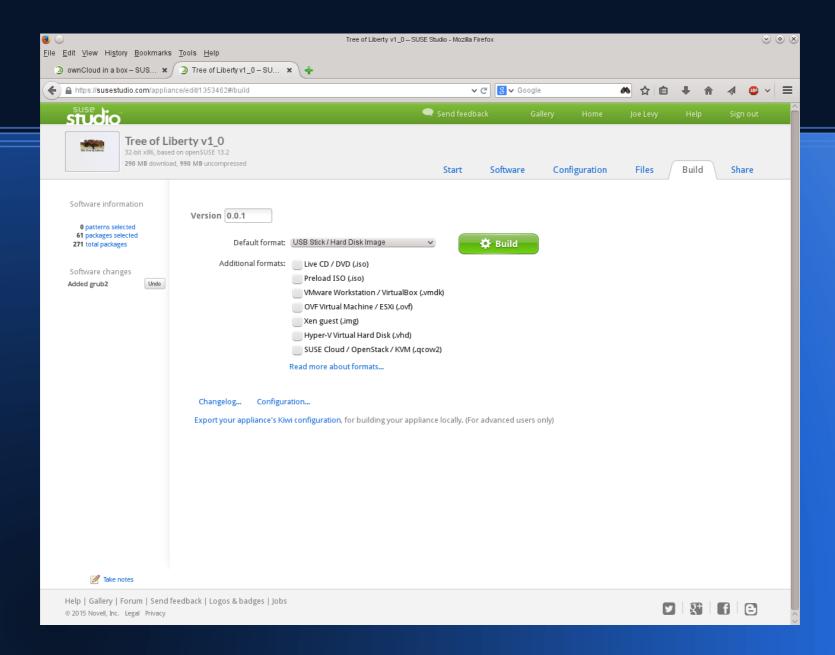
















# Licensing

- ownCloud is released under two licenses
  - GNU Affero General Public License v3
  - ownCloud's "Enterprise" license
- AGPL imposes downstream license requirements
  - Rarely a burden





# Thank you for coming!

- Questions?
- http://www.owncloud.org
- joelevy@computer.org



