DuraSpace Solution Communities:

Marshalling the Resources for Open-Source Development

Thornton Staples

Valorie Hollister

DURA SPACE

"Open-source software is free like a puppy."

- James Hilton, OR 2007

Overview

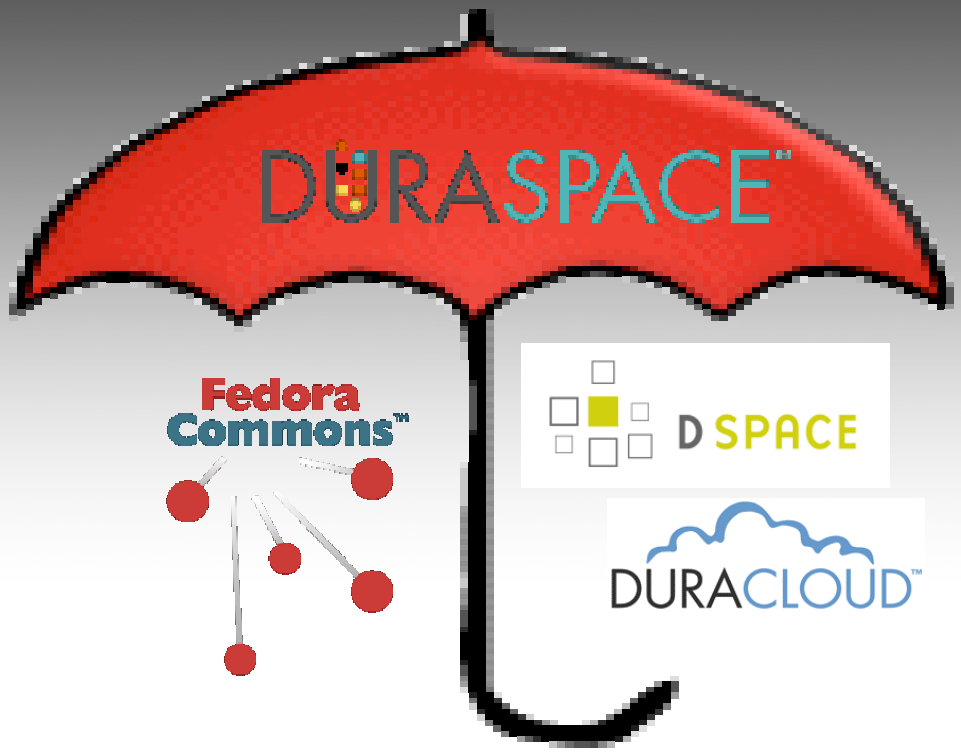
- DuraSpace
- Open source development until now
- What are Solution Communities
- Progress to Date
- Future plans

DuraSpace is Mission-driven

- We provide software that is intended to provide a framework for the long-term durability of digital information
- We are the catalyst for a community of developers of a set of open-source software projects
- The mission will drive the software, rather than the reverse

DURA SPACE

Open Source Portfolio



Developers Community

- DuraSpace is the catalyst for developer communities
- We provide a technical lead for each of our core projects
- Both Dspace and Fedora have had community managers for releases
- Very active developers of core software, tools and applications
- Participation depends on their managers!

What are Solution Communities?

- Interest in developing software, standards and best practices together
- Communities of decision makers and other interested, motivated practitioners
- Aimed at establishing the conditions for collaboration to develop
- Intended to move our software forward with the durability mission

DURA SPACE

Bottom-up Community Organizing

- Based on the idea of "emergence" from complexity theory
- New levels of order emerge out of increasingly complex activity
- Based on sharing information
- People getting to know each other
- Establishing trust

DURA SPACE

Getting Started

- Recruit an organizing group
- Create a statement of possibility for the community
- Establish a knowledge base that is easily edited by the group
- Create events, real and virtual
- Use email and other technologies to communicate asynchronously

Successes so far…

- 4 groups, 2 more?
- Statement of Possibility
- Set of tools
  - wiki
  - mailing list
  - events
  - surveys
  - other – social networking and webinars

DURA SPACE

Active Communities

- Preservation & Archiving
- Scholars' Workbench
- Small Archive
- Data Curation
- Others?
  - Media Archives
  - Open Access
  - Scholarly Publishing

What's next?

- Activities published and open
- Develop project list
- Webinar program

Questions for YOU

- What are some of the problems/challenges you have?
- What projects would you like to see a Solution Community tackle?

Thank you

Thorny Staples
tstaples@duraspace.org

Valorie Hollister
vhollister@duraspace.org