



The GENIVI Alliance, an industry association driving the development and adoption of an open In-vehicle Infotainment (IVI) reference platform, announced that its component development will move to all-new Alliance-sponsored public open-source community projects.

The first three projects are Layer Manager, Audio Manager and Automotive DLT (Diagnostic Log and Trace). Further technical information on these projects can be found at www.genivi.org.

Currently 95% of the software components needed for GENIVI compliance are adopted or adapted from existing open-source projects. Previously, when the Alliance was unable to find a home in the open-source community for some components, that software was developed “in-house,” i.e. by GENIVI Alliance member organizations. Such components will now be developed in the FOSS (Free and Open-Source Software) community, and all of the code specified for GENIVI compliance will come from open-source licensed components.

During his keynote address at The Linux Foundation’s Automotive Linux Summit in Gaydon, England, Matt Jones, technical lead for Next Generation Infotainment Systems at Jaguar Land Rover and GENIVI Alliance vice president, commented, “By moving our previously internal code development activities into the public open-source community model, GENIVI hopes to simplify contribution from its members and to engage individual contributors in the FOSS community who are not members.

“The benefit for open-source developers is freely available access to advanced automotive software, an opportunity to directly contribute to its development, and a clear path for adoption of this technology by related industries,” Jones continued. “The benefit for GENIVI is an increased level of interest and activity towards achieving the Alliance’s goal of a common software infrastructure for IVI.”

The Linux Foundation, the nonprofit consortium dedicated to fostering the growth of Linux and FOSS, will provide the professional services to host all of the GENIVI sponsored projects. “By providing GENIVI with centralized resources for hosting its code, we can help to increase collaboration throughout the Linux and open source community,” said Jim Zemlin, executive director, The Linux Foundation.

All of the projects will be maintained by GENIVI throughout their life within the open-source environment. When deemed beneficial, GENIVI can also merge specific projects with other existing, successful projects in the community to further foster development.

The Alliance will also sponsor new “incubation” projects for automotive IVI software in the open-source community. These projects will encourage development of experimental or early-stage technologies that are consistent with the Alliance’s mission and technical scope, but not currently part of the GENIVI compliance specification.

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