

Project Hosting RFP

During the OWASP 2011 Summit, the GPC identified Project Hosting as a critical step in standardizing OWASP Projects, and drafted an initial RFP for such a service¹. As discussed in the GPC 2011 Budget Proposal², utilizing a project hosting provider gives us:

- A scalable way to manage projects
- A consistent presentation of projects to OWASP consumers, including a way to enable simplified project sponsorship
- An automated system to gather project metrics
- A mechanism to conduct centralized project reviews
- A permanent archive of OWASP project releases

Following approval of the GPC 2011 Budget Proposal at the *insert* month Board meeting, the GPC produced a finalized version of the RFP³, which was launched May 1st, 2011. The RFP was announced and posted on the OWASP wiki and GPC members personally reached out to four (4) project hosting providers that are commonly seen as leaders in the industry: Google Code, SourceForge, CollabNet, and LaunchPad. In addition, Chris Schmidt and Larry Casey put together an “OWASP Contractor Proposal” that estimated the cost and effort of setting up our own service using freely available tools, such as Atlassian. The deadline for proposals was May 31st, 2011 so that proposals could be gathered and reviewed by GPC members in preparation for the GPC Working Session. As part of our Working Session agenda, these proposals would be discussed and compared with the selection of a provider a decision earmarked for the first day of the working session.

No proposals were received from vendors whom we did not solicit. Of the solicited providers, SourceForge engaged in dialogue immediately and provided a response⁴. LaunchPad responded to our request with a standard form letter and did not engage us further. CollabNet originally responded with a standard form letter, but subsequently engaged in dialogue and provided a response⁵. Google Code initially responded that custom project hosting, such as was done for Eclipse Labs, was no longer a service provided by Google. However, one day prior to our departure for the working session, Google reached out to us and indicated a potential change in stance. Our decision was postponed until the third day of the working session to give Google an opportunity to follow up with us regarding their proposal. No further contact was made and our deliberations proceeded without a proposal from Google. Each proposal is attached as part of Appendix XXX.

The GPC compared the proposals from SourceForge and CollabNet, along with the OWASP “in house” proposal. Given the feature set, overall cost, willingness to provide support, and eagerness to engage in

¹ Add link to first draft of RFP

² Add link to GPC Budget Proposal

³ See <http://sl.owasp.org/project-hosting-rfp>

⁴ Add link to SF response

⁵ Add link to CollabNet response

dialogue, the GPC chose to pursue SourceForge's proposal to support OWASP's Project Infrastructure Initiative. The GPC will work with SourceForge and the OWASP Board to ensure equitable contract terms can be met and that the service is available to pilot projects as soon as possible.