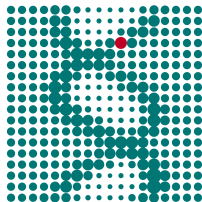# Discussion: How to finance the coreboot project?

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Who am I?

- (Economic) Mathematician by studies at TU Berlin
- Free Software enthusiast
- Active in coreboot since 2005 (still LinuxBIOS back then)

- System architect at Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics

Topic

Maintaining the boards in the tree, and doing infrastructure work is a lot of work. Without funding it's hard to be done by developers in their free time.

How can the coreboot community make that happen?

Talk description:
https://ecc2017.coreboot.org/talks/YVNcW9DPu4bDJqssm9nZeQ

Resources

Good write-up by Varnish developer:

1. https://varnish-cache.org/docs/trunk/phk/dough.html
2. Why Free and Open Source costs money

But software is written by people, real people with kids, cars, mortgages, leaky roofs, sick pets, infirm parents and all other kinds of perfectly normal worries of an adult human being.

The best way to improve the quality of Free and Open Source Software, is to make it possible for these people to spend time on it.

They need time to review submissions carefully, time to write and run test-cases, time to respond and fix to bug-reports, time to code and most of all, time to think about the code.

The right way to go – the moral way to go – and by far the most productive way to go, is to pay the developers so they can make the software they love their living.

Tasks

1. Make new board ports
2. Review
3. Tests
4. Infrastructure
5. Travel costs
6. Easy for companies to buy supported devices

Ideas

1. https://www.coreboot.org/consulting.html
2. Donations
    2.1 At conferences and flashing help suggest amount
    2.2 Web site
3. Voluntary "coreboot installation fee" for each flash
    3.1 Also for sold pre-flashed devices
4. Covering of hardware costs
5. Covering of travel and conference costs
6. Certification program
7. Wish: Make devices with support available for organizations