Open source engagement model for enterprise software teams

Open source is changing the way we build software—with organizations using open source code, tools, and best practices to get applications to customers even faster. But while some enterprise teams use more open source software (OSS) than others, how you engage in OSS depends on your organization’s specific goals. Use this model to see how your team works with the open source community today—and where to go next.

**Exploring**
- Limited OSS usage by individuals
- No contributions to OSS
- Improvised per project
- None
- OSS best practices learned as they build
- Undefined
- Shared stories between team members

**Utilizing**
- Disorganized OSS usage company-wide
- Unofficial OSS contributions by individuals
- Some standardization, but continued experimentation
- Dependencies manually kept up to date (when convenient)
- Preparations started for OSS participation
- Different for each team
- Individual project evaluations

**Defining**
- Standardized OSS usage across teams
- Defined contribution policy set by organization for all teams
- Standardized across teams
- Potential issues identified with security, licensing, and vulnerability tracking tools
- Broad participation in OSS projects
- Set by organization for all teams
- Standardized reporting

**Adapting**
- Controlled OSS intake process
- Internal projects shared as OSS
- Built to add efficiency, quality, and productivity in automation and tooling
- OSS security and licensing risks managed proactively
- Significant contributions made to OSS projects
- Incorporated into usage and contribution guides
- Part of core team metrics

**Mastering**
- Constant, processed flow of OSS into organization
- Strategic support for OSS libraries, frameworks, and maintainers
- Constantly evaluated, and different tools used as required
- Process for OSS security and licensing completely automated
- Known as OSS project maintainers and community leaders
- Integrated into larger software development culture
- Part of individual performance

Have questions about using open source with your team? We’re here to help.

Contact us:
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