OpenSourceRouting (OSR) started in 2011 by an initiative of the Internet Systems Consortium (ISC, www.isc.org) and Google. Recognizing the need to drive innovation in the networking space and the challenges of the volunteer based Quagga community. The idea of OpenSourceRouting is to help develop a robust and tested alternative network stack and re-ignite the open source community behind Quagga.

In early 2014, ISC transferred the OpenSourceRouting project to the Network Device Education Foundation (NetDEF, www.netdef.org), a non-profit corporation based in the Silicon Valley.

OpenSourceRouting supports Quagga, an Open Source Routing Stack, implementing OSPF, ISIS, BGP, RIP, RIPng, and other protocols. OSR does not own Quagga. OSR drives public awareness and sponsors the main Quagga maintainer and provides engineering resources working mainly on bug fixing, testing and development.

The network equipment space is driven by a few large corporations which care less about innovation and more about market share. The cost and complexity for new challengers to build their own network operating system from scratch continues to rise. OSR fosters innovation by providing a stable base to build on.

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OpenSourceRouting is a project by the Network Device Education Foundation (NetDEF), a California non-profit corporation.