

# OSS – what's holding you back?

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# OSS – tastes great!

- Free software!
- There's so much of it!
- Inspectable code!
- Break out of vendor lock-in!
- Management knows what OSS is!

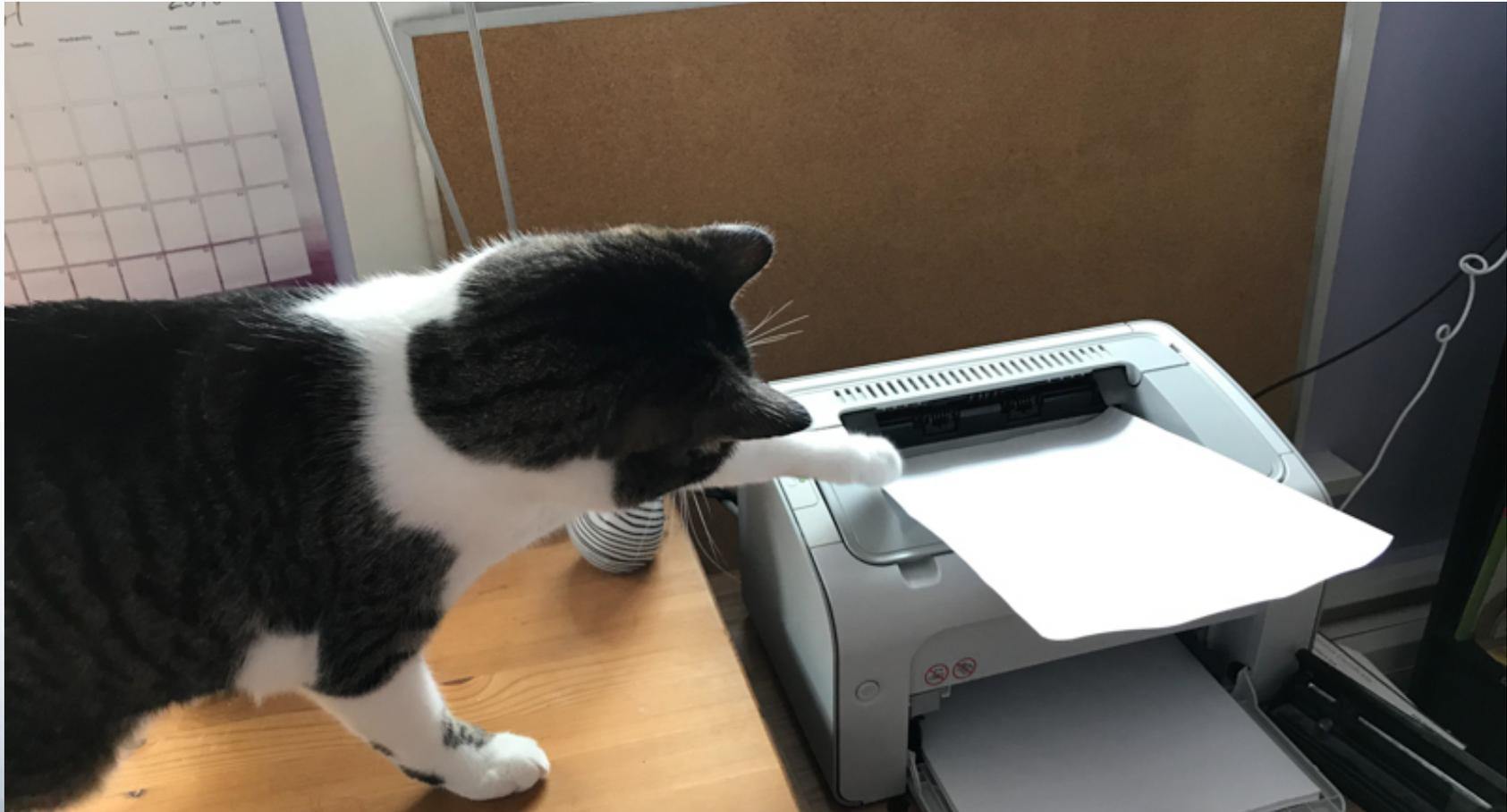
# OSS – less filling 😞

- So much of it is
  - Abandonware
  - Ego-ware
  - 6 available projects, none of which quite solves the problem
- There's no vendor
  - No one to call to fix it
- No cycles available to contribute
- Management doesn't know what OSS is

# Even so...

- Clearly there are useful operational tools to be built through collaborative open source
- And, it would be better if that included operator involvement
  - To ensure requirements are understood
  - To ensure it's usable in the end!
  - To prevent the wrong sort of expertise dominating the technical work

# Wrong sort of expertise...



# Sizing the problem

- Some of the problems outlined can be addressed by having truly collaborative development of OSS, as opposed to GitHub repos that are abandoned or tightly controlled by entities with non-transparent governance rules.
- I'm putting together a survey to scope out
  - What kind of problems you would like to have solved through OSS
  - What are requirements for/impediments to
    - Participating in development
    - Contributing to development (\$\$)
    - Using developed OSS
- Today: Looking for input on shaping the survey, and volunteers to take it
  - I am a computer scientist. A pointer to a volunteer is fine :^)

# Scoping and Weighting

<b>Problem areas</b>	OSS reference implementation of new standards
	OSS stack to ensure decent IoT networking
	Network management and monitoring tooling
	???
<b>Particular interest</b>	Want it to exist
	Want to help create it
	Would solve an operations-critical problem for me
	???

# Participating in OSS

<b>Impediments</b>	No coding resources in house
	No attention cycles available
	???
<b>Requirements</b>	Option for contribution to requirements, acceptance testing (no coding)
	???

# Contributing

**My employer...**

Already supports one or more OSS platforms, what was the question?

Would love to contribute \$MM to the right OSS platform

???

# Using OSS

<b>Impediments</b>	Can't find suitable software tools
	Don't trust OSS
	Don't have in-house resources to validate, figure out, and configure OSS tools
	???
<b>Requirements</b>	Need 1-800 service for set up
	Need 24x7 service for support
	???

# Today's ask

- Input
  - Input on the right questions to ask to paint the picture of why OSS isn't getting as much traction as it could/should in the networking environment
  - Input on the set of options to offer for those questions
- Interest in taking the survey, or identifying others to take it.
  - Target: August 2019
- Talk to me
  - Now
  - Through tomorrow
  - Drop me a note: [Idaigle at thinkingcat dot com](mailto:Idaigle@thinkingcat.com)

# Thanks!

**Watch this space:**  
<http://possie.techark.org>

