



.init()

Dear KDE e.V. member,

The second half of 2007 will probably best be remembered within the KDE community for the efforts leading up to the KDE 4.0 release. This was a significant punctuation point in our community's history. The KDE community rose to meet the variety of challenges that come with such a release with coordination, effort, and determination. The result is a strong foundation for KDE 4.

While the technology project itself was firing on all cylinders, KDE e.V. continued to play a key role within the KDE universe: aKademy 2007 was a success by all measures; the board gained a new member in Klaas Freitag; the final planning for the 4.0 release event in Mountainview, California with simultaneous events around the world was put in place; funding was made available to KDE community members to ensure attendance at numerous events was possible.

The KDE 4 era is proving to be full of both new opportunities and new challenges for KDE e.V. We look forward to meeting these head on by building on the strengths that continue to be demonstrated by everyone in our community as we pull together as one team.

We are well positioned at this point to ensure the ongoing evolution of KDE e.V. as a vital support organ for the various KDE technology projects well into the future.

Signed,
The KDE e.V. Board <kde-ev-board@kde.org>

Status Report

New Board Member: Klaas Freitag

Klaas Freitag was elected into the board of KDE e.V. at the general assembly in Glasgow as a new member. Klaas joined the KDE community in the late 90s as a user and started on active development in the KDE 2.x ecosystem.

Klaas lives in Germany with his family and has worked for Novell/SUSE R&D for almost ten years now.

KDE Research Interests

The research community for KDE held a one-day meeting with Ralph Fiergolla of the EU to talk about funding and research projects in general. No specific plans for new research projects were laid out at the time.

The SQO-OSS project held a meeting in Cologne, Germany regarding implementation technologies for the SQO-OSS software platform (titled Alitheia) and a project meeting and hack week in Berlin. The hack week in particular was useful as a way to kick-start development. In many ways, this was like a developer sprint. KDE's work in the upcoming months focuses on implementing the source code access and analysis parts of the system.

In October, KDE e.V. provided financial support to people who cooperated with a consortium of companies and universities in writing a proposal for a European research project revolving around integrating online services into the desktop. Unfortunately, the funding for this project was not granted by the European Commission.

aKademy 2007

aKademy, KDE's yearly world conference was held in Glasgow, Scotland for 2007. From June 30th until July 7th, about 200 contributors and other interested parties came together in Glasgow to present new KDE technology, to sit and discuss in person, and to hack on KDE 4.0, getting it into shape for the 4.0 release in early 2008.

During the Edu and School Day at aKademy, topics such as Linux deployment in schools, specialized devices for school children, and applications for use in educational environments were discussed. The tutorial day helped lots of contributors form a better understanding of the tools and technologies used in KDE development. The day trip to Bonny Banks of Loch Lomond provided for some distraction from computer-laden environments. A BBQ held on the beaches proved the waterproofness of many contributors!

aKademy 2007 hosted the Text Layout Summit, inviting developers from other Free Software projects to work together on text-shaping, multilingualization and other related topics.

During the KDE e.V. annual General Assembly held during aKademy, KDE e.V.'s long-time president Eva Brucherseifer passed on her role to Aaron J. Seigo. Klaas Freitag joined the KDE e.V. Board of Directors. Eva's contributions to the KDE e.V. as an organization have been vital to its success amidst the KDE community.

The KDE e.V. would also like to thank those that made aKademy 2007 possible: the team on the ground led by Kenny Duffus, the Department of Computer and Information Sciences at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, and the sponsors among which include Trolltech ASA, HP, Ubuntu, the Linux Foundation, AMD, Google, Mandriva, Novell, and others.

KDE-Edu Meeting in Paris

The first KDE-Edu meeting happened on the 1st and 2nd of December 2007 in Paris, with travel and hotel funded by KDE e.V. The meeting was kindly hosted by Mandriva in their Paris offices, and they also had two laptops with latest KDE 4 packages installed, allowing developers to concentrate on getting just the kdedu module from KDE SVN into shape.

14 developers were present at this meeting and worked on KDE-Edu for KDE 4. Most were from Europe, but also one from the US, one from Brazil, and two from Russia! The highlight of the weekend was the presentation of Step, the new physics simulator which will be integrated into KDE-Edu for KDE 4.1.

The developers unanimously agreed that such meetings are really needed to support collaboration, such as by sharing libraries. It also makes us feel more part of a team and of KDE!

Linux Foundation OpenPrinting Summit in Montreal

On the 24th and 25th of September 2007, Cristian Tibirna participated in the Linux Foundation's OpenPrinting Summit in Montreal, Canada. The most important topics of this meeting from a KDE point of view were advancement of the PDF printing job format in replacing PS, and improvement of the design, and usability analysis of a common printing dialog.

Cristian gave a presentation on behalf of KDE, stating that the printing mechanisms and libraries found in KDE 3 were to be abandoned temporarily or permanently, to be replaced in KDE 4 with newer libraries, more adapted to the current state of the art in Free Software printing.

LatinoWare in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

On the 13th and 14th of November 2007, Mauricio Piacentini took part in LatinoWare, a big conference with more than 3,000 attendees from Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Chile. Mauricio gave a talk about games in KDE4 which was well received.

Freed '07 in New Delhi, India

In September 2007, a Qt/KDE development workshop was conducted by Pradeepo Bhattacharya at Freed '07 in New Delhi. KDE/Qt Birds of Feather sessions were conducted as well. The conference was held at the School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, one of the prominent universities in India. KDE-Tamil translator Shri Ramadoss was present at the conference as well. Students from various colleges in and around New Delhi attended the conference.

KDE Project Day at FOSS.IN 2007

In December 2007, KDE Project Day - one whole day full of KDE-specific talks and workshops - took place at FOSS.IN/2007, India's premier FOSS event. KDE and Trolltech developers participated in the event, presenting various talks and conducting workshops.

Till Adam presented "Pillars of KDE" talk, followed by Pradeepo Bhattacharya's "Various ways to contribute to KDE Project". Technical talks followed the evangelism which ranged from "Setting up KDE Development Talk" by Pradeepo, Bhattacharya to Kevin Ottens conducting the "Qt/KDE Development" and "Test Driven Development" workshops. Girish Ramakrishnan presented a "Qt Style Sheets" talk, followed by Piyush Verma - a Google Summer of Code candidate - speaking about "Extending KDevelop". Prashanth Udupa gave the final talk on "Component Software Design/Development" based on his award-winning Generic Component Framework.

The KDE Project Day at FOSS.IN was followed by the main conference, where more Qt/KDE specific talks were presented. Holger Freyther presented "Using OpenEmbedded to power Open Devices". Simon Hausmann presented an excellent talk about "QtWebKit". KDE PIM/Akonadi hackers Till Adam and Volker Krause presented two talks on "Akonadi", the new KDE-PIM backend for KDE 4. This was undoubtedly the largest ever gathering of KDE developers in India.

There were lot of KDE related discussions in the corridors and meetings in the hacking center where the KDE developers helped out eager delegates with their queries about KDE and KDE development.

A KDE booth was also setup where people were given information regarding KDE Project. The KDE-India team debuted new KDE stickers and posters at the event which were made by local team members.

Human Computer Interaction Working Group Report

The Human Computer Interaction Working Group (HCI) consists of representatives from the fields of accessibility, artwork, documentation, internationalization and usability.

Its goal is to create a more compelling, usable, and understandable KDE interface for all users.

In this quarter, the HCI Working Group concentrated on the following tasks:

- **Usability Evaluation:** The KGet developers requested a usability review to improve their user interface for KDE 4. Members of the usability team analyzed KGet in a heuristic evaluation. The resulting report was presented in various IRC sessions. 37 usability issues were found, most of which have already been fixed since the report.
- **Okular Sidebar Redesign:** In collaboration with a member from the usability team, the Okular developers worked on a new sidebar layout. A new sidebar design was elaborated and implemented based on a comparative analysis and iterative design process.
- **Oxygen Progress:** Oxygen is going well, with the style nearly finished for the KDE 4.0 release. There are still a few application and action icons needed. The wallpapers are chosen and a default needs to be selected.

Marketing Working Group Report

The Marketing Working Group (MWG) is a group of KDE contributors (not necessarily e.V. members) who have a common interest in helping to promote and market the KDE project.

Sebastian K gler from the Marketing Team reports about a couple of conferences he attended on behalf of KDE. At LinuxConf Europe in Cambridge, he gave a presentation about KDE 4 and talked with various people from the larger community about KDE. At FrOSCon in Bonn, Sebastian has gave a talk about KDE4 and talked with various other Free Software organisations about KDE 4 and how communication can be improved. At Ubucon Germany, he gave a talk about KDE4 and talked with various people about adoption of KDE, Free Software and improved marketing.

We especially encourage members of the internationalization and documentation teams to join and represent their needs.

System Administration Team Report

Sysadmin is a group of long-term KDE contributors and KDE e.V. members who are running the KDE server infrastructure. This includes services such as managing our Subversion source code repository; granting access to new contributors; keeping the bugs database operational; and, of course, keeping all our mission critical servers running smoothly.

Highlights of this quarter's system administration tasks:

- created Subversion accounts for 114 new contributors.
- created 76 kdemail.net aliases, disabled 7 kdemail.net aliases, and modified 16 kdemail.net aliases.
- created 17 kde.org aliases and modified 13 kde.org aliases.
- created 9 new kde.org mailing lists:
 - kdelibs-bugs
 - kde-ev-research
 - kde-events-fr
 - kde-services-devel
 - kde-i18n-sr
 - unassigned-bugs
 - marble-devel
 - kde-110n-es
 - kde-scm-interest
- disabled 3 kde.org mailing lists:
 - kde-installer-devel
 - akademy-talks-2007
 - odf-api

Contact this group with your system administration requirements by sending email to sysadmin@kde.org.

Welcome New Members

In these two quarters we added 15 new members to the KDE e.V. membership. The new members are:

- Franz Keferboeck
- Frank Osterfeld
- Knut Yrvin
- Kevin Krammer
- Christian Ehrlicher
- Troy Unrau
- Andre Duffeck
- Ian Monroe
- Jeff Mitchell
- Mauricio Piacentini

- Rafael Fernandez Lopez
- Oleksandr Dymo
- Bart Cerneels
- Jason Kasper
- Wendy Van Craen

Welcome to the KDE e.V.!

See the membership list page for more information, and instructions for how to join the e.V.

Finances

At the end of this reporting period the KDE e.V. has a positive balance of €93,351.17

Income during the past two quarters included:

- €15,100 Supporting membership fees
- €13,800 Google Summer of Code 2007
- €4,200 Trolltech developer meetings

While our expenses included the following:

- €6,200 SVN server
- €7,100 Developer meetings
- €11,200 Travel support for Academy 2007
- €2,500 Travel support for tradeshow
- €6,000 Legal and administration
- €800 Krita, sponsoring of graphics tablets

If you or your company is interested in providing financial support to the KDE project on a continuing basis please visit the Supporting Members pages on the KDE e.V. website.

For donor and sponsorship information please see the "Supporting KDE" website.

Signed The e.V. Board:

- Aaron J. Seigo <aseigo@kde.org>, President
- Cornelius Schumacher <schumacher@kde.org>, Vice President
- Adriaan de Groot <groot@kde.org>, Vice President
- Sebastian Kügler <sebas@kde.org>, Board Member
- Klaas Freitag <freitag@kde.org>, Board Member

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