COMPARING OPEN SOURCE AND PROPRIETARY SOFTWARE

Open source is overwhelmingly seen by developers as better than proprietary software in every category except reliable support and consulting services. Closing this support gap is the last hurdle for open source to cross to completely eclipse proprietary software.

MAINTENANCE TIME RELATED TO OPEN SOURCE

Open source-related maintenance accounts for 1/4 of developers’ maintenance time. In larger companies with over 500 developers, they spend almost 1/3 of their maintenance time on open source.

MAKING OPEN SOURCE WORK BETTER FOR DEVELOPERS

How developers spend their time

Developers spend more time maintaining, testing, and securing existing code than they do writing or improve code. What more could they do if they were spending less time on maintenance?

OBSTACLES TO INCREASING USE OF OPEN SOURCE

Most developers are concerned about how well open source packages will be maintained into the future. Other pressing issues like concerns over licensing and compliance, identifying and remediating security vulnerabilities, and hiring skilled employees also weigh heavily on their minds.

KEY BENEFITS OF MANAGED OPEN SOURCE

Developers want to know that there is someone standing behind the packages they use. A managed open source subscription gives them some of the key maintenance, security, and licensing assurance they seek.

TOP REASONS DEVELOPERS SPEND THEIR TIME ON OPEN SOURCE

Most developers contribute to open source projects, with 64% contributing at least once per year.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2019 TIDELIFT MANAGED OPEN SOURCE SURVEY

Days since last activity is the most important thing developers look at when evaluating open source projects. But they also want to choose packages that are recommended by a trusted source.

KEY FACTORS WHEN CHOOSING OPEN SOURCE PACKAGES

Project activity, licensing, and maintainer responsiveness are key factors in choosing open source packages.

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