



Introduction to Project Harmony

Presented on 16 May 2011

Amanda Brock and other Harmony Participants

OSBC

Amanda's unique experience

- Being chased across the world



What is Project Harmony?

- Contributor Agreements proliferation
- Proposed harmonised version
- Seeks to cover main contribution options, cc style
- Drafting led by SFLC and DLA
- Community of 100+ participants
- Representing 60+ organisations
- Lawyers and some community/developers

Contribution Agreement

- Managing an open source project



The daydreams of cat herders

© David Farley

Toolkit

- 4 documents
 - Copyright licence or assignment
 - Individual or Entity contributor
- Outbound restriction / promise back to contributor
- Patents
- Definitions – impacted by real life process
- FAQs, information on project, eg no TM provisions intentionally

Copyright licence

- Harmony Individual Contributor Licence Agreement – HI-CLA
- Harmony Entity Contributor Licence Agreement – HE-CLA
- Wide grant of a licence to Entity for use of contribution
- Promise back

Copyright assignment

- Harmony Individual Contributor Assignment Agreement – HI-CAA
- Harmony Entity Contributor Assignment Agreement – HE-CAA
- Assign rights and ownership in contribution passes to Entity
- Licence default in case this is not enforceable
- Outbound promises to contributor set out in options 1-5

Individual agreements

- Instructions for employees
- Instructions for minors
- Remove provisions around affiliates etc
- Impacted choice of law clause

Entity agreements

- Cover employees contributing
- Expanded to cover Affiliates
- Patent licences coming from Group

Mark Radcliffe, DLA

- The Scribe
- Feedback on the draft

Stephen Walli, Outercurve Foundation

The Participant's perspective.

Simon Phipps

A doubter's view

Process

- General Alpha Consultation, launched ELN and LF 7 April and closed 6 May
- Info on web site (see later)
- Mailing List
- Meeting after OSBC on 18 May at DLA
- Beta consultation following this, launch 23 May, close 22 June
- v1.0 Launch targeted 4 July

Web Site

- <http://www.harmonyagreements.org/>

- You can subscribe to the mailing list at:

<http://lists.harmonyagreements.org/mailman/listinfo/harmony-review>

- #harmonyagreements on irc.freenode.net

Web Site

- What is Harmony

The screenshot shows the Project Harmony website. At the top left is the logo: a white 'H' inside a circle on a pink background, followed by the word 'HARMONY' in white. To the right is a navigation bar with a home icon and links for 'What is Harmony', 'How to Get Involved', 'Draft CAs for Review', 'Guide to CAs', and 'FAQs'. On the left side of the page is a vertical menu with four items: 'How to Get Involved' (with a lightbulb icon), 'Draft CAs for Review' (with a quill icon), 'Guide to CAs' (with a link icon), and 'FAQs' (with a speech bubble icon). The main content area is titled 'What is Harmony?' and contains two paragraphs of text.

H HARMONY

Home | **What is Harmony** | How to Get Involved | Draft CAs for Review | Guide to CAs | FAQs

What is Harmony?

Project Harmony is a community-centered group focused on contributor agreements for free and open source software (FOSS), launched in May 2010 by Amanda Brock, General Counsel for Canonical. As a group, we represent a diverse collection of perspectives, experiences, communities, projects, non-profit and for-profit entities. In that diversity, we share a common belief in the future of FOSS, and a common interest in using our skills (whether they're legal, organizational, editorial, technical, or otherwise) to the benefit of collaborative FOSS communities.

Contribution agreements are one available tool out of many in an overall legal strategy for FOSS developers, the entities that distribute their work, and the users of their work. We hope that our work will enable more people to contribute code, by reducing the cognitive cost and legal time of reviewing contribution agreements. However, the fact that we're working to improve this one tool doesn't imply that we think it is a necessary part of all FOSS legal strategies. Many successful FOSS projects choose not to use contribution agreements, and we are hearty advocates of those projects, and of a broad variety of strong legal strategies built using a broad variety of tools.

Contribution agreements in the FOSS world today may be loosely categorized into two styles: copyright license or copyright assignment. Project Harmony supports both styles of contribution agreements, recognizing them both as effective tools. We understand that if a project chooses to use contribution agreements, their particular needs may lead them to favor

Web Site

- Beta forms for review

The screenshot shows the HARMONY website interface. At the top left is the HARMONY logo. A navigation bar contains links for 'What Is Harmony', 'How to Get Involved', 'Draft CAs for Review', 'Guide to the CAs', and 'FAQs'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with icons and text for 'How to Get Involved', 'Draft CAs for Review', 'Guide to the CAs', and 'FAQs'. The main content area is titled 'Draft Contributor Agreements for Review' and contains a table with the following data:

Document	Version	Formats	Modified
<u>Harmony Agreement, combined template with comments</u>	Alpha	HTML	2011-04-07
<u>Harmony Individual Contributor License Agreement</u>	Alpha	ODT PDF HTML	2011-04-07
<u>Harmony Entity Contributor License Agreement</u>	Alpha	ODT PDF HTML	2011-04-07
<u>Harmony Individual Contributor Assignment Agreement</u>	Alpha	ODT PDF HTML	2011-04-07
<u>Harmony Entity Contributor Assignment Agreement</u>	Alpha	ODT PDF	2011-04-07

How can you play a part in Harmony ?

- Review the form agreements in beta
- Provide feedback through mailing list
- Get your organisation's endorsement
 - “Would you contribute under a Harmony document?”
- Adopt the v1.0 from July
- Financial Contribution –
amanda.brock@canonical.com



Thank you and Questions

<http://www.harmonyagreements.org/>