

OSS ANTI-PATTERNS

INTRODUCTIONS

markt

Tomcat committer since 2003

Tomcat PMC member since 2005

Also Commons, Dubbo, ASF member, Infrastructure
volunteer, VP Brand Management, Director

AGENDA

Why?

Specifics

Generalisations

WHY

Range of projects

Struggling projects

Share observations more widely

Hopefully help other projects

PERSONAL VIEWS

Not representing the ASF

Not representing my employer

SPECIFICS

RELEASES

Catalysts for activity

Should be easy

Monthly releases should not be a burden

No releases for more than a year

ADDING COMMITTERS

The lower the bar, the healthier the community

Version control makes fixing errors easy

New committer criteria / checklist

No new committers for more than a year

DOMINANT COMMITTERS

Full-time vs. occasional

Speed of decision making

Small number of committers dominating the project

TOOL CONFIG

Jira has lots of configuration options

GitHub reviews and CI tooling

Rigid processes

PROJECT MANAGERS

ASF specific?

Committers are individuals

Committers scratch their own itch

One committer directing other committers

PRIVATE COMMUNICATION

Should be minimal

More private mail than public mail

OFF-LIST COMMUNICATION

Hard to identify

Lots of co-ordinated activity but no discussion

POLICY BYPASS

ASF specific?

Policy is there for a reason

It shouldn't get in the way

Trying to work around policy

GENERALISATION

TECHNICAL VS. SOCIAL CONTROLS

Keep the technical controls to a minimum

Social controls are effective

BARRIERS

Lower barriers create healthier projects

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU

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