Luxembourg Media & Digital Design Centre

I Love Open-Source

Feb. 13th 2025 | Hacker Space, Luxembourg

Thibaud Latour

LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur
et de la Recherche

LUXEMBOURG
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY
LIST

LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale,
de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

Empowering educators through innovative **digital technologies** at the service of **pedagogy**

Luxembourg Media & Digital Design Centre

Our positioning

Our missions

Design & **creation** of digital learning experiences

Adaptation & **hosting** of Open-Source software

skill tech TOOLS

Dissemination of information & **sharing** of expertise

skill tech CAFE

Strategic & operational **guidance** and profesional **training**

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Common good

We strongly believe that knowledge is a common good, so should be the means to nurture it

Public Money = public outcome

We firmly assert that everything funded by public money should go back to the public

Sovereignty & freedom to operate

We ensure independence from vendors and tailor the solutions to your needs

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An open ecosystem

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Open-Source
Open-Standards
Open-Content
Open-Infrastructure

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An Open-Source organisation

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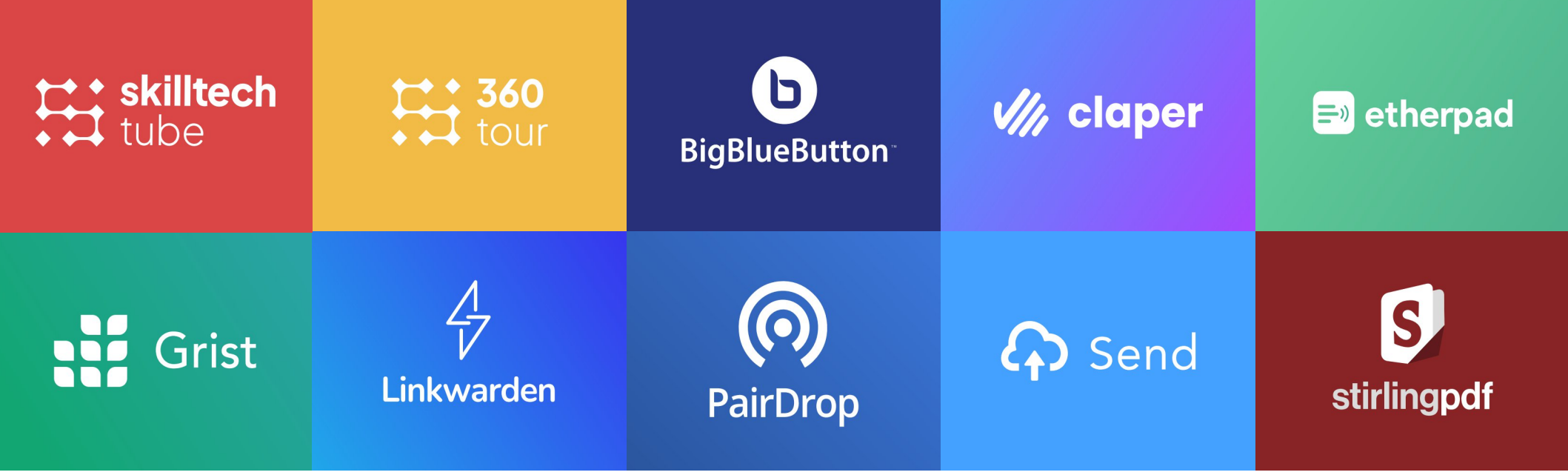

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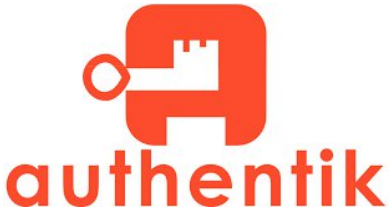

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Only Open-Source?

Only Open-Source?

NO !

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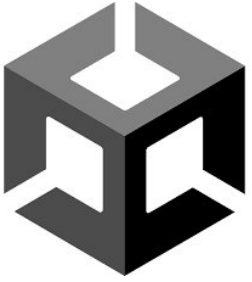
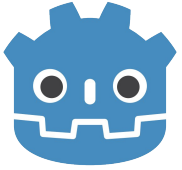
Adobe Photoshop





GODOT
Game engine

Figma

penpot

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Restistance & pragmatism

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“Professionals fear loosing their skills”
“Everybody uses the same tool”
“Your ruin our expertise”
“it doesn’t work well”
“In principle yes, but in practice no”

- Formatted to use their usual proprietary tool
- Learning curve perceived too steep
- Reluctant to change
- Fear of bad performance evaluation

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Power of **habits**
Power of **brands**
Power of **training**

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“The functionalities are not all there”
“The functionalities aren’t the way I know”
“There are bugs”
“We’ll use it when it will be better”

- Magically believing that the software will evolve on its own?
- If everyone thinks the same, there is no chance that the software will evovle positively (and most often die)
- Do not understand that your little effort to improve what others made for you freely cost less that paying the full license

Political activism?

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Distributing **value** | **wealth** concentration

Spend money on **local jobs** and resources

—

spend money on far away jobs and **shareholders**

Common good | **private** property

Federation | **centralisation**

Financial **sustanability** | **Profitability**

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Fundamental role of government and procurement rule

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It’s free, right?
I can make money out of it

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“Paying a license for Open-Source! why?
Isn’t it free?”

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I am a start-up (in EdTech) Going Open-Source? Why the hell?

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- Seeding the market
  - circumvent **cold-start effect**
  - accelerate wider **adoption**
- Focus the price on the real added-value/USP
  - Leave the less values part open
- Use open standard to connect to other functions without developing them again
- Accelerate brand recognition