Is commercial success of Rebol bound to open-source the interpreter?

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By open-sourcing the interpreter real commercial success with Rebol is inevitable.

- Convince other programmers
- Move the language forward
- Adding more eye-balls for better quality
- Port to more platforms
- Faster fix bugs
- Adding missing features
By open-sourcing the interpreter real commercial success of Rebol isn’t influenced at all.

- Mostly everything fits together today
  The base will be kept together and ensure investment security
  There are no showstoppers for commercial applications
  We all need to speed up
  New stuff must be delivered faster

- Only few will contribute
  The quality level will differ a lot
  Forking will happen
  The language will fragment
  The community will fragment
  We will not convince those crying for open-source Rebol to use it than.
The biggest challenge for us is to build up a critical sized market for Rebol developers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Developers</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Running your Business with Rebol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Contracts from the community</td>
<td>Building own Products</td>
<td>Scaling sales for your Products</td>
<td>Breakthrough</td>
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Number of Developers | Market attention |
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<td>Niche</td>
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It’s not open-sourcing the interpreter but the available applications that will create the success.

What does „commercial successful“ mean?

• We need a lot of developers using Rebol
• We need a lot of people using Rebol applications

The difference are only two words!
(exclude)

People & Applications
Commercial success is all about applications being available and used by a lot of people.

Examples we all know:
- AltMe
- Qtask
- RebGUI
- Detective
- xpeers
- ...

The key part is about "a lot of people"

This implies "a lot of applications" for all those different needs

Two options are available:
- Mass applications
- Custom applications
The biggest challenge for us is to build up a critical sized market for Rebol developers.

Mass application challenges

1. High upfront investment necessary
   Support infrastructure needs to be build up
   A lot of marketing activities required to raise market recognition
   Unknown base technology, no access to a lot of developers

Custom application challenges

1. Unknown base technology to the customer
   Only few Rebol developers that can be contracted
   Lock-in-danger for the customer because no Rebol developers can be found
At the moment the number of professional Rebol developers is too low to speed up the success.

**Tools for creating demand**
- Marketplace for projects
- Marketplace for developers
- Reference collection
- Do projects and talk about them, everywhere

**Tools for delivering**
- Quality frameworks
- Common GUI widgets
- Standard GUI look
- Synchronized products by RT: View, SDK in line
- Continuing to raise speed for new releases
A Rebol marketplace will show the opportunities to the world and get more people involved.

- Propose your project and say a price
- Apply for open projects
- Publish project references
- Get external visibility
- Publish your skill-profile
- Include the RPC idea

www.xpeers.net
info@xpeers.net
Open-Discussion: How about starting the Rebol marketplace today?

- What do you think?
- Will it help you?
- Will it attract more developers?
- Will it show the momentum to others?
- Is it a good proof of concept?
- Are there are enough committed?