Behind the scenes...

Running an open source software project

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TL;DR

Software is written to be used

FOSS = Good and Bad

You are the project
Michael Boelen

- **Open Source**
  - Lynis, Rootkit Hunter

- **Business**
  - Founder of CISOfy

- **Other**
  - Blogger at Linux-Audit.com
  - Board member NLUUG
The project
Lynis: security scanner

Lynis security scan details:

Hardening index : 63 [############################]
Tests performed : 228
Plugins enabled : 14

Components:
- Firewall        [V]
- Malware scanner [X]

Lynis Modules:
- Compliance Status [?]
- Security Audit   [V]
- Vulnerability Scan [V]

Files:
- Test and debug information : /tmp/lynis.log
- Report data               : /tmp/lynis-report.dat
Lynis

2007
- Shell script
- Started alone
- FreeBSD
- No marketing
- Limited public value
- Much time, no rewards

2018
- same
- Hundreds of contributors
- BSD, Linux, macOS, etc
- Ongoing marketing
- Private and public value
- Many rewards
Basics: Starting the project
Basics

- Name
- Project page
- License

Learn more: choosealicense.com
Documentation

● README(.md)
● Get Started
● Other documentation
GitHub

- Public
- Visibility
- Contributors
GitHub

Lynis - Security auditing tool for Linux, macOS, and UNIX-based systems. Assists with compliance testing (HIPAA/ISO27001/PCI DSS) and system hardening. Agentless, and installation optional.  https://cisofy.com/lynis/

shell  linux  pci-dss  compliance  security-audit  security-hardening  security-scanner  security-vulnerability  hipaa  unix
vulnerability-detection  vulnerability-scanners  vulnerability-assessment  devops  devops-tools  system-hardening  hardening  auditing  gdpr
security-tools  Manage topics

2,086 commits  1 branch  36 releases  88 contributors  GPL-3.0
Best Practices

Semantic versioning!

Major.Minor.Patch

Learn more: semver.org
Best Practices

Keep a changelog

- History
- Trust
- Troubleshooting

Learn more: keepachangelog.com
Best Practices

--full-throttle-engine, -f
--help, -h, or help
--version, -V

Learn more: docopt.org
Best Practices

- Use exit codes
- Integrations
- Output
- Colors

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Updates

● Release often
● Add / Change / Delete
● Project visibility
Packages

Good
- Promotion
- Easy of use

Bad
- Needs maintainer
- The “stable” bug
Community
Not that easy...
Allow contributions

- Contributor guide
- GitHub pull requests
- Email
Social Media

- Share
- Interact
- Timing
Show

- Personal
- Feedback
- Fans
‘No’

‘no’
might make them angry.
but
it will make you free.

—if no one has ever told you, your freedom is more important than their anger
Lessons learned
Lesson 1: Quality

● Get the basics right
● Focus on simplicity
● Understand your users
Lesson 2: Be a Marketeer

- Share
- Show
- Present
Lesson 3: Attitude

- Be humble and proud
- Say ‘no’ (often)
- Remain friendly
More?

Articles on linux-audit.com

- Why we use your open source project (or not)
- How to Promote your Open Source Project
Questions?

Connect

● Twitter (@mboelen)
● LinkedIn (Michael Boelen)
Credits

Images

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