



DPDK Transition to The Linux Foundation

Q1 2017

Why Change?



- ▶ Create a project budget to cover:
 - ▶ Hosting/infrastructure costs.
 - ▶ Community events (DPDK summits and DPDK presence at other industry events).
 - ▶ Any future legal costs.
 - ▶ Possible creation of an Open Regression Lab.
- ▶ Provide legal support for any trademark or other legal issues.
- ▶ The Linux Foundation standing behind a project gives some companies assurances that there is good, open technical governance and a level playing field for all participants. For some companies, this makes it easier to get approval to use/contribute.
- ▶ Provide independent ownership of DPDK project assets (dpdk.org DNS etc.).

- ▶ DPDK remains a fully open source project that anybody can contribute to, and anybody can use, for free.
 - ▶ There is no requirement to be a member of the DPDK project in order to use or contribute to DPDK.
 - ▶ Day-to-day operations for submitting and reviewing patches, making releases etc. remain unchanged.
- ▶ The role of the existing Technical Board has been clarified and the board has been made more active as part of this transition:
 - ▶ The Technical Board is responsible for:
 - ▶ Resolving any technical disputes (e.g. if there's no agreement on whether a patch set should be accepted into DPDK).
 - ▶ Approving any new sub-projects (such as the Pktgen packet generator) or new libraries, and deprecating any old sub-projects/libraries. Any non-technical criteria for this will be determined by the Governing Board.

Technical Governance (2/2)



- ▶ Members of the Technical Board are determined based on contributions and technical merit, not by their company's membership level.
 - ▶ Membership has been reviewed recently and 3 new members have been added.
 - ▶ Technical Board meetings are open to the public, but only board members can vote.
- ▶ If any other sub-project grows sufficiently large in future, it can create its own Technical Board.

Non-Technical Governance



- ▶ A Governing Board will be created which will be responsible for:
 - ▶ Managing the DPDK project budget.
 - ▶ Managing DPDK events and other marketing activities.
 - ▶ Managing the Open Regression Lab if/when one is created.
 - ▶ Approving any changes or exceptions to the project's IP policy.
 - ▶ Specifying any non-technical criteria that the Technical Board must apply when approving new sub-projects.

Project Membership (1/2)



- ▶ Gold membership:
 - ▶ Cost is \$50k per year.
 - ▶ Benefits include:
 - ▶ Guaranteed seat on the Governing Board, giving a strong voice in the future direction of the project.
 - ▶ Be prominently identified as gold sponsors of the project at DPDK events.
 - ▶ Preferential access to a DPDK Open Regression Lab if/when one is created.
 - ▶ Ability to identify themselves as gold members of the project, demonstrating their commitment to the project and association with DPDK.

Project Membership (2/2)



- ▶ Silver membership:
 - ▶ Cost is a sliding scale based on number of employees:
 - ▶ 1 – 99: \$5,000
 - ▶ 100 – 499: \$10,000
 - ▶ 500 – 4,999: \$15,000
 - ▶ 5,000 and above: \$25,000
 - ▶ Benefits include:
 - ▶ Possible seat on the Governing Board. 1 seat per 5 silver members, with a minimum of 1 and maximum of 2 silver board reps.
 - ▶ Be identified as silver sponsors of the project at DPDK events.
 - ▶ Access to a DPDK Open Regression Lab if/when one is created, but at a lower priority/higher cost than for gold members.
 - ▶ Ability to identify themselves as silver members of the project, demonstrating their commitment to the project and association with DPDK.

Further Info



- ▶ Moving@dptk.org mailing list. Used for discussion on topics relating to the move to Linux Foundation.
- ▶ [Project Charter](#). This describes the structure of the DPDK project after it moves to the Linux Foundation.
- ▶ [Estimated Budget](#). This shows three options:
 - ▶ Baseline: Minimum budget requirement for DPDK.
 - ▶ Baseline + Lab: As above, but including an Open Regression Lab. This is the target, but we'll need to determine whether this is viable when the actual membership and budget are known.
 - ▶ Optional: A more complete scenario showing cost if the project were to avail of additional Linux Foundation services.
- ▶ Reference Lab Proposal: <http://dptk.org/ml/archives/moving/2017-February/000177.html>
- ▶ Technical governance, including info on Maintainers and sub-trees: <http://dptk.org/doc/guides/contributing/index.html> & <http://dptk.org/dev>.
- ▶ Summary of discussion at Userspace event in Dublin: <http://dptk.org/ml/archives/dev/2016-October/049259.html>