



# DPDK Technical Board Panel Discussion

DPDK Summit Userspace - Dublin- 2017



# A little history



- ▶ Back at the dawn of time (~2013), DPDK project was entirely consensus-driven
- ▶ This led to slower decision making, and slower development
  - Patches failed to get in due to lack of interest
  - Patches were blocked by a single objector
  - Arguments raged as to whether something was good, bad or just plain ugly!
- ▶ So a technical board was created to allow trusted contributors to the project to make technical decisions on behalf of the whole community.



# Introduction to DPDK Technical Board



This tech-board was then codified in the DPDK Project Charter, which provides for two boards for project governance:

- ▶ Governing Board
- ▶ Technical Board

“Governance for DPDK will be provided by two boards:

- A Governing Board which deals with budget, marketing, lab resources, administrative, legal and licensing issues.
- A Technical Board which deals with technical issues including approval of new sub-projects, deprecating old sub-projects, and resolution of technical disputes.

These two boards are peers and work together to oversee the DPDK project.”

In practical terms, this means that the technical board deals with:

- ▶ Approving the inclusion of new functionality, libraries or device classes, into DPDK
- ▶ Approving any new sub-trees or staging trees for DPDK project work
- ▶ Approving the appointment of committers/maintainers for those trees
- ▶ Approving any subprojects on DPDK
  - ▶ Once created – subprojects get their own technical board
- ▶ Providing technical input on contributions when requested
- ▶ *Making technical decisions when consensus cannot be reached on-list*

# Who are we?



The 9 current members of [techboard@dpdk.org](mailto:techboard@dpdk.org) are:

- ▶ Bruce Richardson
- ▶ Hemant Agrawal
- ▶ Jan Blunck
- ▶ Jerin Jacob
- ▶ Konstantin Ananyev
- ▶ Olivier Matz
- ▶ Stephen Hemminger
- ▶ Thomas Monjalon
- ▶ Yuanhan Liu



# Meetings, meetings, meetings



- ▶ Initially, technical board only met “when necessary”
- ▶ In practice, it never really met, only when some major issue arose
- ▶ Since move to Linux Foundation, tech-board has been more active
- ▶ Now meets regularly, generally every two weeks
  - ▶ No one chair-person, role of meeting leader is rotated
  - ▶ Meeting agenda published to the dev list in advance
  - ▶ Anyone can request agenda addition by posting to dev list – tech-board may accept/reject request
  - ▶ Meetings held on IRC #dpdk-board on Freenode
  - ▶ Anyone can attend, and comment. Only members get to vote.
  - ▶ Meeting minutes published afterwards to the dev list



## More information



- ▶ DPDK Charter: <http://dpdk.org/about/charter>
- ▶ Tech-board information page: <http://dpdk.org/about/techboard>
- ▶ Meeting minutes archive: <http://dpdk.org/dev/techboard-minutes>

# Panel Discussion

## SUGGESTED TOPICS

- Requirements for upstreaming a new API
- Managing PMD-specific functionality
- Ethdev API offloads
- CLI changes
- GitHub and draft trees
- Release planning/milestones
- Other topics....