HOW TO CONVINCE YOUR BOSS TO START USING ELM

2016-07-26 / Mats Stijlaart (@stil4m)

INTRODUCTION

- Why?
- What?
- What I did
- boss := person that pays | manager | team lead

THE PROBLEM



http://www.memegen.com

CAUSE 1: ELM IS NEW

- Small
- Unknown
- Not proven (yet)

CAUSE 2: MY BOSS RUNS AN ORGANISATION

- Customers for over 10 years
- A third party approves releases
- Customer pays for working software

SO WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM?

- My boss does not sell technology.
- Customer is not going to pay for refactoring.
- 'I heard Angular and React are nice!'

SOLUTION



http://the-toast.net

THE ARGUMENTS



YOU ARE THE TECH GUY/GIRL

- Give examples
- If your boss is a tech person, send him some talks
- Your boss should trust you

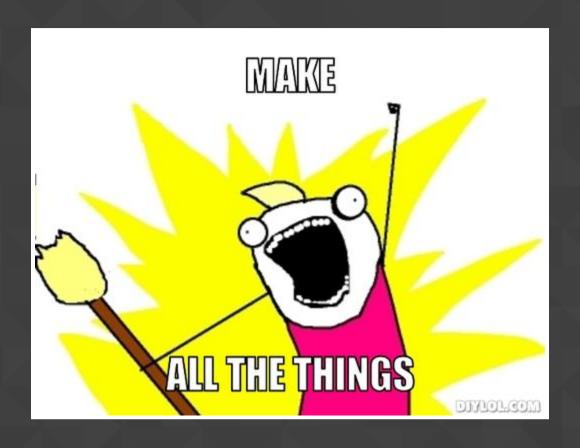
EVERYTHING COMES AND GOES



https://www.pinterest.com

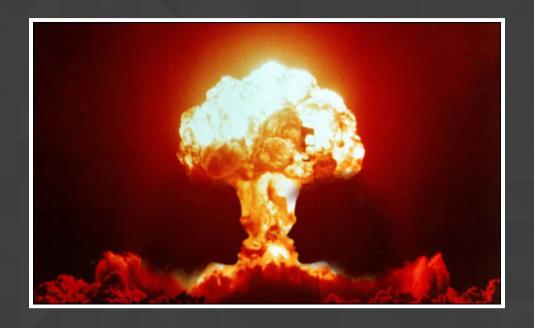
- What is the oldest front-end technology that you run?
- Easier to choose for new things
- 'Is Elm gonna make it?' becomes less relevant
- Adapt or die

COMMUNITY MAINTAINS THE MAIN PACKAGES



http://diylol.com/meme-generator

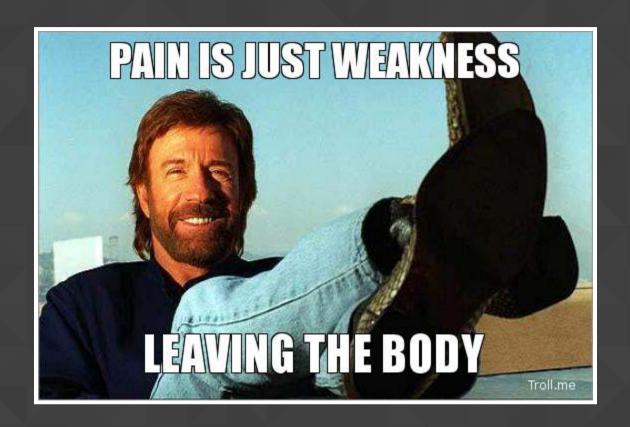
STABLE SOFTWARE



https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org

- No runtime exceptions
- Stable fundament for an ecosystem

POINTS OF PAIN



http://www.whattoexpect.com

UPGRADES

- All or nothing (also a good thing)
- You just have to rip the bandaid of.
 Compare this to Angular, React, ExtJS
- Outdated docs/examples

HUMAN RESOUCES

- Finding developers
- It is easier to learn Elm than learn Javascript well
- May be a good choice for a startup

elm-discuss: comment by Max Goldstein

TOOLING

- Build it yourself mentality. Get your hands dirty.
- Run with maven for example

HOW TO TACKLE IT?

http://elm-lang.org/blog/how-to-use-elm-at-work

START SIMPLE

WHY?

- Small investment, you can still drop it
- Does not have a lot of integration, thus easy to setup
- No JS interop, no single page app.

EVALUATE

- (How) is Elm working for me?
- Important to redo stuff you have learned from.

INTEGRATE WITH THE EXISTING PROJECT

- Make it work!
- Write/update the README!
- Colleagues start trusting it on their machine.

BECOME THE ADVOCATE



http://www.forbes.com/forbes/

- Pairing with colleagues
- Give a talk in the office

LET AN INTERN WORK ON THE ELM CODE



http://thecodinglove.com/post/145297461402

SUMMARISE

- Start simple
- Show that it works
- Take responsibility
- Push it

QUESTIONS

SOURCES

- How to convince your boss to start using Elm in the company?
- How to use Elm at work?

