Evaluation Criteria for F/OSS Products Based on Project Analysis
Why this article?

• Usage of OSS components increases
• No systematic selection process

• This article presents such a process
• Usage scenarios (chapter 3)
• Requirements (chapter 4)
• Criteria (chapter 5)
• Requirement fulfilment (chapter 6)
Usage scenarios

• Possible reasons for using OSS
  – Cost reduction
  – Avoid dependencies
  – Security through transparency

• Links to important requirements
Six categories

- Functional requirements
- Technical requirements
- Organisational requirements
- Legal requirements
- Economical requirements
- Political requirements
Functional requirements

• Required functionality

• Read description page

• See source code
Technical requirements

- Target platform
- Reliability
- Bug count
- Code metrics
Organisational requirements

- Community exists
- Product evolution
- Support

- Number of:
  - Developers
  - Testers
  - Users

- Project activity
Legal requirements

- No copyleft

- Check license
Economical requirements

- Sustainability
- Quick availability
- Cost reduction
- Development resources
- Dependencies
- Estimated costs
Political requirements

- Decrease of proprietary dependencies
- Security through transparency
- Readable design
- Good project climate
Summary

• This paper presents:
  – Possible requirements
  – Evaluation criteria
  – Indications on how requirements might be fulfilled, by looking at the evaluated criteria