

Post Open

#bcg25

Thomas Aglassinger, 2025-05-17



Open source

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source

- Open source is source code that is made freely available for possible modification and redistribution.
- Products include permission to
 - use and view the source code,
 - design documents,
 - or content of the product.
- Typically freely available

Core problem with open source

- Cloud companies offer open source services
- Charge for it beyond their operational costs
- Some do not give back to the open source projects
- (Some do, like sponsorship or renting out developers)

What can open source money be used for?

#JeffBesos

- Build rockets that look like a penis
- Send botox girls into space



By LunchboxLarry - Blue Origin Space,
CC BY 2.0, [https://
commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?
curid=61394340](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=61394340)

What is Post Open?

<https://postopen.org/>

- Post-Open is an ambitious effort to re-invent the Open Source paradigm,
- addressing the problems we've experienced over 25 years.
- It includes
 - payment for developers,
 - easier compliance for companies,
 - support for all software from one entity,
 - better security,
 - and more.

Goals of post open?

<https://postopen.org/about-post-open>

- Several, but concerning payment:
 - Preserve software freedom for **individuals and small business**. They get the software **for free**, and with similar rights to those of Open Source.
 - Deep-pockets entities (**over USD\$5 Million revenue in a year**), companies that include the software in a paid-for product, and companies that wish to keep modifications private must pay. Unless they publish enough contributions to the Post Open Collection, in which case we pay them.
 - Compliance simplicity: **once a year, paid users account for their revenue** and their use of software in the Post Open Collection, and **pay a small portion of their revenue** (we're considering 1% for richer corporations, half a percent for ones that make USD\$5M-10M) for all Post-Open software, not just one program. Then compliance is over until next year.
- Other concerning ownership, support, compliance, ...

Progress so far

<https://postopen.org/about-post-open> > Progress so far

- Drafts for license and contracts
- Idea:
 - Found non-profit organization that is owned by developer
 - Provide support for accounting, collect revenue, ...

**Example moving towards
Post Open**

Example: marker-pdf

<https://github.com/VikParuchuri/marker>

- Open source: GPLv3
- Commercial usage
 - "I want marker to be as widely accessible as possible, while still funding my development/training costs. Research and personal usage is always okay, but there are some restrictions on commercial usage."
 - "The weights for the models are licensed cc-by-nc-sa-4.0, but I will waive that for any organization under \$5M USD in gross revenue in the most recent 12-month period AND under \$5M in lifetime VC/angel funding raised. You also must not be competitive with the Datalab API. If you want to remove the GPL license requirements (dual-license) and/or use the weights commercially over the revenue limit, check out the options here."

Example: Sentry

<https://open.sentry.io/licensing/>

- "There should be protections from other companies selling our work without giving back."
- Mix of licenses:
 - Apache License, Version 2.0 (Apache-2.0): For most parts
 - The MIT License (MIT): For large audience
 - Functional Source License, Version 1.1, Apache 2.0 Change License (FSL-1.1-Apache-2.0)