Six tips for becoming an open source agency

Effective government software teams meet their goals and support their constituents through communication, collaboration, and rapid iteration. By making open source best practices like these part of their internal policies and culture, they become what we refer to as “open source agencies.” Open source agencies exist at every level of government—but they all start with a few key features and the right foundation.

How GitHub Enterprise helps

- **Use built-in security capabilities to protect against today’s cyber threats and risks.**
  - Open source drives innovation, but not without security concerns. GitHub Enterprise protects your software supply chain during the entire software development lifecycle, from monitoring known vulnerabilities in your dependencies to sending automated security fixes and tracking potential security vulnerabilities in your code.

- **Create a way to easily discover, reuse, and build upon intellectual property.**
  - GitHub is home to the world’s largest open source community—meaning teams can quickly find and use open source code to solve everyday problems. Hosting all of your agency’s code on a single platform also allows everyone to find and reuse internal code.

- **Give teams the flexibility to select the right tools for their jobs.**
  - The new approach to building software—DevOps—relies on cultural change, not a single tool. GitHub Enterprise supports thousands of industry-leading and open source integrations. Check out GitHub Marketplace to find the best tools for every stage of your software development lifecycle.
Encourage collaboration between everyone involved in your agency’s digital transformation.

Teams share, contribute, and collaborate with over 36 million developers on GitHub. Encouraging this same culture of collaboration within your agency helps developers build better software, faster—and share their own innovative code and tools.

Deliver at enterprise scale while meeting strict security and compliance standards.

GitHub Enterprise has seen more than 300 deployments throughout the federal government and systems integrator community—including the DHS, VA, and DoD. Our five largest GitHub Enterprise teams have 20,000-plus users, and our platform is trusted by over half of the Fortune 500.

Engage with and support the open source projects you depend on.

Just like any other component in your agency supply chain, you need to know the communities responsible for the open source software you depend on. Through issues and pull requests, GitHub Enterprise makes it easy to securely engage with the open source projects behind your code.

Want to learn more about how your organization can become an open source agency?

Contact us:
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