

One on One with Dries Buytaert of Acquia

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Dries Buytaert is founder and CTO at Acquia. He's the original creator and project lead for the Drupal open source web publishing and collaboration platform. He serves as president of the Drupal Association, a non-profit organization formed to help Drupal flourish. We asked him about the role of open source in content management today.

FCM: Do you think the open source label even matters any more. Have we gotten past that and just look at the software regardless of its type?

DB: Yes, I think the open source label still matters. Organizations need a technology that provides the flexibility and freedom to customize it to their individual needs. Proprietary solutions can be customized but with a high price tag and long lag time. In the open source world, more often than not, plug-ins or customizations you need to build have already been created and are available for use. This is community-powered innovation, something that Drupal is great at and that provides a real benefit compared to proprietary solutions.

FCM: Do you think open source has become too much of a buzz word and lost its meaning?

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