

Subject: : AmigaOS4

Topic: : Is there a fine line of working for free in Amiga world?

Re: Is there a fine line of working for free in Amiga world?

Author: : DStastny

Date: : 2021/5/7 16:31:46

URL:

@Walkero

As as mostly quiet lurker I can say from observer standpoint nodding my head to what you posted. To a fact I am aware of all the conflicts and questionable behaviors you raise.

With regard to hardware; paying to be beta tester or early adopter is pretty normal. You are usually enticed in normal markets to participate to build products and have head start getting something to market early. But lets be honest the Amiga HW market is all hobby so I would not say anyone is getting a competitive advantage being a HW beta tester other than you get to play with new hardware. I would not fret that.

Software; Beta testers paying for privledge to being beta tester. It seems weird and previously industry wide you would get to be beta tester and pay discounted price or free upon release. But this is Amiga a low yield so I would rephrase and say you are paying to be early adopter. That would be what we see common place now with crowd funding of games or on Steam. Not that it eases the weird feeling for our generation but it is more normal these days than not. How much feedback you give is up to you you paid them to have early access. Test a release, maybe if I have time or care at the moment. That's my take.

Open source or not. I find I participate more with open source that is not GPL. I don't like idea of sharing my product source but am more than happy to share work on compilers or tools or widgets. For example: In the case of Enhancer. I would prefer all the reaction gadgets to be Opensource. 1. They would be better tested with more eyes. 2. You would have more developers willing to make more components since there would be reference components. AEON weird licensing wall for a About box, Toolbar, or etc. is sorry... stupid. They wont wind up in my stuff. I will write my own and share opensource. Now the products they build multiviewer, notepad etc... sure pay for that that is a developer building something useful. I choose to purchase install or not.

Finally questionable practices of overwriting system components with ones of same name and co-opting the system. I have made public statements to my feeling that AEON Enhancer overwriting datatypes and common commands is more harmful to the ecosystem then beneficial. Its appears as a vain attempt to present themselves as more in control of the IP. Is it shady or ethical... well I think every individual has to judge on that. I think the original intention of Enhancer was good but somewhere it went off the rails. I am not sure who was making the product calls.

As for you feeling about time. The thing is right now I seriously doubt any party is making money(getting rich). I think there are those that are maybe a little exploitive that maybe they can make money someday. But I think that is misguided on their part. Then there are those that are doing what they feel can keep this little Toy OS

alive for posterity(I'm ideologically aligned to this group)

Personally I play with AmigaOS as a hobby as such its my time. I am working on something that if I can get to work I will share with all. Sometimes I need to participate in Beta to get what I need to work. If that helps advance platform great. That's cool I'll do that, Ill point out issues if I find them. But thing is I own nobody anything when I work for free or payed to have access. I limit who I participate with. I am privately vocal to those that I think are misguided and move on if we agree to disagree.

When the Settlement in 2009 happened and the X1000 came out I was observer wanting to jump in. I bought one of the first X5000 publicly available. At that time there was much optimism in the public forums. Now... its a shit show(Legally and in Forums)

No one looks good. Not Hyperion, not Cloanto nor AEON.

To be clear there are a lot of really great people in the Amiga community that I can thank. This and os4coding.net are the only forum I will post on at all.

But if you are feeling exploited I am sorry for that as I appreciate all the you do and share freely and assistance you have freely given me. Me ill continue lurk and to just stay away and work on my hobby at my pace help those that help me and tune out the shit-show.

Regards
Doug