Open Source Software (OSS) projects: *Why, how & benefits?*

- ➢ Maintenance and support contracts for **proprietary licensed software** are **provided** for (up to) **10 years**

- ➢ **Files outlive** proprietary **software** in any maintenance scenario

- ➢ For each file format, **development** of OSS will be conducted in an **OSS project** on an **open platform** (e.g. GitHub)

- ➢ All developed software will be provided under both "**MPL v2.0 or later**" *and* under "**GPLv3 or later**" (*this is very important!*)

- ➢ Each OSS project utilises **established work practices** for community based OSS projects

- ➢ For each file format, each contracted company will **improve standards** by establishing effective processes for interaction between the OSS project and relevant standards organisations

- ➢ **Users** of OSS are **expected to engage** in interaction with the OSS project for provision of feedback from use

Healthy **OSS** projects **outlive** proprietary software

Some references ...

- ➢ **"Open Source software communities can outlive Open Source software projects."**
  - ➢ Gamalielsson, J. & Lundell, B. (2013) Sustainability of Open Source software communities beyond a fork: How and why has the LibreOffice project evolved?, The Journal of Systems and Software, Vol. 89, pp. 128-145, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2013.11.1077

- ➢ **Community commitment & choice of Open Source licenses may significantly affect long-term maintenance of digital artefacts**
  - ➢ Lundell & Gamalielsson (2011) Towards a Sustainable Swedish e-Government Practice: Observations from unlocking digital assets, In eGov 2011

- ➢ **"A need for long-term accessibility of information, both for use and reuse, implies that an organisation needs to ensure that maintenance of the information can be guaranteed independently of the system which was used to generate the information."**
  - ➢ Lundell, B. (2012) Why do we need Open Standards?, In Orviska, M. and Jakobs, K. (Eds.) Proceedings 17th EURAS Annual Standardisation Conference 'Standards and Innovation', The EURAS Board Series, Aachen, ISBN: 978-3-86130-337-4, pp. 227-240.

Björn Lundell, University of Skövde, Sweden