

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/inexperience-as-an-asset>

Eucalyptus Systems CEO Morten Mickos loves the expression, "He was a great executive. All he lacked was inexperience." Mickos explains how inexperience can be a tremendous asset to an entrepreneur, and he shares his personal story of transformation from open source neophyte to being perceived as a "godfather" of open source business models.



Transcript

So, I love this saying that somebody told me that he was a brilliant executive, all he lacked was inexperience.. Because when I joined MySQL, I knew databases, I knew nothing about Open Source.. It looked good from the outside, but I didn't know anything and now somebody calls me 'Godfather of commercial open source', like ooh! Because I really did know nothing but I got the advice back in 2001; somebody said Marten, you should become the expert on Open Source business models because that's - that will drive business and I decided to do that.. So, I read everything I could and I thought to everything I could about Open Source business models and I became the go-to person for all the journalists and everybody who wrote about it.. So the inexperience was very useful..