Oli_science_

the new maintainer of OpenCores.org

by

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The problems

- There is no solid definition of gateware and its boundary for FPGAs

- There is a lot of *effort duplication* especially in our scientific community

- There is no *solid metrics to measure* the strength of digital designers

- There are *business opportunities* for companies operating in an open source field applied to gateware for FPGAs

Where to start...

OpenCores.org

- A portal that since 2003 collected >250.000 professionals in the field of gateware IPs

- Generates ~500.000 views per month

- Strong identity, established trademark, consistent community, very specialized, potentially business oriented

- Used to be maintained by a Swedish company

- Unkempt since 2012, but it is still the largest community for such niche market

Oliscience goals

- *Open Logic Interconnects science*

- **Acquired** the portal

- **Activate** the community

- **Offer** an "impact metrics" to asses performance and motivate designers to contribute (for **labs**)

- **Propose** "hardware platform matching" as a sort of advertisement opportunity (for **industry**)

- **Provide** consultancy services via the portal in the field of gateware design and support

Where do I need CT support?

- Help deciding where to host the site in the Netherlands (which ISP? which platform?)

  - OC ran on a custom server (32 GB RAM)

  - Now runs on crummy Amazon cloud machine (dead slow)

- Supervise the migration process

  - Can we "just copy/paste"?

- Watch what's wrong with the back-end

  - Subversion is frequently not working reliably

  - … many problems will certainly arise

Do you know a...

- I am looking for tech. experts in areas I can't cover myself

- PHP developer?

- Front End Web developer?

- Someone who knows MySQL?

- Someone who knows how to handle google analytics?

- Am I missing something obvious?

Ideas for future development:

- ## The platform as is is getting progressively obsolete

- Add a bug tracker to track problems and ask the community for feedback (forum is very inefficient)

- Explore the possibility to incorporate gitlab (https://about.gitlab.com/) for GIT support

- It used Plunify (now disappeared), see if a system with more detailed statistics (http://www.aquafold.com/) is viable

- Adopt a feedback system like the google store, where users can rate the cores they are using and give feedback to developers

- Adopt a StackExchange (http://stackexchange.com/) Q&A system, leaning on Area51; or use Askbot (https://askbot.com/)

- Look for a "shop solution" (replace the old one)