



### .init()

Dear KDE e.V. member,

This quarter saw strong affirmation of the KDE e.V. as an energetic association for the promotion and support of the KDE project. The annual general assembly and the associated aKademy conference in Dublin, Ireland brought KDE contributors from across the world together. Results were seen on technical, community and promotional fronts during the week's events.

There was no summer recess for the KDE community as progress was made on the organizational front with non-profit status for KDE e.V. achieved, two new faces on the board of directors, booth boxes started for use at events, the press channel launched. While this (and more) was coming together, the march towards KDE4 continued while yet another strong KDE3 release was made.

We are also very excited about our new [supporting membership](#) program which allows for companies to maintain a closer relationship with the KDE project and to contribute to the e.V. financially on a continuing basis. Through this financial contribution, the KDE e.V. sponsors events such as the KDE developer sprints, the annual world meeting aKademy, QA meetings, scientific research, and trade fair attendance. KDE e.V. also supports the KDE infrastructure and ensures that the project runs smoothly on that infrastructure. By supporting the e.V. you support the KDE project.

The board looks forward to the productive months ahead and the new opportunities and challenges they will bring for us all.

Signed,  
Eva Brucherseifer <eva@kde.org>  
President  
KDE e.V.

### Status Report

#### The KDE e.V. Plan Document

The KDE e.V. plan document is complete in terms of events and targets, but the budget -- both past and future -- in the document has not yet been adapted to the 2005 and 2006 situation. In the month of November the board intends to round out the planning document and release it to the membership.

#### aKademy 2006

The third annual KDE world conference to bear the name **aKademy** was held this year and its success was due to both attendees and the volunteer organizers alike. The board would like to recognize those who put their lives on temporary hold to host our diverse group of contributors from around the globe.

Their tireless effort to ensure the scheduling of meetings and comfort of attendees helped make this year's event an unqualified success. **"Thank-you!"** to Marcus Furlong and his entire team!

Decisions made by the membership assembly at the conference:

- Increased the number of board members from 4 to 5.
- Board changes: Mirko Boehm stepped down as Vice President; Adriaan de Groot was elected as the fourth board member; Sebastian Kügler was elected as the fifth member.
- Accepted rules of procedures for [on-line voting](#).
- Accepted the System Administration team as an official KDE e.V. working group.
- Decided to support an initiative by George Staikos to form a KHTML working group.
- Decided to work jointly with the [Fellowship of Free Software Foundation Europe \(FSFE\)](#) to create a KDE position paper about software patents.

#### Tax Exempt Status

The KDE e.V. was approved as tax-exempt by the financial authorities. This means that the e.V. will be required to pay less taxes and will be able to accept tax-deductible donations and give out corresponding receipts.

#### SQO Involvement Progress

The first meeting of the SQO-OSS research group was held in Athens, Greece under the auspices of the research group from the Athens University of Economics and Business. At this meeting, research priorities were defined and an initial distribution of work among the teams was performed. Early in this process the KDE e.V. researchers will be concerned primarily with proof-reading the products -- such as a public relations and a dissemination plan -- from the other team members. Initially, public relations for the SQO-OSS project within the KDE community will be handled via [the "Dot"](#) and individual blogs.



### Domains

Martin Konold announced at aKademy 2006 that he will officially transfer the ownership of the kde.org domain to the e.V. The kde.eu domain is online now.

### Report from the Technical Working Group

As noted in the last issue, the first six-month evaluation period of the Technical Working Group (TWG) has concluded. There will be a vote by the e.V. membership in October on a slightly modified charter (mainly reducing the number of members from 7 to 5), and then the election of new TWG members.

### Report from the Human Computer Interaction Working Group

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 interface for all people.

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

- *HCI Activities at aKademy 2006:* Apart from talks on accessibility and usability in the main conference program, the HCI Working Group organized an HCI Day during the coding marathon. In a series of workshops and BoF sessions, insights into the fields of accessibility, artwork and usability were given, and intersections with development were deepened and practiced.
- *Accessibility Roadmap:* In agreement with Trolltech and GNOME representatives, work on a strategy to move AT-SPI to DBUS was begun at aKademy. The AT-SPI protocol is important to make applications accessible with screen readers and other assistive technologies for users with disabilities.
- *Usability Test of the Human Interface Guidelines for KDE4:* In a usability study, the information architecture and presentation of contents of the Human Interface Guidelines (HIG) for KDE4 were evaluated. The results are used to make the HIG better meet the developers' demands.
- *Icon Naming Scheme:* The oxygen icon set made good progress and is almost complete. The artists now require technical support to make KDE4's icon naming scheme work with freedesktop.org's icon specification. Interested developers are encouraged to contact the HCI Working Group ([kde-hci@kde.org](mailto:kde-hci@kde.org)).
- *New Members:* At aKademy, the HCI Working Group got new representatives from the fields of internationalization and documentation, and also accessibility and usability. Still needed is a "coordinator" for internationalization.

The primary method of communication with the HCI working group through the [kde-hci@kde.org](mailto:kde-hci@kde.org) mailing list. We especially encourage members of the internationalization and documentation teams to join and represent their needs.

### Report from the Marketing Working Group

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.

MWG highlights from this quarter include:

- The Press Channel is operational. The Press Channel is an invite-only mailing list for approved press people that is intended to help journalists write about KDE in a timely manner. The Press Channel is also of considerable value for relationship building.
- The Press Channel is already proving successful with some news items that would not have happened otherwise, like the pre-announcement of KDE 3.5.5. Other news items appear sooner and are better prepared; yet, not simply verbatim copies of our own press release. In just a few short weeks since its inception, the KDE Press Channel is proving to be a big success.

Contact this group with your KDE marketing input by sending email to [kde-ev-marketing@kde.org](mailto:kde-ev-marketing@kde.org).

### Report from the System Administration Team

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.

In this quarterly reporting period there were 34,760 (~400 per day) commits made into the KDE subversion repository by 500 contributors.

Highlights of this quarter's system administration tasks:

- handled hardware defects with the main subversion server
- immanuel, our new server, is up and running <http://docs.kde.org>.
- moved a lot of websites around and had massive hardware troubles with one server, to the point where the services had to be transferred to another machine (unsuited for the job).
- created subversion accounts for 68 new contributors and disabled 1 subversion account; updated 10 email aliases

Also, during the past quarter these mailing-lists were created:

- season-of-kde
- akademy-announce
- odf-api
- kde-asia

Contact this group with your system administration requirements by sending email to [sysadmin@kde.org](mailto:sysadmin@kde.org).



### Future Plans

#### **aKademy 2007**

During the general assembly of the members of KDE e.V. at aKademy 2006 the decision was made to hold aKademy 2007 at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland. The organizing committee is headed by Kenny Duffus and Jonathan Riddell. aKademy 2007 is provisionally planned for June 30-July 7th.

#### **Human Computer Interaction Working Group**

The Human Computer Interaction Working Group plans to further refine its requirements and improve communication channels with the Technical Working Group, with the goal to enlist the TWG's aid in fulfilling those requirements.

#### **Marketing Working Group**

During aKademy 2006 plans were made to restart the [SpreadKDE.org](http://SpreadKDE.org) effort and to finally finish the "Event Organization" how-to's. Work on both subjects is progressing slowly, but at least they are no longer "on hold".

In the near future the MWG will publically announce the availability of KDE business cards to members of the KDE community (not just KDE e.V. members) who regularly attend trade shows or business meetings. Card-carrying KDE members are encouraged to join the KDE e.V., of course.

#### **System Administration Team**

The system administrators plan to make our new server fully operational with the hosting of the next generation [bugs.kde.org](http://bugs.kde.org) and <http://developer.kde.org> websites.

### Welcome New Members

In this quarter we added 3 new members, growing the total number to 175. The new members are:

Eike Hein  
Pino Toscano  
Simon Edwards

We also have our very first Patron of KDE: Mark Shuttleworth

#### **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 €58,186.

Income during the past quarter included:

- Hardware Fundraiser, €5,000
- Google Summer of Code, \$12,000
- Supporting Members Fees, €5,000

While our expenses covered the following activities:

- Member Travel
- Business Cards
- aKademy Preparations

Additionally, two developer sprints took place, with costs completely covered by our sponsors: KDE 4 Core in Trysil, Norway and the K3M in the Netherlands.

Our budgets for the next quarter contain the following topics:

- Extending the content of our booth box
- 2-day KDE4 Marketing Meeting together with a 2-day KDE e.V. board meeting (November)
- Upcoming tradeshow
- KDE e.V. birthday party

Several developer sprints are planned that require a budget as well as sponsoring.

If you or your company is interested in providing financial support to the KDE project on a continuing basis please visit our [Supporting Members](#) website.

For donor and sponsorship information please see the "[Supporting KDE](#)" website.

#### **Signed The e.V. Board:**

Eva Brucherseifer <eva@kde.org>, President  
Cornelius Schumacher <schumacher@kde.org>, Vice President  
Adriaan de Groot <groot@kde.org>, Vice President  
Aaron J. Seigo <aseigo@kde.org>, Board Member  
Sebastian Kügler <sebas@kde.org>, Board Member

#### **This report prepared by:**

Allen Winter <winter@kde.org>