Sisyphus is happy

Lessons from the Fight for Software Legal Compliance

Alexios Zavras
Alexios Zavras
zvr
disclaimers
Software Legal Compliance

SWLC
companies
developers
companies
GPL violations discovered

CITY -- With a surprising announcement yesterday, well-known digital goods company MegaCorp Inc. admitted that it has been violating some software license conditions for years. The announcement comes after the completion of investigation work on the software code of the company.

The GNU General Public License (GPL) is a free, copyleft license for software and other kinds of works. The licenses for most software and other practical works are designed to take away the users' freedom to share and change the works. By contrast, the GNU General Public License is intended to guarantee the freedom to share and change all versions of a program, to make sure it remains free in all its software.

The Free Software Foundation uses the GNU General Public License for most of its software.
DON'T BUY FROM ATI
enemy of your freedom
developers
historically
Post-OpenSource
younger devs today are about POSS - Post open source software. fuck the license and governance, just commit to github.
software is a combination
own + others
own + (FOSS + Prop)
SWLC
detective
CSI: Licenses
JFreeChart
JFreeChart

- LGPL v2.1+
JFreeChart

- LGPL v2.1+
  - includes Junit
    - Eclipse Public License v1.0
cURL
cURL

• “Curl and libcurl are licensed under a MIT/X derivate license”
cURL

- "Curl and libcurl are licensed under a MIT/X derivate license"

- includes lib/md[45].c

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iperf2

- University of Illinois license
- 3-clause BSD
iperf2

- University of Illinois license
  - 3-clause BSD

- Includes src/gnu_getopt.[ch]
  - LGPL v2+
getopt

getopt1.c
getting better
unnamed (Apache)
#ifdef ANDROID
/**
 * Android’s bionic C lib has no getline
 * Code copied from busybox's libbb
 */

ssize_t getline(char **lineptr,
                size_t *n,
                FILE *stream)
{

copied from Internet
curse of copy-paste
FOSS strategy
process
workflow
NOT complicated
complicated

- Steps:
  - Scan
  - Identification
  - Audit
  - Issue resolution
  - Review
  - Approval
  - Registration
  - Distribution
  - Verification

- Roles:
  - Developer
  - Architect
  - Development manager
  - Compliance staff
  - Legal counsel
trust
NOT legal-oriented
handle
external source
DON’Ts

… use code if you don’t have a license

… assume that no © symbol means no license required

… assume or guess the license

… remove copyright notices
DOs

... add your own copyright to all own code

... get a license to any external code downloaded, found online, in textbooks, etc.
SWLC
Thank you!