Open Invention Network:
Ensuring Freedom of Action in Free Software Through Collaboration & Partnership

IBM   NEC   Novell   PHILIPS sense and simplicity   redhat   SONY

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You cannot talk about Free Software and legal issues without discussing patents

In this talk we are going to explore Free Software, patents and the global economy

Two questions:

What is the market reality today?

How do we address it?

Companies use codified (patents) and non-codified (know-how) intellectual capital to drive commercial growth

Intellectual capital has traditionally been "Closed", restricting rights to drive value

Tradition is occasionally challenged, and methods of doing business evolve

Free Software focuses on collaborative innovation between many stakeholders, creating an "Open" way of doing business

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Today we see a global market that is Open
and Closed, not Open or Closed

We need to address this reality

Free Software is the most important approach to innovation of the post-industrial era

According to IDC, the Linux eco-system will drive a 49 billion USD economy by 2011

(35.7% yearly growth rate since 2006)

According to UNU Merit, Free Software-related services in the EU may equal 32% of the IT market and 4% of GDP in 2010

The type of collaboration fostered by Free Software is proving immensely valuable to a great number of people and organizations

Codified intellectual capital like patents may enable or retard the Linux System and Free Software, depending on how they are used

Most parties understand the value of Linux and the Free Software ecosystem, and are embracing it
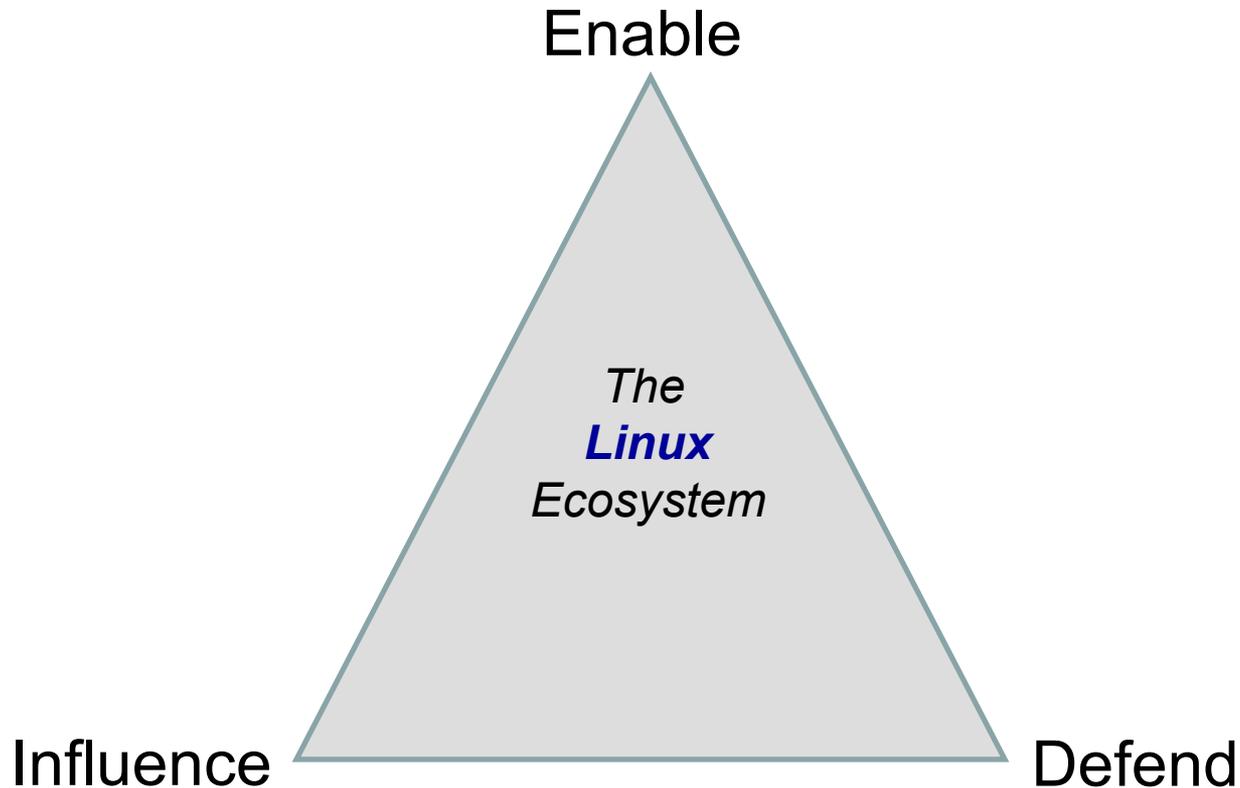
However, there is also an increasing number of patent speculator/troll business models, and they present a challenge

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Defensive patent organizations like OIN are forming to address these concerns

Enable

The
Linux
Ecosystem

Influence

Defend

OIN is here to ensure that Linux and the broader FLOSS ecosystem continues to grow with confidence

OIN advocates the value of collaborative innovation to existing and new stakeholders

Building a community of licensees to share innovation freely around the Linux System

Facilitating defensive publications to codify innovation in new ways

Working with the community to neutralize threats

Discouraging or deterring negative behavior from speculators and trolls

This is about creating a patent aggression "no fly zone" over the Linux System

It is part of a larger trend to embrace the innovation approach behind Free Software

Everyone can be part of supporting freedom of action around the Linux System by taking four simple, zero-cost steps

Pledge not to be aggressive with patents around the Linux System by joining the OIN community of licensees

(You can do it for free through openinventionnetwork.com)

Get assistance when faced with aggression through "LinuxDefenders911"

(You can do it for free through openinventionnetwork.com/linux911.php)

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Support defensive publications to ensure new inventions stay available for everyone

(You can do it for free through defensivepublications.org)

Explore initiatives like "Peer to Patent" and "Post Peer to Patent" to help market reform

(You can do it for free through linuxdefenders.org)

The solution to questions around Free Software innovation and legal issues is just as collaborative as making code

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Be part of the solution

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