

A practical approach to the problem of software patents

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Whose problem?

- Most open source and individual developers
- Some small and medium-size companies
- So what?
 - Remember: open source and small companies form today an essential and very innovative part of the industry

It's not a problem.
It's a situation.

Open Source Developers

- Suggested solutions
 - Increase patent quality (how?)
 - Start a patent pool (joke?)
 - Use existing exemptions in law (how?)
 - Ignore the whole issue (cool)
 - Write new exceptions in the new law!

Should you support
Linus and his friends
in their cause?

Small companies

- When a patent infringement claim arrives...
 - Stop using the “invention” (why?)
 - Write a new implementation (can be hard)
 - Pay the license fees (for what?)
 - Ignore the whole issue (can you afford it?)
 - Call your insurance company!

10 000 euros per year.
How many installments
do you want?