Open-Source: An Infinite Game

M. Denker
S. Ducasse
Some ESUG past...
Book Presentation
Book Suggestion
ZAPP!
THE LIGHTNING OF EMPOWERMENT

William C. Byham, Ph.D.
WITH JEFF COX
We should have a book session at esug
Today
1. There are at least two kinds of games. One could be called finite; the other infinite. A finite game is played for the purpose of winning, an infinite game for the purpose of continuing the play.

2. If a finite game is to be won by someone, it must come to a definite end. It will come to an end when someone has won....

FINITE AND INFINITE GAMES
A Vision of Life as Play and Possibility
JAMES P. CARSE
Interesting Book
"The wisdom held in this brief book now informs most of what I do in life."

Kevin Kelly
There are at least two kinds of games.
One could be called finite, the other, infinite.
A finite game is played for the purpose of winning
An infinite game is played for the purpose of continuing the play.
Book is more than that (and a bit odd)
Interesting way to look at what you do
“...resolves my uncertainties about what to do next. Easy: always choose infinite games”

Kevin Kelly
Open-source as an infinite game
1. For the Individual
Story one
X worked Z years on a business
But business failed and position got “compressed”
X did not have any code legally in his hand
Story two
Company Z is successful, project X is nice
Company K “merged” company Z
Project X does not fit the new vision
Xxx years of efforts thrown away
For Individuals, work done in companies are often finite games
Do not die with the company
Contribute to Open Source and be part of a community!
2. For Companies
A company should be an Infinite Game
e.g. Toyota
Would be a nice Book
Here: Open Source
Of course not everything has to be open source
But it has a space even in a company where the product is closed
Finding Talent
Find experts inside a community

Find future real colleagues within a community
Story three
Company X was looking for CTO and hired a “super smart” guy without the possibility to really look at his achievements.
How a company could do that?
No idea.
But it did :( and miserably failed
Be wary about a developer you cannot browse source code...
Retaining Talent
e.g. allow people to contribute to a community
An infinite game is played for the purpose of continuing the play
Open-source is an infinite game
No one can play a game alone
Links:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite_and_Infinite_Games

Speaker:

http://marcusdenker.de

http://stephane.ducasse.free.fr