

# Buy vs. Build vs. OpenSource: The UT-Austin Perspective

Randy Ebeling

Associate VP & Chief Operating Officer

Information Technology Services

The University of Texas at Austin



# Responses

- ◆ #1 What is your Motivation for OpenSource? To....

- ◆ Fill a gap in commercial offerings?
- ◆ Gain independence from vendors?
- ◆ Justify in-house development?

- Seek best (“better, faster, cheaper”) solution - within environment, time, and support constraints.
- Integration and Support are most important.
- OpSrc typically used as “partial”/piece of a solution.
- OpSrc is “attribute” in solution alternative matrix.

# Responses

- ◆ #2 Number of In -House Developers? Are they...
  - ◆ Dedicated Resources?
  - ◆ IT Generalists who develop when required?
  - ◆ Student Developers?

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- 100 in Central IT.
  - 100 in Departments - trained by Central IT.
  - 100 in Departments - no connection to Central IT.
  - 200 of these 300 are Developers exclusively.
  - Very few students used in administrative (or major) application development projects.

# Responses

- ◆ #3 Does Development Group bid on/charge for application development projects for departments?

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- We do not “bid” on development projects.
  - We offer application development support to any unit.
  - Some are charged; Most are not.

# Responses

- ◆ #4 Ever Out-Sourced Application Development?
  - ◆ If so, any notable successes or failures?

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- No, from Central IT.
  - This has been done on a few small projects - but, led by UT-Austin employees (ie, contract programmers only).

# Responses

- ◆ #5 Number of Developers outside Central IT?
  - ◆ Are developers in departments encouraged or discouraged?

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- 200. 100 trained by Central IT; 100 not.
  - Encouraged and supported. Well-developed Training Program open to all campus departments/developers.
  - Many departmental apps become part of a solution to a core business problem.

# Responses

- ◆ #6 Any services provided based on OpSrc software that would not be provided absent the OpSrc option?

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- No
  - If Need exists and No Solution available, then BUILD.

# Questionnaire

## 1) Policy / Principles in Place?

- Documented Principles (See: <[www.utexas.edu/its/eis/buybuild/](http://www.utexas.edu/its/eis/buybuild/)>)
- Act with pre-disposition toward OpSrc
- Core Principle: “appropriate solution for the problem”

## 2) Rank decision factors.

- 1 - Speed of Implementation and Changes
- 2 - Support
- 3 - Cost
- 4 - Access to Source Code
- 5 - Standards
- 6 - Security
- 7 - Licensing

# Questionnaire

3) <u>BUILT</u>	<u>BOUGHT</u>	<u>OPEN SOURCE</u>
Administrative Systems	Anti-Spam (considering)	Email Client (Free Svc)
Authentication	Anti-Virus	Email Server (Free Svc)
eCommerce	Backup Systems	Enterprise Directory
Network Mgmt/Monitor	Calendaring (but, OSAF)	Security Tools (considering)
Portal	Content Mgmt (considering)	L-A-M-P + JAVA tools
Security Mgmt	Email Client (Paid Svc)	Tomcat
Library Info Systems	Email Server (Paid Svc)	
LabMan (desktop mgmt)	Desktop Firewalls	
	Network Firewalls/VPN (considering)	
	Desktop Mgmt (considering)	
	Intrusion Detection (considering)	
	Security Tools (considering)	
	Learning Mgmt	
	Search Engine	

# Conclusion

- ◆ Myths:
  - ◆ OpSrc is a “free” option.
  - ◆ OpSrc includes the best of the “built world” and of the vendor product world because you have source code and functionality immediately.
- ◆ OpSrc is an “attribute” in solution alternative matrix.
- ◆ ANSWER: Hybrid, no option is always correct.

## Q &amp; A

- ◆ Randy Ebeling
- ◆ [r.ebeling@its.utexas.edu](mailto:r.ebeling@its.utexas.edu)
- ◆ 512 / 471-0012

