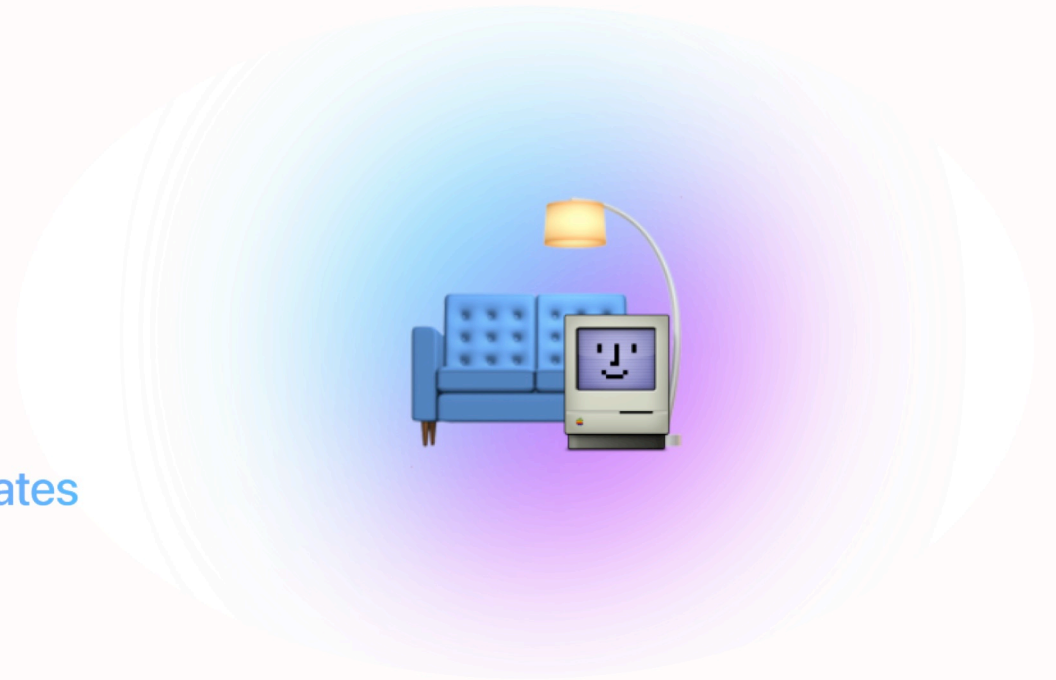


Exploring SOFA

Simple Organized Feed for Apple Software Updates

MacAdmins Meeting - August 2024



Henry Stamerjohann - Zentral (Co-Founder)

<https://apple.lib.utah.edu/August-2024-macadmins-meeting/>

Agenda

Exploring SOFA

Introduction to SOFA

Pain Points

Key Benefits

Origin and Evolution

Integrations & Ecosystem

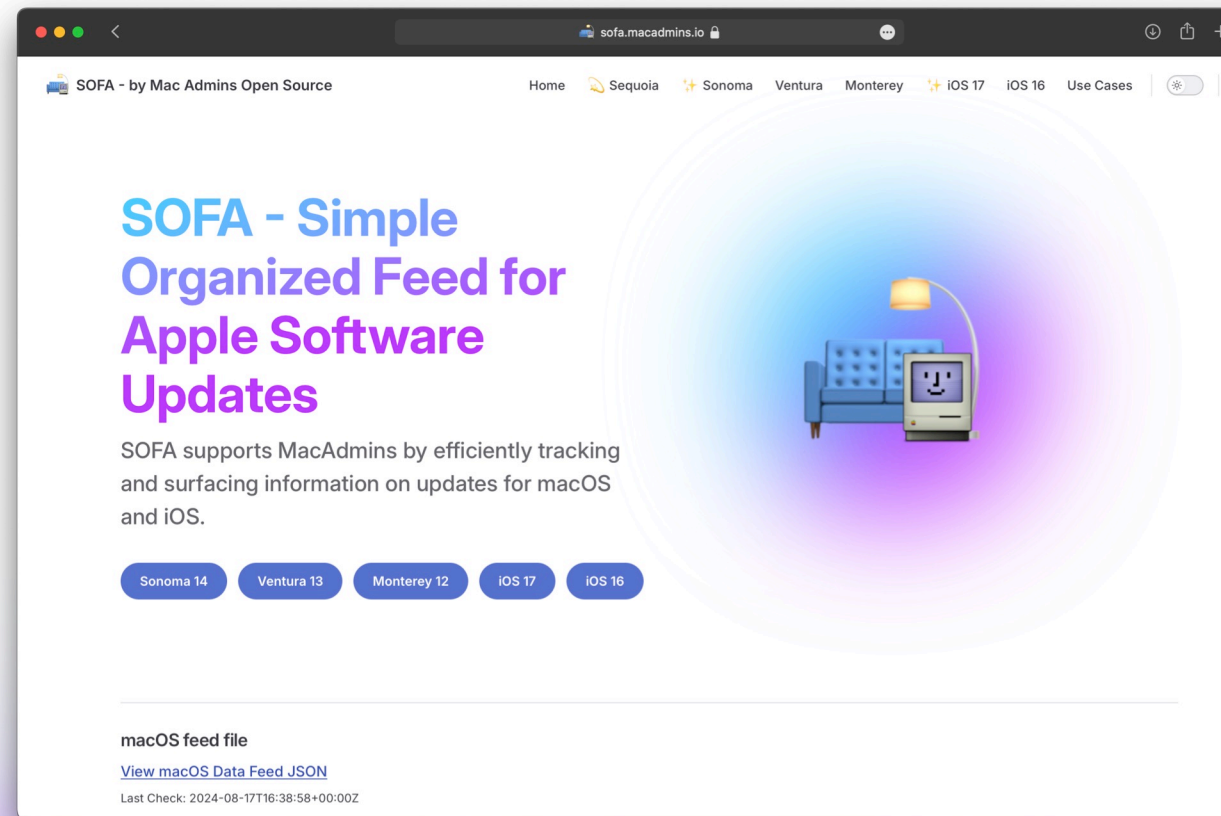
Self-Hosting & Future Directions

Introduction to SOFA

Overview

Web UI

Machine readable feed



Introduction to SOFA

Overview

Web UI

Machine readable feed

```
SOFA - by Mac... | sofafeed.macadmins.io |
{"UpdateHash":"c2823e5e673886e7bc0c07885b43a0ca2e0f76c47d4f3f7c79cb3df4908197f1","OSVersions":
[{"OSVersion":"Sonoma 14","Latest":{"ProductVersion":"14.6.1","Build":"23G93","ReleaseDate":"
08-07T00:00:00Z","ExpirationDate":"2024-11-16T00:00:00Z","SupportedDevices":
["J132AP","J137AP","J140AAP","J140KAP","J152FAP","J160AP","J174AP","J180dAP","J185AP","J185FA
213AP","J214KAP","J215AP","J223AP","J230KAP","J274AP","J293AP","J313AP","J314cAP","J314sAP","
AP","J316sAP","J375cAP","J375dAP","J413AP","J414cAP","J414sAP","J415AP","J416cAP","J416sAP","
P","J434AP","J456AP","J457AP","J473AP","J474sAP","J475cAP","J475dAP","J493AP","J504AP","J514c
J514mAP","J514sAP","J516cAP","J516mAP","J516sAP","J613AP","J615AP","J680AP","J780AP","Mac-
1E7E29AD0135F9BC","Mac-63001698E7A34814","Mac-937A206F2EE63C01","Mac-
AA95B1DDAB278B95","VMA2MACOSAP","VMM-x86_64"],"SecurityInfo":"This update has no published CVE
entries","CVEs":{},"ActivelyExploitedCVEs":[],"UniqueCVEsCount":0},"SecurityReleases":
[{"UpdateName":"macOS Sonoma
14.6.1","ProductName":"macOS","ProductVersion":"14.6.1","ReleaseDate":"2024-08-
07T00:00:00Z","ReleaseType":"OS","SecurityInfo":"This update has no published CVE
entries","SupportedDevices":
["J132AP","J137AP","J140AAP","J140KAP","J152FAP","J160AP","J174AP","J180dAP","J185AP","J185FA
213AP","J214KAP","J215AP","J223AP","J230KAP","J274AP","J293AP","J313AP","J314cAP","J314sAP","
AP","J316sAP","J375cAP","J375dAP","J413AP","J414cAP","J414sAP","J415AP","J416cAP","J416sAP","
P","J434AP","J456AP","J457AP","J473AP","J474sAP","J475cAP","J475dAP","J493AP","J504AP","J514c
J514mAP","J514sAP","J516cAP","J516mAP","J516sAP","J613AP","J615AP","J680AP","J780AP","Mac-
1E7E29AD0135F9BC","Mac-63001698E7A34814","Mac-937A206F2EE63C01","Mac-
AA95B1DDAB278B95","VMA2MACOSAP","VMM-x86_64"],"CVEs":{},"ActivelyExploitedCVEs":
[],"UniqueCVEsCount":0,"DaysSincePreviousRelease":9},{"UpdateName":"macOS Sonoma
14.6","ProductName":"macOS","ProductVersion":"14.6","ReleaseDate":"2024-07-
29T00:00:00Z","ReleaseType":"OS","SecurityInfo":"https://support.apple.com/kb/HT214119","Supp
Devices":
["J132AP","J137AP","J140AAP","J140KAP","J152FAP","J160AP","J174AP","J180dAP","J185AP","J185FA
213AP","J214KAP","J215AP","J223AP","J230KAP","J274AP","J293AP","J313AP","J314cAP","J314sAP","
AP","J316sAP","J375cAP","J375dAP","J413AP","J414cAP","J414sAP","J415AP","J416cAP","J416sAP","
P","J434AP","J456AP","J457AP","J473AP","J474sAP","J475cAP","J475dAP","J493AP","J504AP","J514c
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1E7E29AD0135F9BC","Mac-63001698E7A34814","Mac-937A206F2EE63C01","Mac-
AA95B1DDAB278B95","VMA2MACOSAP","VMM-x86_64"],"CVEs":{},"ActivelyExploitedCVEs":
[],"UniqueCVEsCount":0,"DaysSincePreviousRelease":9}]}]
```

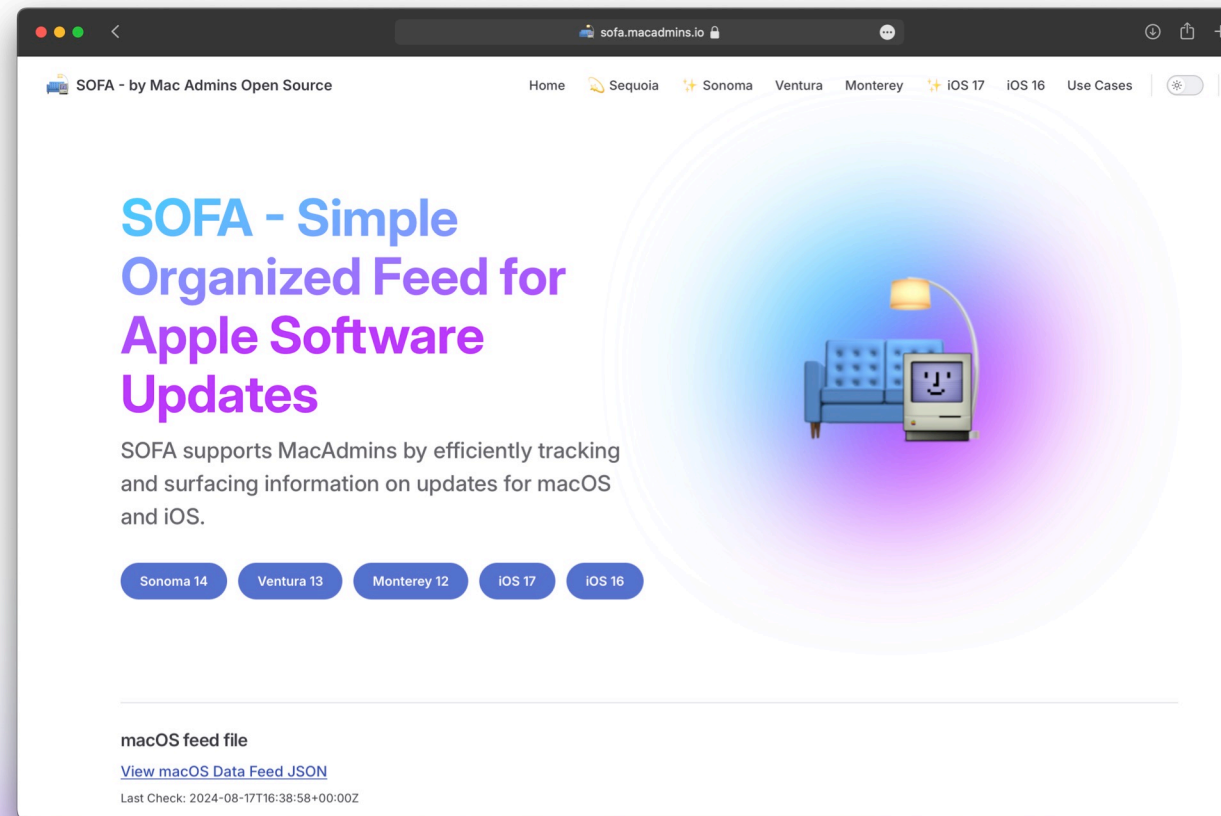
Introduction to SOFA

Overview

Web UI

Machine readable feed

Essential use case:
Informal & compliance workflows



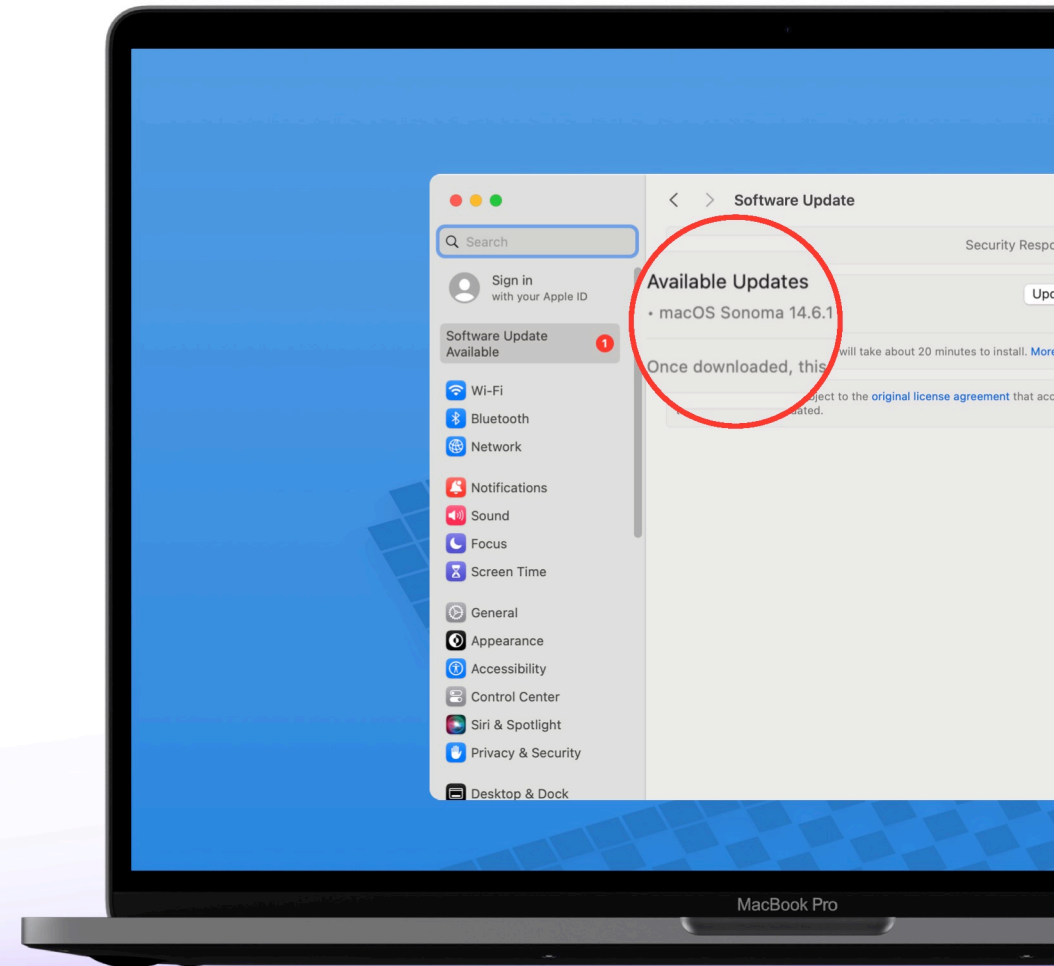
Pain Points

SLA pressure

Endpoint protection, stay compliant

Patch critical OS security vulnerabilities

Get OS data and release history efficiently



Key Benefits

The objective of SOFA

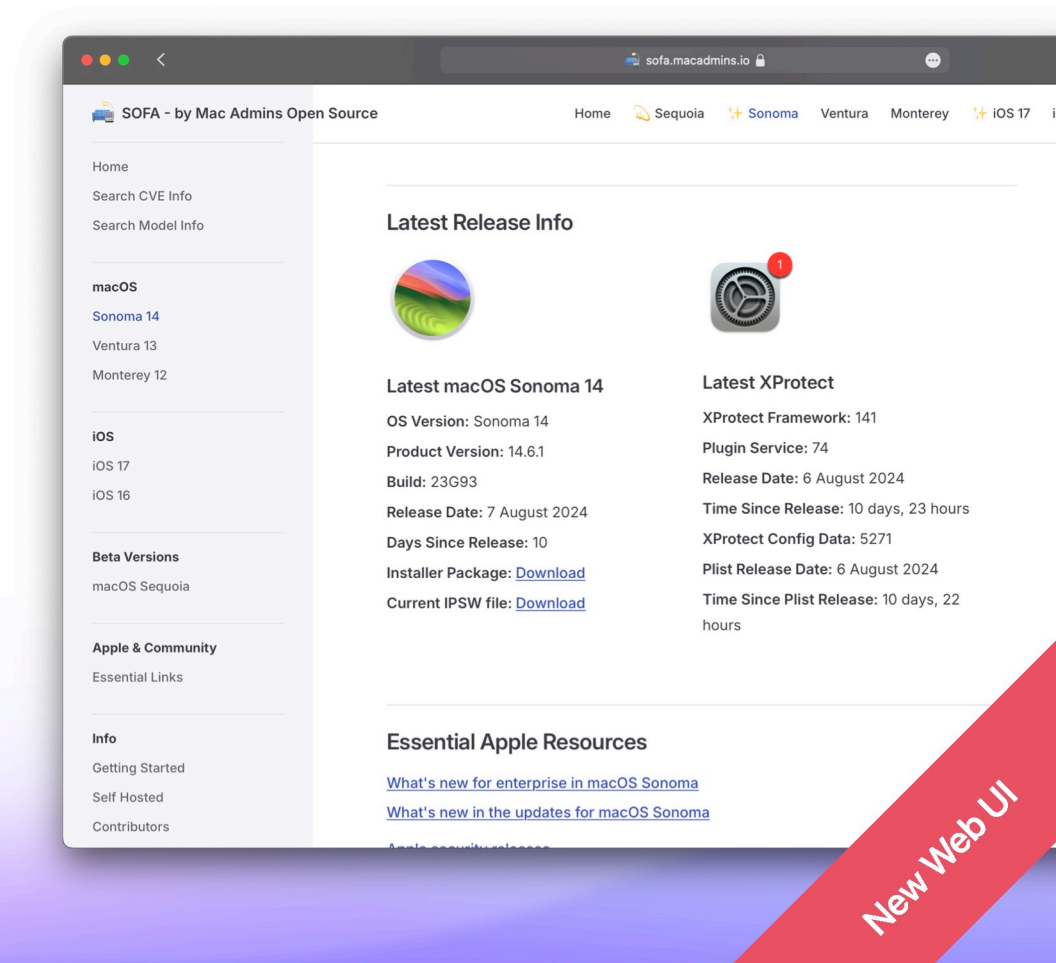
Canonical source of truth

Release awareness

Patch & SLA reference

Easier access than GDMF

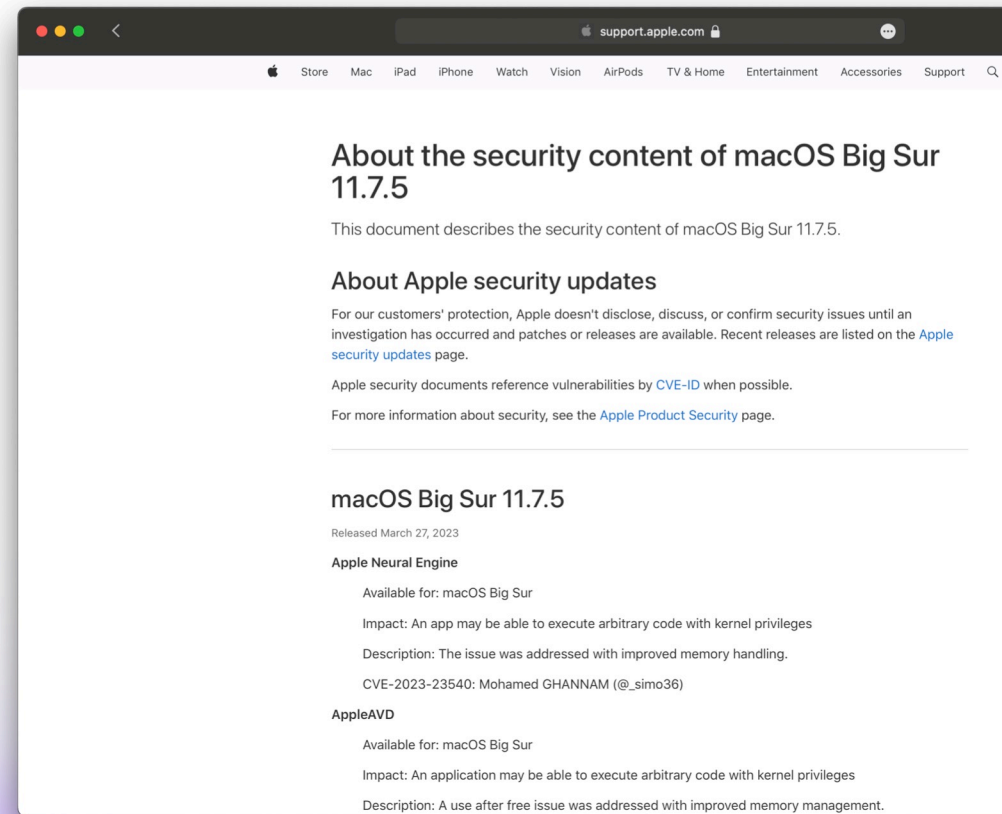
Community-driven tool



Origin and Evolution

How SOFA started...

Back in the days... manual data evaluation



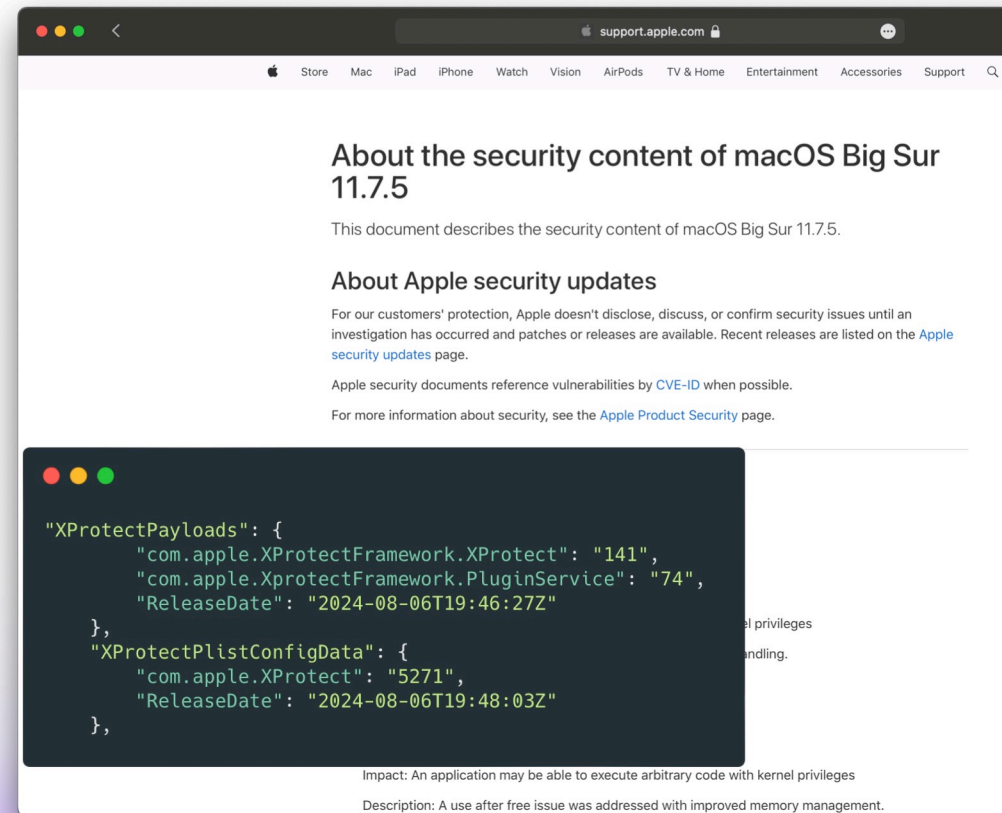
Origin and Evolution

How SOFA started...

Back in the days... manual data evaluation

Xprotect reference was needed

[e.g. CIS 5.10 Ensure XProtect Is Running and Updated (Automated)]



The image shows a screenshot of an Apple support page and a terminal window. The support page is titled "About the security content of macOS Big Sur 11.7.5" and contains text about security updates and CVE-ID references. The terminal window displays a JSON object representing XProtect payloads and configuration data.

support.apple.com

Store Mac iPad iPhone Watch Vision AirPods TV & Home Entertainment Accessories Support

About the security content of macOS Big Sur 11.7.5

This document describes the security content of macOS Big Sur 11.7.5.

About Apple security updates

For our customers' protection, Apple doesn't disclose, discuss, or confirm security issues until an investigation has occurred and patches or releases are available. Recent releases are listed on the [Apple security updates](#) page.

Apple security documents reference vulnerabilities by [CVE-ID](#) when possible.

For more information about security, see the [Apple Product Security](#) page.

```
"XProtectPayloads": {
  "com.apple.XProtectFramework.XProtect": "141",
  "com.apple.XprotectFramework.PluginService": "74",
  "ReleaseDate": "2024-08-06T19:46:27Z"
},
"XProtectPlistConfigData": {
  "com.apple.XProtect": "5271",
  "ReleaseDate": "2024-08-06T19:48:03Z"
},
```

Impact: An application may be able to execute arbitrary code with kernel privileges

Description: A use after free issue was addressed with improved memory management.

Origin and Evolution

How SOFA started...

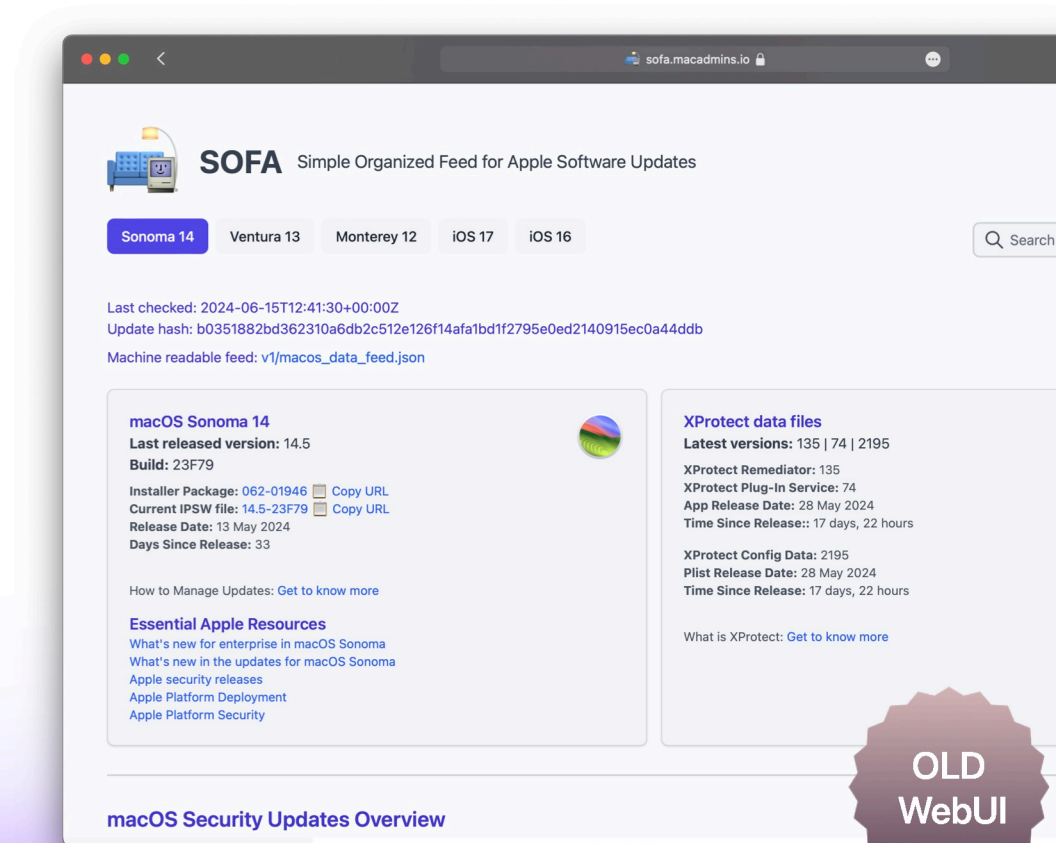
Back in the days... manual data evaluation

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Automated JSON aggregation

Feedback shaped SOFA



Origin and Evolution

How SOFA started...

Back in the days... manual data evaluation

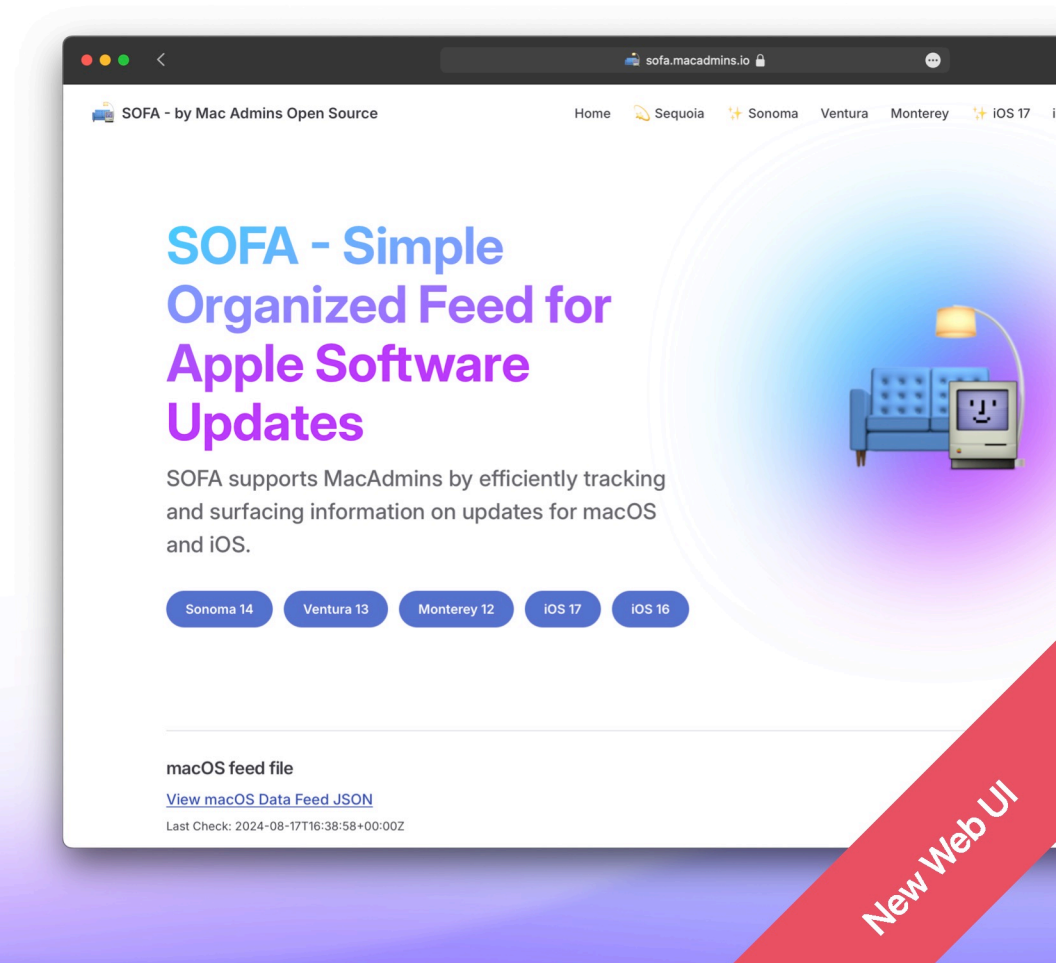
Xprotect reference was needed

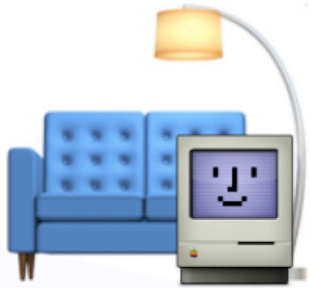
[e.g. CIS 5.10 Ensure XProtect Is Running and Updated (Automated)]

Automated JSON aggregation

Feedback shaped SOFA

New UI and ecosystem growth





DEMO - Web UI and Tools

SOFA UI and features

Key integrations

Security and patch info

Integrations & Ecosystem

Key integrations

Osquery

Nudge 2.0

Jamf EAs

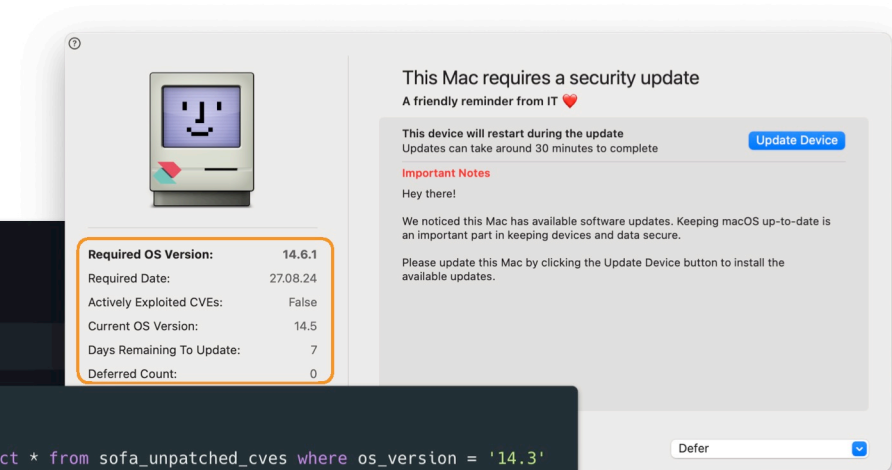
Tags

Scripts

Extension Attributes	
macOSCompatibilityCheck-EA.sh:	Pass
macOSCVECheck-EA.sh:	CVEs:69 ActiveExploits:0
macOSVersionCheck-EA.sh:	Fail
XProtectVersionCheck-EA.sh:	Pass

```
osquery> select * from sofa_unpatched_cves where os_version = '14.3'
AND actively_exploited="true";
  os_version = 14.3
    cve = CVE-2024-23225
  patched_version = 14.4
  actively_exploited = true

  os_version = 14.3
    cve = CVE-2024-23296
  patched_version = 14.4
  actively_exploited = true
```



Self-Hosting & Future Directions

Community vs. Self-hosted - why ?

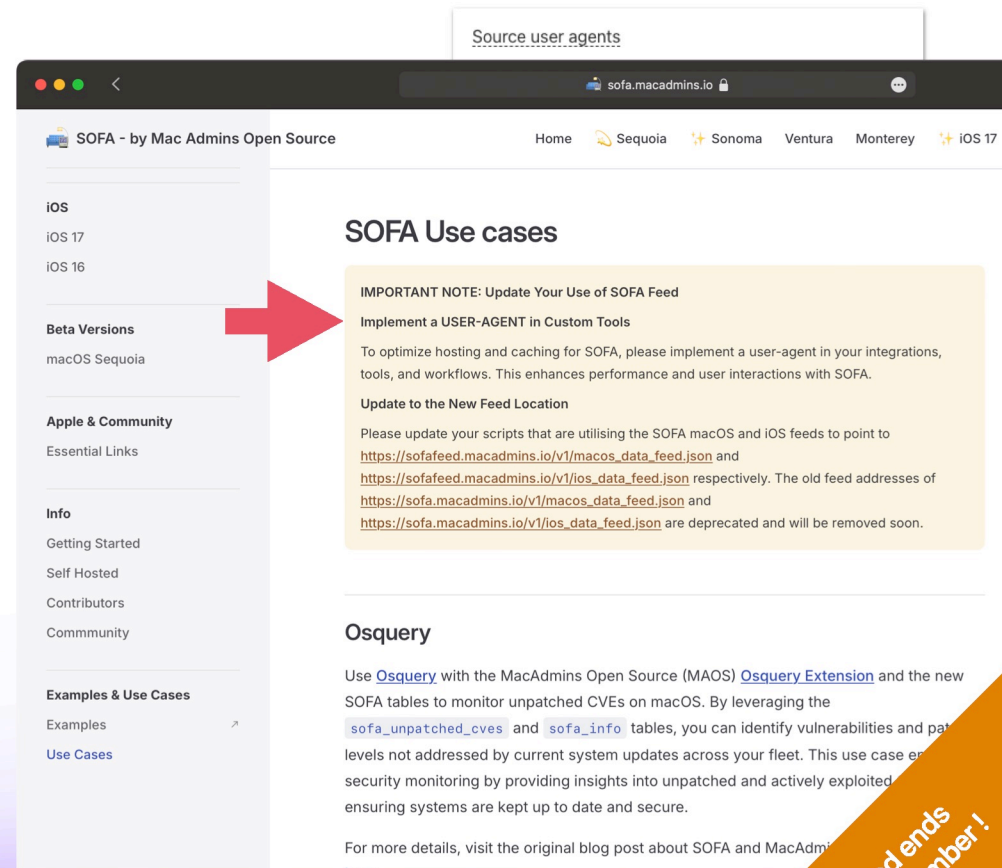


Old feed ends
on 2 September !

Self-Hosting & Future Directions

Community vs. Self-hosted - why ?

Implement a USER-AGENT in Custom Tools



The screenshot shows the website sofa.macadmins.io. The navigation menu includes links for Home, Sequoia, Sonoma, Ventura, Monterey, and iOS 17. The left sidebar contains sections for iOS (iOS 17, iOS 16), Beta Versions (macOS Sequoia), Apple & Community (Essential Links), Info (Getting Started, Self Hosted, Contributors, Community), and Examples & Use Cases (Examples, Use Cases). A red arrow points from the 'Self Hosted' link in the sidebar to the 'SOFA Use cases' section. The 'SOFA Use cases' section features an 'IMPORTANT NOTE: Update Your Use of SOFA Feed' which instructs users to implement a USER-AGENT in Custom Tools to optimize hosting and caching. It also provides instructions to update feed locations to new URLs, noting that old URLs are deprecated. Below this, the 'Osquery' section describes using Osquery with MacAdmins Open Source (MAOS) Osquery Extension and new SOFA tables to monitor unpatched CVEs on macOS.

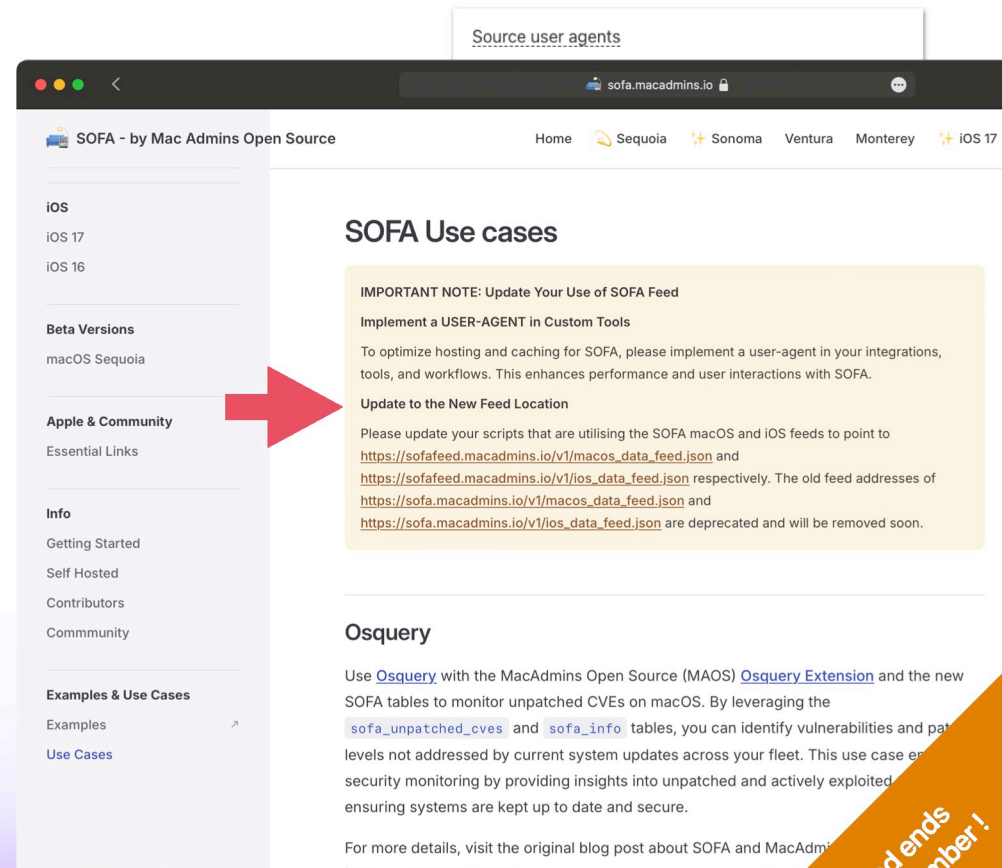
Old feed ends
on 2 September !

Self-Hosting & Future Directions

Community vs. Self-hosted - why ?

Implement a USER-AGENT in Custom Tools

Update to the New Feed Location



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the SOFA website. The navigation menu on the left includes sections for 'iOS', 'Beta Versions', 'Apple & Community', 'Info', and 'Examples & Use Cases'. A red arrow points from the 'Info' section to the 'SOFA Use cases' section on the right. The 'SOFA Use cases' section contains an 'IMPORTANT NOTE: Update Your Use of SOFA Feed' which instructs users to implement a USER-AGENT in custom tools and update their scripts to point to new feed locations. Below this, there is an 'Osquery' section.

Source user agents

sofa.macadmins.io

SOFA - by Mac Admins Open Source

Home Sequoia Sonoma Ventura Monterey iOS 17

SOFA Use cases

IMPORTANT NOTE: Update Your Use of SOFA Feed

Implement a USER-AGENT in Custom Tools

To optimize hosting and caching for SOFA, please implement a user-agent in your integrations, tools, and workflows. This enhances performance and user interactions with SOFA.

Update to the New Feed Location

Please update your scripts that are utilising the SOFA macOS and iOS feeds to point to https://sofafeed.macadmins.io/v1/macOS_data_feed.json and https://sofafeed.macadmins.io/v1/iOS_data_feed.json respectively. The old feed addresses of https://sofa.macadmins.io/v1/macOS_data_feed.json and https://sofa.macadmins.io/v1/iOS_data_feed.json are deprecated and will be removed soon.

Osquery

Use [Osquery](#) with the MacAdmins Open Source (MAOS) [Osquery Extension](#) and the new SOFA tables to monitor unpatched CVEs on macOS. By leveraging the `sofa_unpatched_cves` and `sofa_info` tables, you can identify vulnerabilities and patch levels not addressed by current system updates across your fleet. This use case enables security monitoring by providing insights into unpatched and actively exploited vulnerabilities, ensuring systems are kept up to date and secure.

For more details, visit the original blog post about SOFA and MacAdmins [here](#).

Old feed ends
on 2 September!

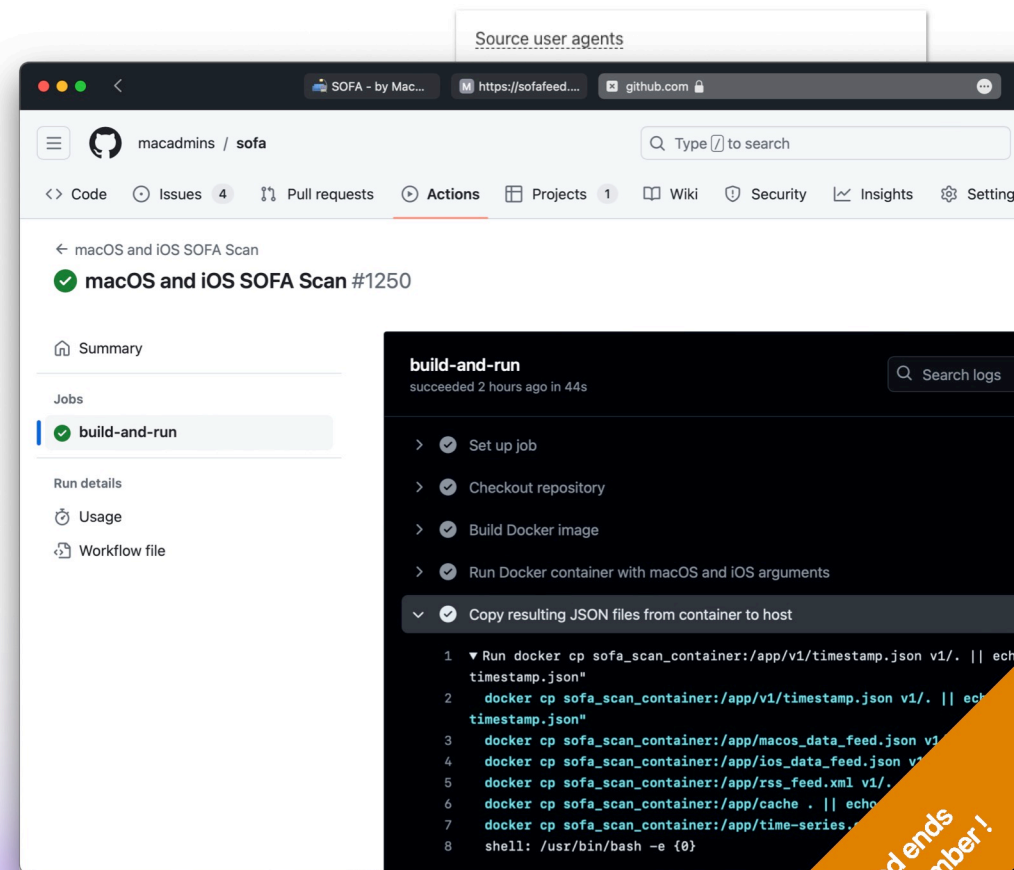
Self-Hosting & Future Directions

Community vs. Self-hosted - why ?

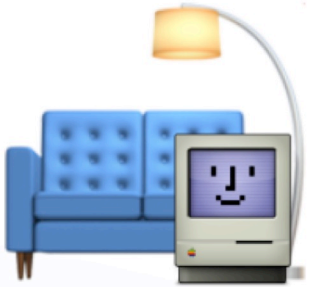
Implement a USER-AGENT in Custom Tools

Update to the New Feed Location

See documentation on self-hosting ...



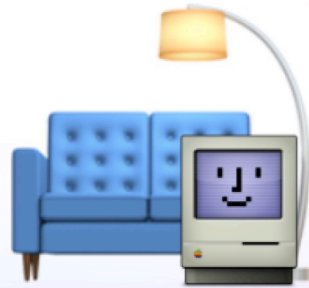
Old feed ends
on 2 September !

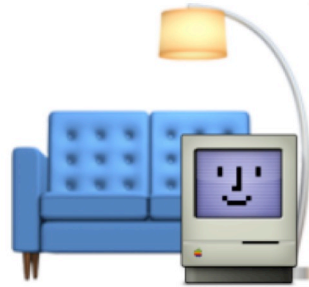


DEMO - Self Hosted

Basic GitHub WebUI

Q & A





Thank you !



<https://sofa.macadmins.io>