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Conference: Open (and/or Free) vs Closed Source - Steel Cage Death Match - Allister Banks, Ben Toms

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# MacAdmins 2015 Session Feedback

**Session:** Open (and/or Free) vs Closed Source - Steel Cage Death Match

**Speakers:** Allister Banks, Ben Toms

**Session ID:** psumac2015-91

A. The speaker presented the session information clearly and concisely.

Score: Average: 4.72 Max: 5 Min: 4

B. The speaker used the session time well, covering the topic and leaving time for Q&A.

Score: Average: 4.17 Max: 5 Min: 2

C. The information provided in this session will be useful in my career.

Score: Average: 4.55 Max: 5 Min: 3

D. Overall, this session was presented well, and I would recommend it to a peer.

Score: Average: 4.72 Max: 5 Min: 3

Comments:

- Nice job, Ben and Allister!
- Ben was a very good sport. It was a great go from both sides. And entertaining.
- I liked the spirit of this session a great deal. It was a good mix between soft skills (or workflows) and technical information. Allister is funny and I did appreciate all the software titles he dropped - some of them I hadn't heard of before (I was on Ben's side) and I will be looking into them now. Ideally, I think you need a balance of some free and some commercial systems, so this info will help me aspire to that state. I think Ben pulled way too many punches, oftentimes noting the draw backs our weak points of his debate. Also, I think Ben should have talked about ALL commercial solutions since Allister was not confined to a single publisher or brand. This session was a good time - it held most of us on the edge of our seats for a lot of it and generated a lot of good energy leading up to it!
- Great presentation even though it went a little over. Allister got a bigger chunk of time than Ben but both did well. I really liked both guys closing remarks as I think they drove home some good points. The death match 5 round format was a nice touch and worked. Great presentation.
- hilarious way of showing differences and benefits/drawbacks of using different systems. well done.
- One of my favorite sessions just for the vibe of the whole event. Should have a moderator next year and styled like a debate. But keep the fires burning!
- I wish it was longer. And the winner slides said which side won. Allister or Ben. Overall the session needed to be in a bigger room as it was packed.
- Lots of good information, some buried leads, and some humor. This session was fun to watch and had elements of interactivity. On the buried leads, there was some information that seemed to get lost in the humor of the presentation.
- Very fun
- Lots of fun and I learned a few things!
- One of the best sessions I attended.
- not enough bloodsport! ;) Really great job, guys - very entertaining and good look at strengths v weaknesses
- Best session of the whole conference. If there were a TMZ of the MacAdmin world, you would want Allister and Ben to be the MCs. That said, I thought they did a fantastic job, as evidenced by walking away thinking "what any person thinks is the winner is very context-dependent" and "the real winner for many contexts is: both".
- This was a great idea for a session, a debate many of us have with ourselves. I'd have liked it to be longer. There were some items that seemed to be a little rushed due to time (and perhaps one speaker using a bit more time than the other). To Ben and Allister: well done. you lived up to the hype. To the conference team: many votes for future sessions that can compare and contrast systems/options like this.
- Great Job! I think those two complimented each other very well.

- Highly entertaining with solid information about each of the presenters experiences. All the points of the presentation were well thought out but delivery seemed rushed.
- Allister's session are always a highlight. I would encourage the MacAdmin team to setup more cage matches in the future. Would be interesting to see vendors or evangelist defend/champion their solution against a direct competitor. Regardless both Allister and Ben session was great.
- I was looking forward to this, and I was not disappointed!
- Good overview of the pros and cons on each side.
- very entertaining and an interesting way to cover the topic. Not much time was left for Q&A, but I'm not sure that was a bad thing.

Response Count: 29