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open

USE   IMPROVE   EVANGELIZE

The OpenSolaris Story

Jim Grisanzio
Community Manager, OpenSolaris
Sun Microsystems

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opensolaris

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What is the OpenSolaris Project?

The OpenSolaris project is an open source operating system, a community development effort and a place for collaboration and conversation about OpenSolaris technology. It is aimed at developers and users who want to develop and improve operating systems. The OpenSolaris technology represents cutting edge operating system design, but the innovation is just getting started! We've got lots to offer:

To start, take a look at our project overview and Roadmap.
(If you're looking for information about the Solaris Operating System, go over here).

Visit our Community Portal to learn all about how to get involved. Or check in on Nevada. Join the conversation via IRC on irc.freenode.net #opensolaris.

Download the source, BFU archives and tools you'll need. HTTP and Torrent downloads are offered.

Our "wicked fast" code browser (we hope!). Use it to explore the source.

Tag!

OpenSolaris is our tag for blogs, photos and bookmarks. See:
    Technorati
    del.icio.us
    Flickr

Squawk

Lively conversation at **opensolaris-discuss** [subscribe]

IRC at irc.freenode.net **#opensolaris**

Buttons and Banners

GET opensolaris

Get cool buttons and ribbons for your blog or website!

Java   Launch   Home at OpenSolaris.org - Web Browser   Wed Aug 31, 10:06 AM

Our Community Values

Independence

Openness   Honesty

opensolaris

Transparency   Inclusiveness

Quality   Respect

The Original Idea

Perfect opportunity to build a community

- Sun executives – expand the Solaris market, drive Solaris into new markets, sell more systems & services.
- Solaris engineers – engage developers outside the company, share code, improve an already great system.
- Solaris market/community – see the code, optimize apps, contribute to Solaris development, create ports/distros.

The Source at the Center

OpenSolaris Source Code Today

- **The most important code – the Solaris 10 kernel.**
- 10 million lines, 35k files. Includes top S10 features: SMF, FMA, DTrace, Zones. Builds with free tools: gcc, Sun Studio.
- Code refreshed every two weeks.

OpenSolaris Source Code Tomorrow

- **Gate and projects move external.**
- More code: admin/install, docs, X, tools, ZFS, storage, Source Broswer, packaging tools, JDS, SCCS comments …
- OpenSolaris test suites opened, build/test farms implemented.
- Code refreshed every day.

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The Strategy Emerges

open

communications

Transforming a **market** into a **community**

- Sun executives and engineers open up.
- Engaging Solaris communities, developers, sys admins, customers, ISVs, partners, universities, users ...
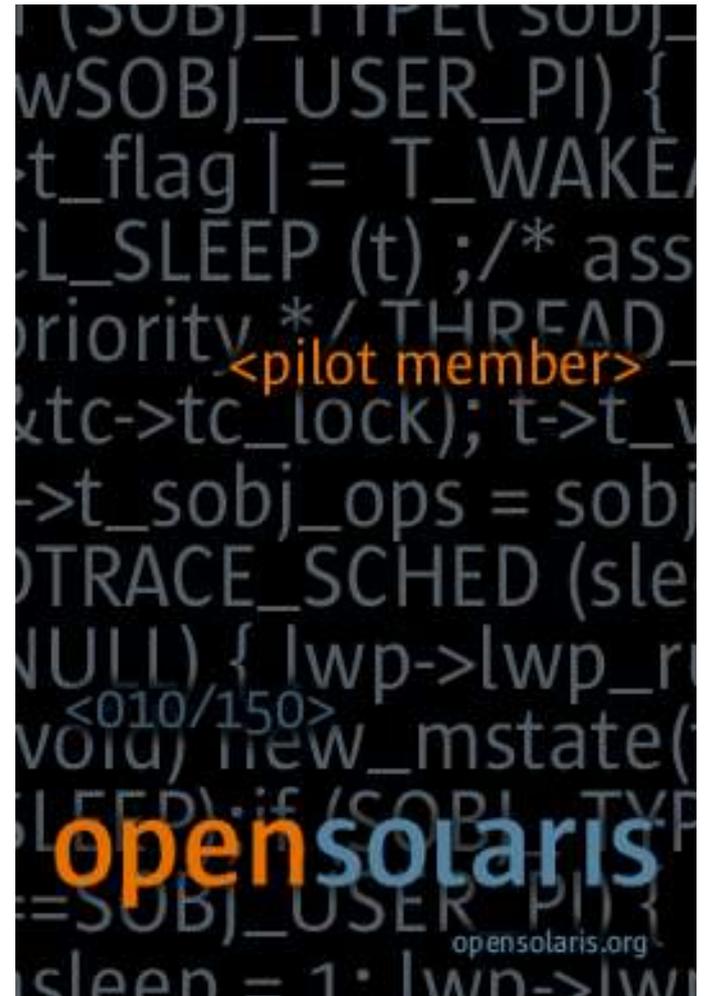- Enfranchising with license, governance, infrastructure.

The Strategy Gets Personal

The Rise of the Individual Developer

- blogs.sun.com: suddenly, it's ok to talk. Personal experience and voice matters, messages don't.
- 2,000+ Sun bloggers with Solaris engineers engaging early.
- **Developers and customers immediately notice the transparency, start following individual engineers.**
- BSC helps enable the OpenSolaris Pilot Program, acts as a tool for collaborating with new developers.
- Offers new platform for OpenSolaris communications – community, press, analysts, customers, partners …

blogs.sun.com

Build a Pilot Program

- Mandate to **get the code out early.**
- Tonic team forms. Source analysis begins. License, business model, and gov/dev discussions begin. S10 dev still in full flight.
- External feedback sessions begin with engineers at ISVs, partners, customers universities, open source communities.
- Data pushed up to engineering management and senior execs.
- **Open conversations** led to directly recruiting for pilot program.

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The Pilot Goes External

- **More conversations** – BOFs, keynotes, group meetings, 1/1s.
- OSCON, LISA, USENIX, KDE, JDS, Gnome, Apache, OpenOffice, x86, Blastwave, SunFreeware, Gentoo.
- 9 months, NDA, 145 people, 10 mail lists, 7K messages, buildable code, tools, dev docs.
- Interactions on dev/gov models, launch, marketing, tools; participation in exec sessions; started distros & ports; elected reps to the CAB; fixed bugs; tested builds, wrote articles.

A Community "Launch"

Much Discussion About How to Open

- Sun marketing engages the pilot community, balancing executives, Solaris engineering, and the new community.

Rolling "Open" Launch

- Engineers talking OpenSolaris in keynotes, BOFs, blogs.
- Pilot community directly encouraged to blog (even with NDA).
- 1/25/05 first site opened, DTrace released, announced CDDL and intention to form CAB. 7K sign up to site.
- 4/4/05 CAB members announced, first CAB meeting.
- 6/14/05 opening: **150+ engineers offer blog tours of code**.
- Future code releases to be open and community driven as well.

Where we Collaborate

OpenSolaris Website Today

- 100% Sun built, written in Java, runs on Solaris 10 on SunFire v20z and v40z servers.

- Community editing, blogs, news, announcements, articles, mail lists, new Java-based source browser. Complete re-write from the pilot site. 3 million website page views.

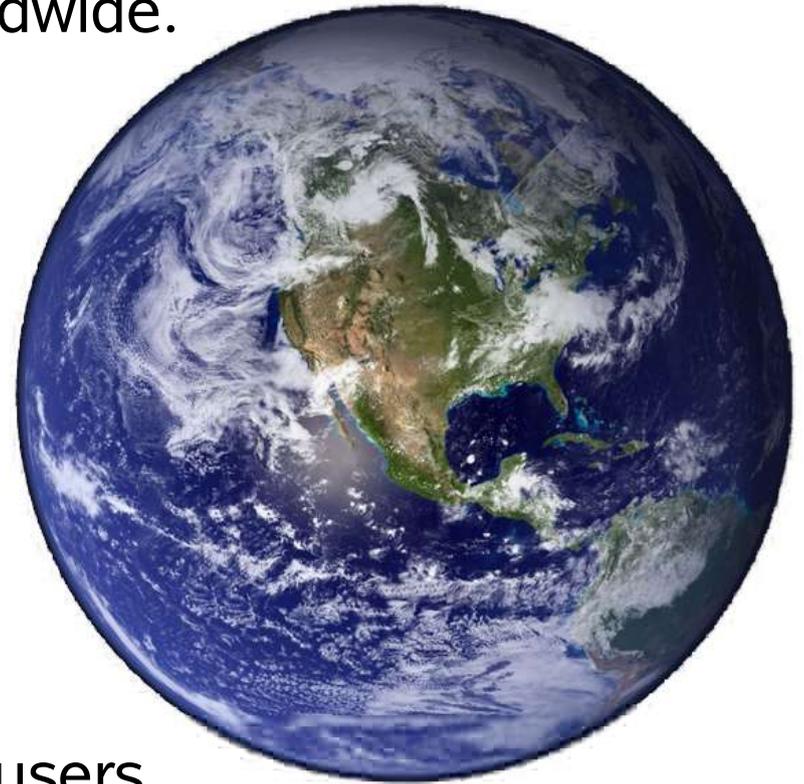- Bug searching, reporting. Code downloads via SDLC, BitTorrent, community mirrors.

OpenSolaris Website Tomorrow

- More community wiki editing, site and browser opened, **communities become full dev projects with integrated source code management and bug tracking.**
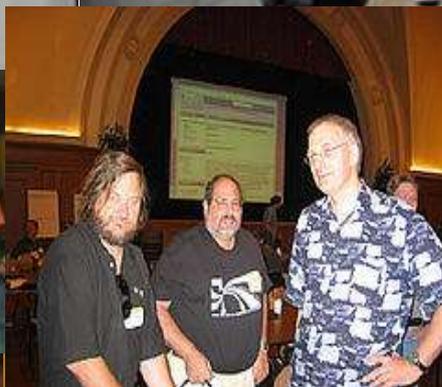
Our Community

- 10,000 (**mostly external**) registered developers and users.
- All major markets and regions worldwide.
- 32 communities, thousands of messages, hundreds of bloggers, 25 user groups starting. Active community on IRC.
- Blogging; reporting/ fixing bugs; engaging in flames & technical conversations; learning the code; creating distros; influencing governance and co-dev proposals.
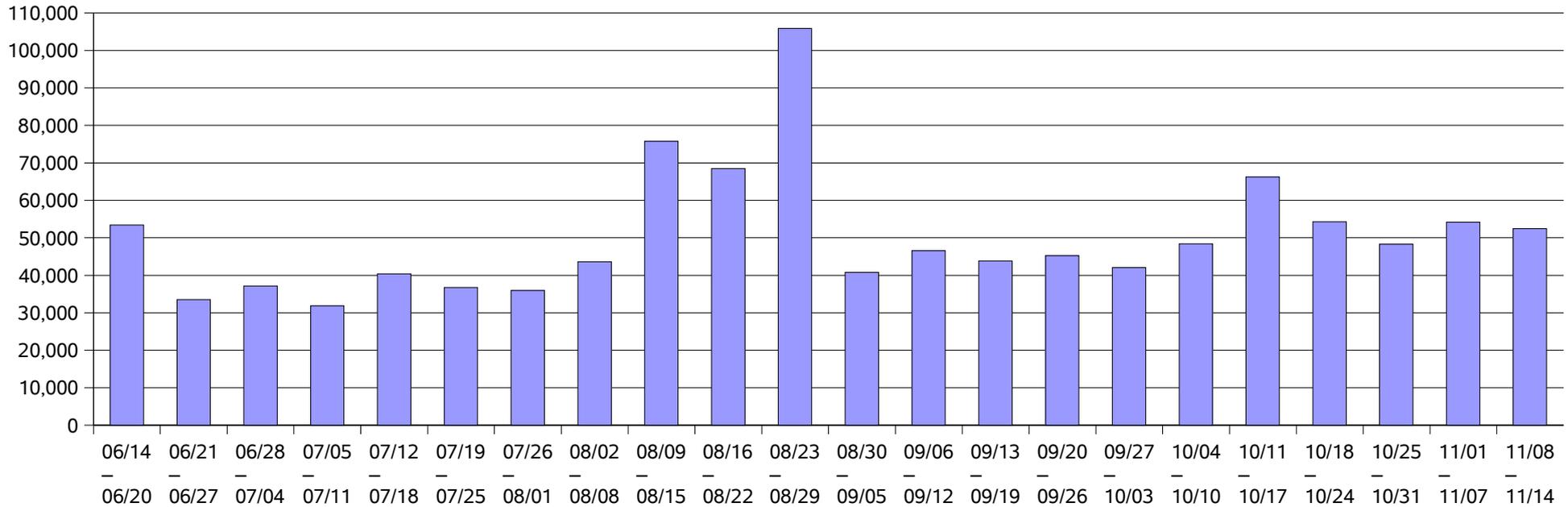- Planning for diversity: developers, users, writers, testers, professors, students, marketers ...

Everyone's Talking

Total Views

Mail lists, Jive Discussions: 6/14 to present

- **Total views: 1,100,000** • Total unique visitors: 340,000
- Total messages: 12,250 • Total lists: 73 • Total topics: 2,500

Weaving it all Together

License
grants rights

Infrastructure
enables co-development

community

Charter & Governance
fosters independence & meritocracy

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An Open License: CDDL

Common Distribution and Development License

- All licensing strategies considered, OSI approval a must.
- CDDL the best option for Solaris, perfect middle ground.
- Needed to be mixable with other licenses.
- Able to help **grow the OpenSolaris community.**

A Representative Board

OpenSolaris Community Advisory Board

- Pilot community election: Rich Teer, Al Hopper elected after two months of nominations, discussion, voting.
- Sun CTO Office: Simon Phipps, Chief Open Source Officer.
- Sun Solaris: Casper Dik, Sr. Staff Engineer, security expert.
- OSS Community: Roy Fielding, Co-founder, Apache.

Governance based on meritocracy

- Developing Charter for future boards.
- Governance for elections, decisions, conflict resolution, collaboration, roles, responsibilities, merit system, transparency, contributions ...
- **Governance and Charter being developed in the open.**

A Collaborative Infrastructure

Long Term: Co-development Model

- **Updating, opening dev process and infrastructure.**
- Consistent with CAB's Governance Solaris engineering values.
- Project transparency.
- Putbacks from inside/outside the firewall.
- ARC history cases published.
- Non-Sun community members on internal review boards.
- Direct community participation in all phases of development.

First Step: Sun Sponsors

- Sun engineers working process internally. **127 bugs reported, 55 submisions, 17 sponsored putbacks with 13 in queue.**

Everyone Had an Opinion

From press and analysts ...

- Pre launch: Solaris 10 positive, OpenSolaris questioned.
- Post launch: positive, credit for engineering blogs and code.

From the OpenSolaris community ...

- Pre launch: supportive, excited, impatient.
- Post launch: supportive, excited, impatient – and involved.

From competitors ...

- Pre launch: "Too little, too late." "It's not open source."
  "Me too effort." "Sun will never be able to build a community."
- Post launch: **Silence**.

Lessons Learned

- Think in terms of **collaboration**, not feedback – the community is not your focus group.

- Encourage people to **join** the community and work from **within** the community – all groups, not just the engineering implementation team.

- Encourage **debates**, but ignore flames and competitive attacks (but expect them).

- Focus on **people** writing and talking about **code**. It's all about the code. Don't fool yourself.

More Lessons Learned

- Run the pilot program as **one** team, not two.
- Use the NDA to define your pilot identity and **share** everything with your nascent community.
- Dump internal lists or make them **public**.
- Transparency **increases** speed in most cases because it shines a light on internal politics.
- Make core governance and development decisions **before** opening even if you have not fully implemented the system.

Even <u>More</u> Lessons Learned

- The **conversation** is the (Cluetrain) marketing.
- Credibility grows from **involvement**, **humility**, **work**, and **code** – not talk or empty promises.
- Focus the project goal on the **opportunity** to do something great, not on trying to solve issues common to all products.
- Be prepared to **lead**. Don't manage the community like it's just another project. It's not.
- There's <u>**no**</u> substitution for participation.

open

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Thank you!

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Additional Information

OpenSolaris Resources

opensolaris: http://opensolaris.org/os/
community: http://opensolaris.org/os/communities/
code: http://opensolaris.org/os/downloads/
licensing: http://opensolaris.org/os/licensing/
roadmap: http://opensolaris.org/os/about/roadmap/
governance: http://opensolaris.org/os/community/cab/
browser: http://cvs.opensolaris.org/source/
opensolaris blogs: http://opensolaris.org/os/blogs/
sun blogs http://blogs.sun.com/
opening blogs: http://opensolaris.org/os/blogs/?startDate=2005-06-14
discussions: http://opensolaris.org/os/discussions/
sun solaris: http://sun.com/solaris/
community photos http://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/opensolaris
marketing http://www.opensolaris.org/os/about/buttons/
irc.freenode.net #opensolaris