



Bridging the gap - forward thinking enterprises are hybrid

*John Mertic
Director, Open Mainframe Project*

A (Brief)* History of Computing Infrastructure



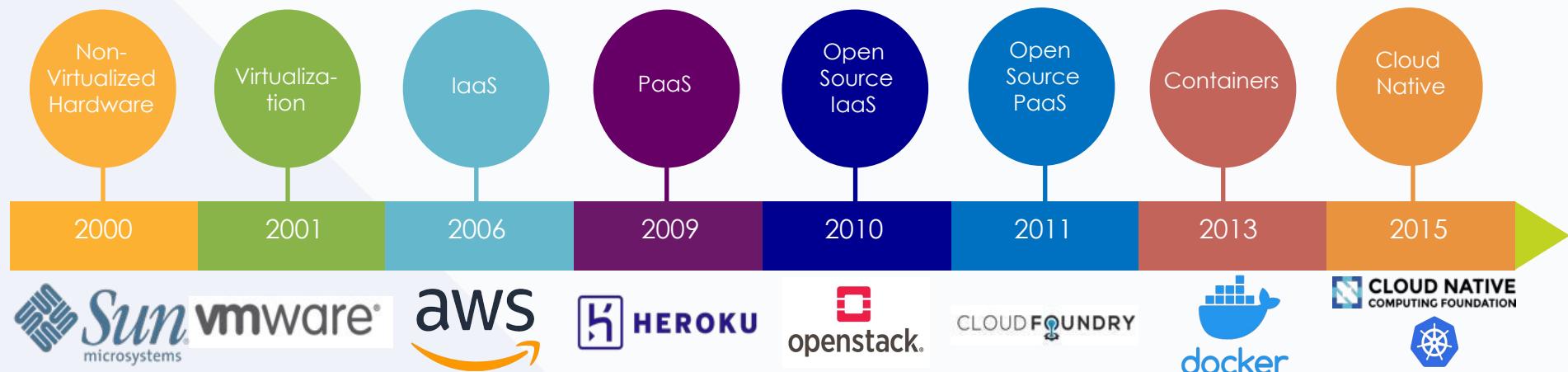
(*) note that this is intentionally NOT an *an* through history. We only have so much time :-)

1960s through mid 2000s

- Physical infrastructure under one roof
- Proprietary, single vendor to streamline support
- Slowly evolving - business adapted to technology instead of technology adapting to business



Infrastructure evolves





Technology now adapts to business

- Infrastructure is hybrid and fluid
- Applications are deployed across infrastructures
 - “Microservices”
- Nodes are interconnected
- Open source is the connective thread





So what about mainframe?

Mainframe is the only platform with these design principles...

- Security
- Availability
- Scalability
- Performance

...all turned up to an 11, built on decades of expertise and critical infrastructure use.

(queue Spinal Tap :-))



How to cross the gap? Open Source



Enter Open Mainframe Project



Open Mainframe Project believes...

- that leading organizations leverage their **technology infrastructure as a competitive advantage**.
- that the mainframe design principles of **security, stability, scalability, and performance are important** to these leading organizations
- **having the mainframe interoperable** in a hybrid infrastructure enables leading organizations to realize its benefits.
- this can only be achieved **as a community through open source**.

Open Mainframe Project Vision



A thriving Open Source ecosystem and related flourishing project communities that together deliver value for the platform and the mainframe community, and that set the standard for modern, open, enterprise class systems, infrastructure and applications on the mainframe



Mission of the Open Mainframe Project:

To build an **Open Source community** and drive adoption of **Open Source** on the mainframe by...

- **Eliminating barriers** to Open Source adoption on the mainframe
- **Demonstrating value** of the mainframe on technical and business levels
- **Strengthening collaboration** points and resources for the community to thrive
- **Identifying, accepting and hosting purely open source projects** that are consistent with and advance us towards realizing our vision

Open Mainframe Project enables this innovation

Graduated Open Mainframe Projects



Incubating Open Mainframe Projects



Open Mainframe Project Working Group



Learn about all Open Mainframe projects at <https://www.openmainframeproject.org/projects>



Most importantly, Open Mainframe Project sustainability enables this innovation

Successful projects depend on members, developers, standards and infrastructure to develop products that the market will adopt



Open Mainframe Project:

part of The Linux Foundation ecosystem of sustainable open source



For the last 16 years, The Linux Foundation has provided unparalleled support for open source communities through financial and intellectual resources, governance structure, IT infrastructure, services, events, and training.

Dedicated to building sustainable ecosystems around open source projects, The Linux Foundation is working with the global technology community to solve the world's hardest problems through open source and **creating the largest shared technology investment in history.**

The Linux Foundation is the umbrella organization for **more than 700 open source projects** accelerating open technology development and commercial adoption. Some of the game-changing initiatives hosted by The Linux Foundation include:



CLOUD NATIVE
COMPUTING FOUNDATION



HYPERLEDGER
BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGIES FOR BUSINESS



Zephyr™
Project



kubernetes



OpenSSF
OPEN SOURCE SECURITY FOUNDATION



Fintech
Open Source
Foundation



ASWF
/* ACADEMY
SOFTWARE
FOUNDATION



Let's
Encrypt



RISC-V®



CALL
FOR
CODE®



Linux



z/VM



z/OS



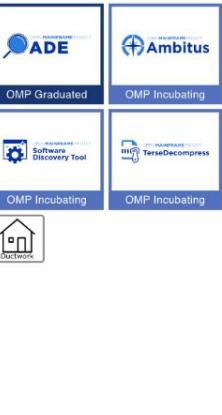
Development Tools



Learning and Mentoring



Other



Projects



This landscape is intended as a map to explore open source projects within the mainframe industry, and also shows the member companies of the Open Mainframe Project.



l.openmainframeproject.org

API Mediation Layer ZOWE V1



App Framework ZOWE V1



CLI ZOWE V1



API Mediation Layer 2019



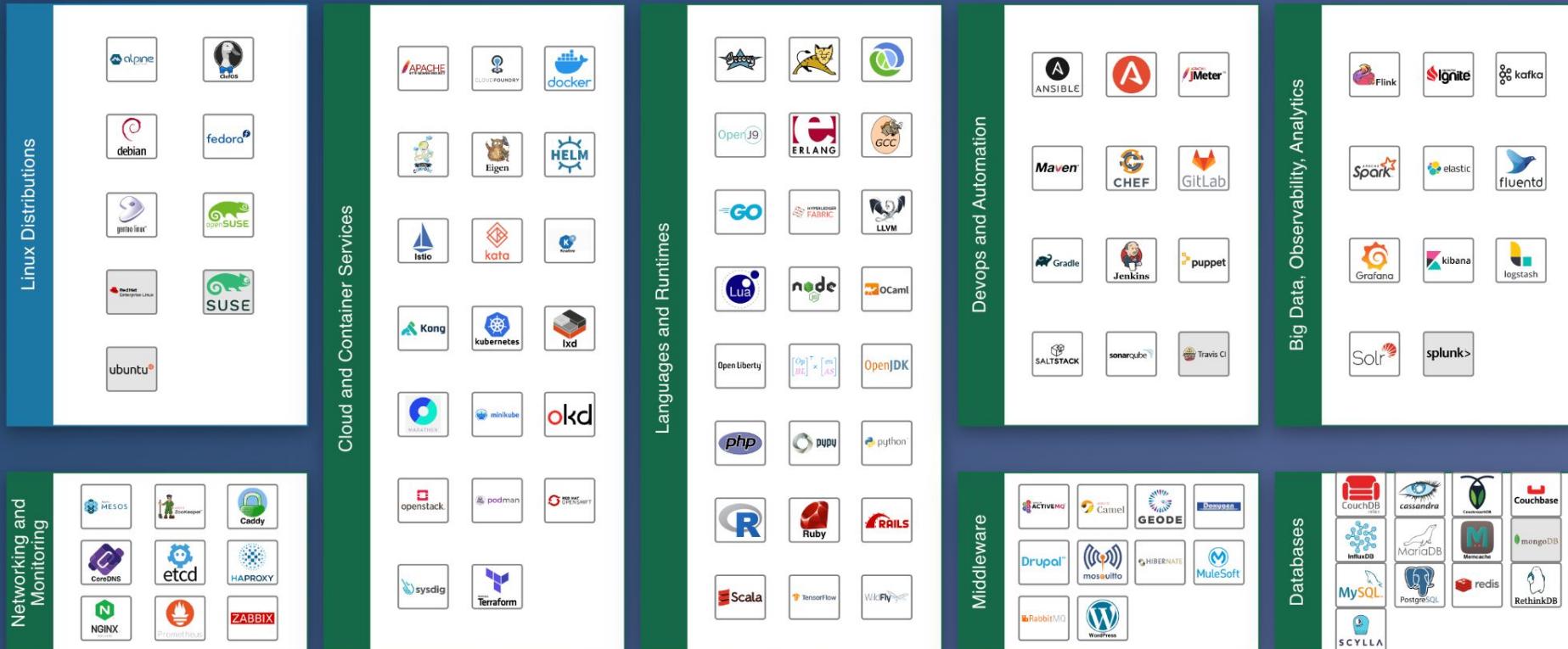
App Framework 2019



CLI 2019



Zowe Conformant



Enabling innovation - connecting z/OS to enterprise devops with Zowe



Major Problem

- Modernize integration with z/OS based applications and services
- Bridge the talent gap by enabling modern development stacks on z/OS

How OMP Innovated

- 2018 Open Mainframe Project added Zowe from contributions from Broadcom, IBM, Rocket Software
- 2019 Zowe reached 1.0, launched Zowe Conformant to enable downstream ecosystem
- Investments in collaboration, ecosystem development, and infrastructure
- 2021 Zowe formed TSC to have technologists lead project direction.

Results - 2021

- 30000+ Commits, 250+ committers all time
- Zowe gaining significant mindshare in DevOps community
- 50+ Zowe Conformant offerings from vendors Broadcom, IBM, MicroFocus, Phoenix Software International, Rocket Software, Software Engineering AG
- New project contributions from BMC, IBA Group, Vicom Infinity, and others, has grown codebase

Enabling innovation - modernize z/VM integration with cloud technologies and deployment



Major Problem

- Users want to manage their mainframes with the same modern cloud technologies used across the enterprise.
- z/VM integration with technologies such as OpenStack have long been a challenge.
- Contribution base was IBM only, making it challenging to get wider adoption

How OMP Innovated

- 2019 Open Mainframe Project added Feilong
- Feilong TSC elects co-chairs from SUSE and Velocity Software
- 2020 Tessia is added as a project
- 2021 Consolez is added as a project

Results - 2021

- ADP, SUSE, Velocity Software, Vicom Infinity, and ICU IT engaging in addition to IBM
- New innovations and integrations being created in the community to upstream.
- Projects running independently, but coordinating to ensure a streamlined solution.

Enabling innovation - modernizing COBOL



Major Problem

- **COBOL talent is critical to our society, and the need has amplified in the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- **Enabling the next generation to have COBOL skills done in isolation, causing repeated efforts and lower uptick.**
- **COBOL lacking tools that align with modern development**

How OMP Innovated

- Launched **COBOL Programming Course** as an open source project in April 2020
- Created collaboration forums and ways that **COBOL talent** can advertise their availability
- Launched **COBOL Working Group** to bring together leaders in thinking about the future of **COBOL**
- **COBOL Check** project launched, bringing TDD practices to **COBOL**

Results - 2021

- “Calling all **COBOL Programmers**” forum has had over 1700 individuals make themselves available in less than 3 months
- **COBOL Programming Course** has 1.7k stars and 300+ forks in less than 3 months, along with 17 contributors from several organizations.
- **COBOL Working Group** getting broad feedback on the future direction of **COBOL**
- **COBOL Check** a step forward in modern dev practices

Enabling innovation - with the next generation



Major Problem

- Aging tenured mainframe talent, with a growing mainframe talent gap and skills decline in next generation talent.
- Needing to help connect students with opportunities in mainframe, aligning the interests in open source

How OMP Innovated

- Launched first mentorship program in 2016 with 7 mentees.
- Connected within the mainframe and broad open source community to ensure mentorship work has upstream project value.
- Enabled universities to also leverage the program within class work; successful with VCU and Western University (Ontario)

Results - 2020

- 40+ mentees completed the program, with broader classwork focus reaching 100+ more.
- Upstream work has included ports of Alpine Linux, contributions to HyperLedger, OpenStack, CloudFoundry, Kubernetes, and more.
- Several mentees are now employed in mainframe roles with IBM, SUSE, ADP, and more.



Open Mainframe Project enables innovation through
community building

A Focal point for open source on mainframe



Open Mainframe Summit is the annual event that brings together the open source and mainframe ecosystems, discussing projects, trends, and executive insights.



September 22 – 23, 2021

Virtual Event

<https://events.linuxfoundation.org/open-mainframe-summit>

Telling the “mainframer” story



- Monthly interview series that highlights diversity in mainframe
- Showcases why people have mainframe in their careers and their views of the technology and career field
- Read and listen at
<https://www.openmainframeproject.org/news/podcast>



openmainframe.org

Growing diversity in mainframe



Open Mainframe Project Female Leadership

**Coreen Wilson**

Senior Product Marketing Manager at Rocket Software

Coreen is a senior product marketing manager, driving Z Systems market strategy and Rocket's mission to keep the mainframe relevant.

[Read More](#)**Yvette LaMar**

Director of the IBM Z Influencer Ecosystem at IBM

Yvette LaMar is the Director of the IBM Z Influencer Ecosystem for IBM. Her mission is to help build a vibrant IBM Z community, and a strong mainframe technical talent pipeline.

[Read More](#)**Donna J. Hudi**

Chief Marketing Officer at Phoenix Software

Donna has more than 30 years of financial service, technology, marketing, and executive management experience spanning the asset management, software development, consulting, and non-profit industries.

[Read More](#)**Chris Blum**

Podcast and Social

Chris Blum leads Podcast and Social programs for Open Mainframe Project

[Read More](#)**Sudharsana Srinivasan**

IBM Z Influencer Program Manager at IBM

Sudharsana is the IBM Z Influencer Program Manager at IBM and TSC Chairperson of the COBOL Programming Course project

[Read More](#)**Maemalynn Meanor**

Marketing and PR Communications

Maemalynn is the Marketing and PR Communications lead for Open Mainframe Project.

[Read More](#)**Meredith Stowell**

VP, IBM Z Ecosystem at IBM

Meredith is the VP, IBM Z Ecosystem, helping to build skills and a strong community of partners for IBM Z.

[Read More](#)**Stacey Miller**

Global Product Marketing Manager for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for IBM Z and LinuxOne, Real Time, Geo Clustering and Global Services

Stacey is responsible for driving SUSE product market strategy and communicating their value to SUSE partners and customers.

**Tin Matienzo**

Events

Tin Matienzo is a member of the Linux Foundation events team and coordinates event participation for Open Mainframe Project.

[Read More](#)**Deb Giles**

Open Mainframe Summit

Deb is leading the Open Mainframe Summit event production.

[Read More](#)

35% of Open Mainframe Project Leadership is Female



Building a diverse and inclusive community

The Open Mainframe Project promotes diverse and inclusive communities, partnering with groups and efforts to increase diversity in mainframe.

Check out our Diversity and Inclusion working group at

<https://lists.openmainframeproject.org/g/wg-diversity> and events at

<https://www.openmainframeproject.org/events/category/diversity-inclusion>



OMP Ambassadors driving awareness



Open Mainframe Project Ambassadors are individuals who are passionate about the mainframe technology, recognized for their expertise, and willing to help others learn about it and community. Successful ambassadors are people such as bloggers, influencers, evangelists who are already engaged with an Open Mainframe project in some way including contributing to forums, online groups, community events, etc.

If you would like an ambassador to speak at your event, please contact pr@openmainframeproject.org with the name of the conference, date and links.



OPEN **MAINFRAME** PROJECT
AMBASSADOR



Dan Kelosky
Broadcom

Dan is a Software Architect at Broadcom.

[Read More](#)



Greg MacKinnon
Broadcom

Greg is a Distinguished Engineer at Broadcom and participant in OMP's Zowe community.

[Read More](#)



Jerry Edgington
Western Southern

Jerry Edgington is a Senior Technical Analyst at Western Southern and a lead of OMP's Polycephaly project.

[Read More](#)



Jessielaine Punongbayan
Broadcom

Jessielaine Punongbayan is a Product Owner at Broadcom and the Lead for Zowe Explorer Squad.

[Read More](#)



Joe Bostian
IBM

Joe Bostian is a Senior Software Engineer at IBM and lead of OMP's Ambitus project.

[Read More](#)



Joe Winchester
IBM

Joe Winchester is a Senior Technical Staff Member at IBM and participates on OMP's Zowe Leadership Committee.

[Read More](#)



Matt Hogstrom
Broadcom

Matt Hogstrom is a Distinguished Engineer at Broadcom and one of the original committers of OMP's Zowe project.

[Read More](#)



Michael Bauer
Broadcom

Michael Bauer is a Product Owner at Broadcom, Zowe Command Line Interface Squad lead, and a TSC member of the COBOL Programming Course and Zowe.

[Read More](#)



Richelle Anne Craw
Broadcom

Richelle Craw is a Senior Software Engineer at Broadcom and a member of OMP's Zowe Explorer Squad.

[Read More](#)



Rose Sakach
Broadcom

Rose is a Global Product Manager at Broadcom and participates on OMP's Zowe Leadership Committee.

[Read More](#)

Bringing together the open source and mainframe conversation



Slack Channel

<https://slack.openmainframeproject.org>

A screenshot of the Open Mainframe Project Community Forum website. The header features the project logo and navigation links for About, Members, Blog, News, and Contact. A search bar and user profile icons are also present. The main content area shows a list of forum categories and topics. Categories include Uncategorized, Calling all COBOL Programmers, Jobs, Mainframers, Zowe, and COBOL technical questions. Each category has a count of topics and unread posts. Topics are listed with their titles, descriptions, and posting details (author, date).

Category	Topics	Latest
Uncategorized	64 6 unread	A Automate legacy COBOL conversions 1 21h
Calling all COBOL Programmers	1743 4 unread	J Experienced Cobol Programmer/Analyst 0 2d S COBOL programmer with 40 years of experience (+CICS & Webservices & all new stuff , php , mysql) 0 3d
Jobs	4 1 unread	O Cobol programmer from mexico 0 7d
Mainframers	17 2 unread	O COBOL Programmer ready to hire from Mexico 0 8d
Zowe	26 3 unread	
COBOL technical questions	33 Available with rich experience in migration, version upgrade, development and	

Community Forums
<https://community.openmainframeproject.org/>

5

years since
launch

43

Supporting
Organizations

18

Hosted Projects and
Working Groups

40+

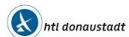
Mentees
Sponsored

1000+

Project
Contributors

60,000+

Project
Contributions



Zoss Team LLC



How to participate in Open Mainframe Project



Open participation for all interested in Mainframe and Open Source

Join the community discussion via communication channels, social, and at events

19 Shared R&D open source projects and working groups - or bring your project to be hosted here

Corporate sponsorship for showing stewardship in the community

<https://www.openmainframeproject.org/about/join>

Make sure you are following us on social!



The Open Mainframe Project
Information Technology & Services · 1,578 followers

The focal point for deployment and use of Linux and Open Source on the mainframe
WWW.OPENMAINFRAMEPROJECT.ORG

OpenMainframeProject
@OpenMFProject Follows you
A @LinuxFoundation Project for Open Source on the Mainframe as the standard for enterprise class systems and applications.
openmainframeproject.org Joined October 2015

Follow us on LinkedIn at
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-open-mainframe-project>

Follow us on Twitter at
<https://twitter.com/OpenMFProject>

And sign up for the [Open Mainframe Project newsletter](#) to keep up to date on project happenings



Learn more about the Open Mainframe Project



- Find out more at openmainframeproject.org
- See the breadth of open source on the mainframe at l.openmainframeproject.org
- Discover and participate in any of our 18 hosted projects and working groups at openmainframeproject.org/projects
- Take part in our upcoming events and webinars at openmainframeproject.org/events



Thank you!

Endnotes



- Slide 2, image from
https://www.flickr.com/photos/boston_public_library/6280049616/
- Slide 3, image from
<https://nara.getarchive.net/media/data-processing-technician-2nd-class-holt-monitors-a-telecommunications-console-4db71d>
- Slide 18, image from <https://pxhere.com/en/photo/1432563>



Why become a member?

Becoming an Open Mainframe Project member means your organization is...



- a leader in the open source on mainframe community
- wants to drive the technical vision of open source on mainframe
- a thought leader or aims to be a thought leader in open source on mainframe
- bringing solutions to market based on projects hosted at the Open Mainframe Project, and wanting to show your stewardship towards those communities

Leverage our industry presence to advance your thought leadership.



Through our large audience, extensive media outreach, and with key partnership with publications such as [Linux.com](#), [TFR](#), [TechChannel](#), and [MediaOps](#), you will be positioned to be a thought leader in open source.

We also support member announcements with social outreach and quotes from John Mertic as appropriate.



4000+ followers



2400+ followers
1350+ shares in 2020



900+ global media articles in 2020 from 5 press announcements

Be a part of Open Mainframe Summit



Open Mainframe Summit is the premier event focusing on the intersection of open source and the mainframe, bringing together thought leaders, executives, practitioners, and developers.

Learn more about the 2020 event in the [Open Mainframe Summit Transparency Report 2020.](#)

Open Mainframe Project members receive discounts on sponsorship at Open Mainframe Summit - contact us to learn more!



Other countries with a sizeable audience at the event include:
16% 7% 5% 3%
India Brazil UK Canada

176 Companies
Participated



1,217 Total leads captured at virtual exhibit booths, an **average of 174** leads per booth

Stats from 2020 event

Showcase your career opportunities in Mainframe



Have your organization showcase to those coming to the Open Mainframe Project on members looking to hire.

Not a job board - links to each member's job listings.



Are you looking to see where mainframe and open source skills can take you? Check out the many open opportunities from Open Mainframe Project members below for the next step in your career.



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Zowe Conformance Program

The Zowe Conformance Program aims to give users the confidence that when they use a product, app, or distribution that leverages Zowe they can expect a high level of common functionality, interoperability and user experience.

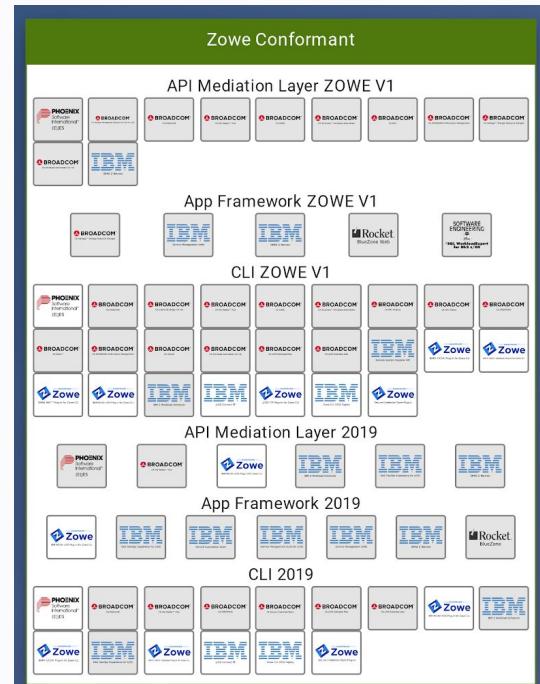
Conformance provides Independent Software Vendors (ISVs), System Integrators (SIs) and end users greater confidence that their software will behave as expected. Just like Zowe, the Conformance program will continue to evolve and is being developed by committers and contributors in the community. The Zowe Conformance Program is administered by the Open Mainframe Project.

All vendors are invited to submit conformance testing results for review and approval by the Open Mainframe Project. If your company provides software based on Zowe, we encourage you to get certified today.

Fees are waived for Open Mainframe Project members

More details at

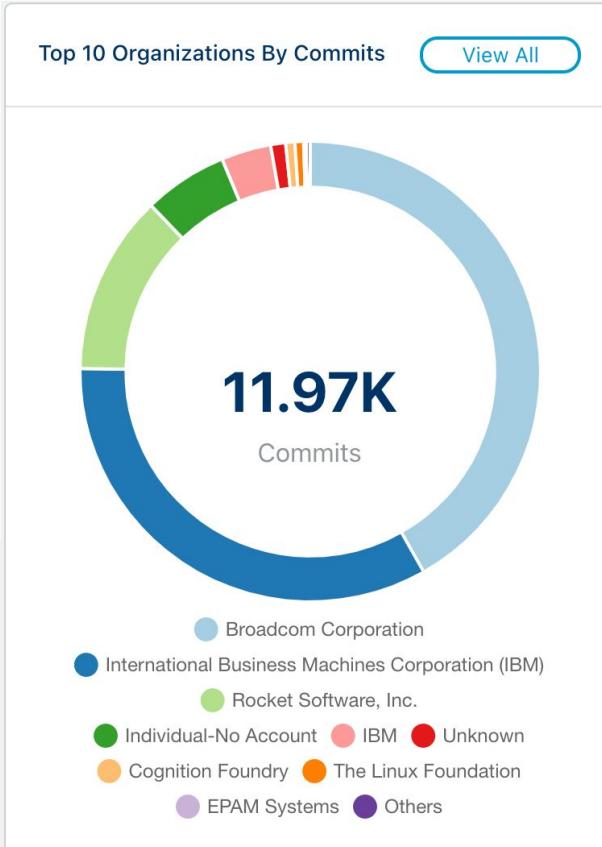
<https://www.openmainframeproject.org/projects/zowe/conformance>



But most importantly, you support innovation



18 collaborative projects and working groups are successful because of the investment of members funding these initiatives.



Stats for 2020 listed at left

Drive the direction of the foundation through Platinum Membership



Platinum members are the key stewards of the Open Mainframe Project, and as such hold key leadership positions in the various governance structures. Their investment is key to the sustainability of open source in mainframe.

Specific Benefits include:

- Voting seat on the Governing Board, TAC, and Marketing Committee.
- Host an Open Mainframe Project webinar and have a guest on the “I Am A Mainframer” podcast annually, if desired.
- Monthly meetings to brief on project activities, and an annual membership check-in to review engagement opportunities and provide feedback to project leadership.
- First opportunity to participate and drive event and outreach opportunities, and the project will ensure partnership with Platinum Members in relevant events.
- Open Mainframe Project leadership will support Platinum Member events, internal open source program efforts, and be available for customer and prospect engagement.



Leveraging your Linux Foundation membership



Your contributions and support help the Foundation to provide its supporting programs that enable its many hosted open source project communities to thrive. In addition to the opportunities presented by networking, learning, and working with other member organizations that are using and contributing to Linux Foundation open source projects, there are many other benefits associated with a membership that include Marketing, Training, and Event opportunities. Silver Membership benefits include...

Events Benefits

- One invite to our member-exclusive Linux Foundation Member Summit, which fosters collaboration, innovation, and partnerships among the leading projects and organizations working to drive digital transformation with open source technologies.
- Employees at your organization receive a 20% registration discount to eligible Linux Foundation events.
- A 5% Discount on Linux Foundation Event Sponsorship (7% discount on multi-event Sponsorships). Sponsorships offer a valuable way to reach the community of Open Source Developers, Engineers, C-level Executives, and more.

Training Benefits

- Ten coupon codes good for any eLearning, certification exam, or eLearning/exam bundle. Additional terms apply.

Legal Benefits

- Your legal counsel's ability to participate in bi-monthly legal calls
- One invite for your in-house counsel to LF Legal Summit, which helps connect your counsel to their peers at other member companies and advance your organization's open source licensing, litigation, compliance, and best practices.

Marketing Benefits

- Your company logo on the LF website
- Post one technical article about an open source project you care about to Linux.com, which has over 1 million unique visitors per month.
- Exposure through new Silver members group press release, with social media promotion.
- Have your company's events featured on our events.linuxfoundation.org community events calendar:
<https://events.linuxfoundation.org/about/community/>

More details at <https://linuxfoundation.org/en/join/#benefits>. Let us know how we can help connect you to these opportunities! And sign up for the [Linux Foundation newsletter](#) to keep on top of the activities across our 700+ hosted projects.

Corporate, Academic, Associate Membership Levels



Level	Annual Fee	Board Seat	TSC Seat	Marketing Committee	Notes
Platinum	\$120,000	Yes	Voting	Yes	Initial 2-year participant commitment
Platinum End-User	\$30,000	Yes	Voting	Yes	Initial 2-year participant commitment
Silver	3,000 employees or more = \$30,000 1,000 < 3,000 employees = \$25,000 500 < 1,000 employees = \$20,000 100 < 500 employees = \$12,000 < 100 employees = \$7,000	1 per 10	Non Voting	Yes	
Academic	Free	1 per 10	Non Voting	Yes	Restricted to academic institutions
Associate	Free	No	Non Voting	Yes	Non-profits, open source projects

To join Open Mainframe Project, go to <https://www.openmainframeproject.org/about/join> or email at membership@openmainframeproject.com

Listed fees include Linux Foundation Silver membership. If you are already a Linux Foundation Member, reduced pricing is available.