

The PHP Foundation

HOW THE OPEN-SOURCE WORLD PLANS TO SMACK DOWN MICROSOFT, AND ORACLE, AND ...

By David Kirkpatrick

Steve Ballmer made a sudden and unscheduled trip to Munich last winter. The CEO of Microsoft had been vacationing with his family in Europe when he got word that the Bavarian capital was about to scrap the Windows operating system on its 14,000 PCs and switch to free "open source" Linux software to run its machines. Loath to lose a prominent government customer, Ballmer jumped into a business suit and rushed to Munich. But he was too late. The city decided to go open source.

What happened in Germany is a microcosm of a change that is sweeping the \$200-billion-a-year software industry. Open-source software is popping up

in servers that power the world's websites and in giant corporate and government systems. Today the biggest challenge confronting Microsoft—and Oracle and IBM and virtually every other major software maker—is chillingly simple: How do you compete with programs that can be had free?

In just a few years, a grassroots approach to creating software has shaken the status quo. In 1991, Linus Torvalds, a college kid in Finland, posted his Linux operating system online and invited friends to use and improve it. The availability of this basic, powerful software, which works on Intel's ubiquitous microprocessors, coincided with the explosive growth

GARAGE BAND They may look casual, but the foursome in this San Jose driveway are serious about rocking the software world. Each masterminds a popular open-source product. From left: Marten Mickos is president of MySQL, a Swedish startup taking on Oracle and IBM in databases; Rasmus Lerdorf created PHP, which companies use to write custom applications; Greg Stein chairs the Apache Software Foundation, which gives away the server software that runs most websites; Linus Torvalds is the father of Linux (the house and car are his). Though the four rarely meet, their software is used in combination by thousands of corporations. The four-program bundle is so popular that it has picked up what in the geek world passes for a brand—an acronym. It's LAMP, short for Linux, Apache





1999



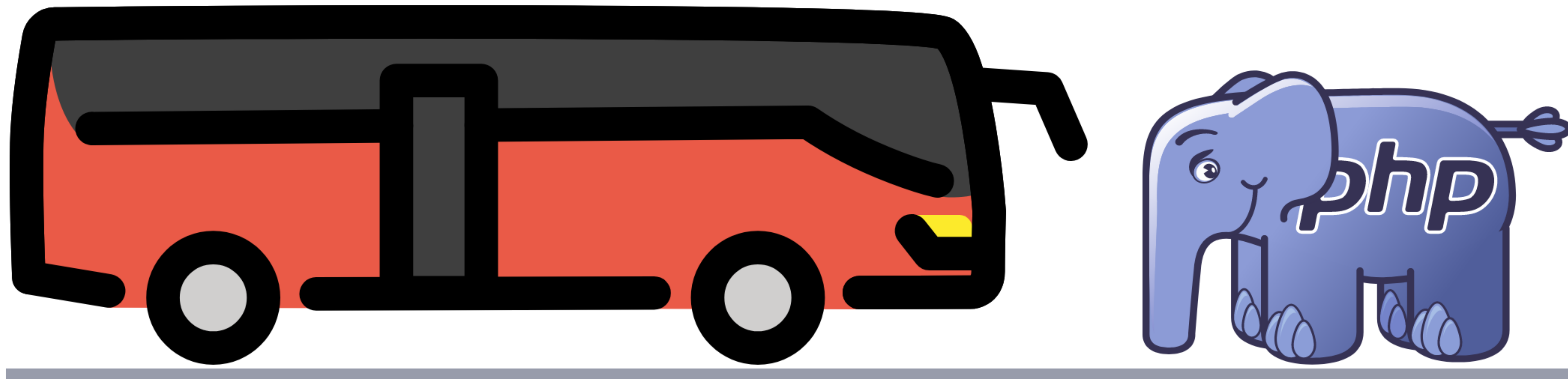
2000



2012



2021



„The bus factor is a measurement of the risk resulting from information and capabilities not being shared among team members, derived from the phrase «in case they get hit by a bus».”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bus_factor

„Maybe as few as two people would have to wake up this morning and decide they want to do something different with their lives in order for the PHP project to lack the expertise and resources to move it forward in its current form, and at current pace.”

<https://blog.krakjoe.ninja/2021/05/avoiding-busses.html>



Dmitry Stogov



Nikita Popov



Joe Watkins



Nikita Popov



Roman Pronskiy



Stefan Pribsch



Sebastian Bergmann

We support, advance,
and develop
the PHP language.

The PHP
Foundation

„The PHP Foundation is a collective of people and organizations relying on the PHP language. Its mission is to ensure the long-term prosperity of the PHP language.”

„The PHP Foundation focuses on providing financial support and guidance to PHP language developers to support its goals of improving the language for its users, providing high-quality maintenance, and improving the PHP language project to retain current contributors and to integrate new contributors.”

„The PHP Foundation aims to promote the public image of the PHP language in the interest of retaining existing and gaining new users and contributors.”

„The primary task of the PHP Foundation is to fund developers to [...] further advance the development and maintenance of the language.”

<https://thephp.foundation/>

„[T]he language decisions are the matter of the PHP Internals community.”

<https://thephp.foundation/>

„Open Collective is [...] a fundraising + legal status + money management platform for [communities].”

<https://opencollective.com/>

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total contributed: | \$ 1,144,298.54 |
| Fees: | \$ 142,696.86 |
| Total raised: | <hr/> \$ 1,001,601.68 |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Total raised: | \$ 1,001,601.68 |
| From organizations: | 78.3% |
| From individuals: | 21.6% |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Total raised: | \$ 1,001,601.68 |
| Recurring: | 49.7% |
| One-Time: | 50.3% |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Total raised: | \$ 1,001,601.68 |
| Paid to developers: | \$ 314.349,62 |
| Other costs: | \$ 32,32 |
| Current balance: | \$ 687,219.74 |



George Peter Banyard



Arnaud Le Blanc



Máté Kocsis



Derick Rethans



Ilija Tovilo



Jakub Zelenka



Roman Pronskiy



Joe Watkins



Sara Golemon



Nikita Popov



Sebastian Bergmann



Josepha Haden



Benjamin Eberlei



Nils Adermann



Nicolas Grekas



Matthew Weier
O'Phinney



Dmitry Stogov



Rasmus Lerdorf



Ayesh Karunaratne



Tobias Nyholm



Sergey Panteleev

```
$ git shortlog --summary --numbered --all --no-merges --after=2022-04-01
348 Ilija Tovilo
278 George Peter Banyard
252 Niels Dossche
198 Máté Kocsis
187 Alex Dowad
185 Derick Rethans
158 Christoph M. Becker
138 Dmitry Stogov
129 Max Kellermann
114 Arnaud Le Blanc
113 Tim Düsterhus
107 Jakub Zelenka
```



George Peter Banyard

- Disjunctive Normal Form Types
- `true`, `false`, and `null` types
- Path to saner
increment/decrement
operators
- Saner `array_sum()` /
`array_product()`
- Refactoring and cleanup
- Bugfixes
- Documentation
- Migration guide



Arnaud Le Blanc

- Bugfixes, most notably in `ext/opcache`
- Reduced memory allocated by functions such as `var_export()`, `json_encode()`, or `serialize()`
- Improved parsing of INI values
- ✗ Short Closures 2.0



Máté Kocsis

- Readonly classes
- Typed class constants
- Improvements to API stub generator
- Improvements to API stubs



Derick Rethans

- Bugfixes, most notably in `ext/date`



Ilija Tovilo

- Fetch properties of enums in const expressions
- Dynamic class constant fetch
- Arbitrary static variable initializers
- Improvements to the CI pipelines
- Bugfixes




Jakub Zelenka

- Bugfixes, most notably in `sapi/fpm` and `ext/openssl`

Further Reading & Listening

- <https://blog.opencollective.com/php-foundation-alive-and-kicking>
- <https://blog.jetbrains.com/phpstorm/2021/11/the-php-foundation>
- <https://thephp.foundation/blog/2022/05/06/interview-with-core-developers>
- <https://thephp.foundation/blog/2022/11/22/transparency-and-impact-report-2022>
- <https://voicesoftheelephant.com/2021/12/17/interview-with-the-php-foundation>

 <https://thephp.foundation>

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Image Credits

- Fortune, February 2004, 149(3):40-X
- https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ASF_Logo.svg
- https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Linux_Foundation_logo_2013.svg
- <https://mysql.com/>
- <https://mariadb.org/>
- <https://openmoji.org/library/emoji-1F68C>
- https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Webysther_20160423_-_Elephpant.svg