Generating more Cross Project Ideas

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Thought process

- Developers have inertia and will likely continue to be intra-project focused unless motivated/encouraged to look broader.
- Need to motivate SE’s and Architects to come up with ideas that cross project boundaries
- Need a repeatable process not a one and done
- Documentation and information sharing is useful but doesn’t drive the behavior of cross project discussion
- Hackathon’s drive this type of behavior in smaller projects so perhaps an SE/Architect form of it would be a way to trigger the thought processes we want
The idea

• Award a prize for the best cross project initiative, conducted at the twice yearly virtual/physical events
  • Particularly with virtual the incentive of waiving the attendee fee for presenters isn’t really there
  • A small team award ($1000 USD is a number that would be noticed) would motivate folks to think about these kinds of things

• We should also help people make this effort visible to their employer. Recognition of the achievement on official LF channels could help here. Things like:
  • Winners get to post and get a LFN blog post
  • Some sort of spotlight article or newsletter highlight
  • We may even consider, creating some sort of title, that will be assigned to the winning team members for the six months between events. Something like “Collaboration guru”
  • Let’s not make it a winner-takes-all thing. Runner ups should be recognized as well.
  • Every participating team gets some sort of badge

• Use a panel of judges from the projects
  • LFN Governing Board Committer Representative would be a good candidate judge/promoter
  • Have 1 or 2 judges that represent industry “rock stars”
    • So it gets some resume panache
  • Tie it to a LinkedIn badge from LF
The implementation

• Test the idea at the June virtual event for LFN projects
• Get the word out with the rules
  • Must be two or more projects across LFN
  • Presentation as a specific joint session timed so folks can see
  • Limit presentation to 15 minutes as a “pitch talk”
  • Scoring criteria: The scoring criteria should be known in advance and should incentivize true collaboration
    • Number of Projects involved
    • Number of Companies involved
    • Level of integration: PowerPoint only, some working code, complete solution, production deployed
    • Value to end users (does it address a real-life use case? Does it tackle actual pain points for users?)
    • Complexity (Just running several containers from different projects on the same pod is not the same as deep integration with new APIs between projects)
    • Originality and creativity
• Gauge interest by requiring Abstracts X weeks in advance
• Award the winner/winners at the closing event
• If successful (based on feedback etc)
  • Do at each LFN event (twice yearly)
  • Extend to LF family / eco-system – LF-AI, LF-EDGE, etc