



.init()

Dear KDE e.V. Members,

Here we are in the middle of 2007, many of us having returned recently from the highly successful and enjoyable aKademy in Glasgow.

The second quarter of the year has passed quickly as the project has made great strides towards several goal posts, none larger than KDE 4.0 itself. Between aKademy and the developer sprints held this quarter, the light at the end of the 4.0 tunnel grows stronger by the day.

Your board would like to reiterate how important these developer sprints can be to the health of KDE projects. They present great opportunities to work on "big picture" issues, let the creative juices flow and build up the community spirit. They are also highly enjoyable to attend.

The board would like to see more of these events happen, but that requires that we are made aware of your project's needs. If you are involved in a project that would benefit from an in-person meeting, please contact the board via email to start the process. The purpose of the meeting, the number of attendees, where they would be travelling from and preferred dates is a good starting point.

Candidate projects should be established and have a developer community, but they do not need to be large (we have coordinated sprints for as few as 3 people) or focused core KDE technology (such as kdelibs). Sprints can also focus on non-coding issues such as documentation and artwork. We also encourage that promising new contributors to be invited to these sprints, and it can be a great opportunity to bring together multiple related projects.

To those who are organizationally minded: we would welcome your help with the arrangements for these developer sprints. It's a great way to make a lasting positive effect on the project by spending a few hours helping with organizational details.

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

Status Report

Google Summer of Code

The Google Summer of Code (GSoC) is underway and KDE e.V. is happy to be able to play our part in helping with the procedural necessities required for the KDE project to participate. With 40 student projects having been started and many of them already producing very positive results, it looks like this could be the best GSoC for KDE yet! The board would also like to recognize the time and effort of all of our terrific mentors who are guiding the students along to success.

To help support the process, KDE e.V. made it possible for several of these students to attend aKademy 2007 by sponsoring travel costs, arranging for visas and other travel planning where necessary.

aKademy 2007 Opening

KDE developers from around the world arrived in Scotland's largest city, Glasgow, for the annual KDE World Summit. The week long meeting saw over 250 delegates from KDE and our partners discuss and hack on the world's original Free Software desktop.

Akonadi Meeting in Berlin in April

Seven KDE-PIM developers came together for 2 days at the KDAB offices in Berlin, Germany to discuss and improve Akonadi, the personal information data storage for KDE 4. Under the hood the code of Akonadi was cleaned up and the API of libakonadi improved for easier extension in the future. The roadmap of the project was also refined, and the next steps to take clarified.

SQO-OSS

The SQO-OSS project continues work on the Open Source Software Quality Observatory; the involvement of KDE e.V. in the implementation and testing phases of this project means that there are still few concrete results to show. There were meetings in Berlin and Nijmegen in June to discuss the software design at which project members from KDE e.V., KDAB and AUEB were present.

ODF Meeting in Berlin in May

With the release of KOffice 2.0 drawing closer every day, KOffice wishes to integrate itself further with the OpenDocument (ODF) standard. As a result, a meeting was organised over the weekend of the 12th and 13th of May for 17 representatives from the KOffice project, in order to further merge KOffice with the ODF format and create a bigger and better standard for the office suite. The large gathering of developers greatly assisted in shaping the future of ODF within KOffice, and KDE in general.

We want to thank the sponsors - KDAB, who provided the use of their offices and food, and Trolltech, who sponsored the travel costs of attendees - for their support, as the meeting was a big boost to KOffice development!

Oxygen Meeting in Milan in June

On Friday 1st June 2007, a large part of the Oxygen team met in Milan to discuss the style and window decoration designs, and develop them intensively by having developers and artists sitting face-to-face. The meeting was rather productive, the look of the most important visual elements have been defined, and some of them were implemented into real code.

The meeting was held at the residence of Riccardo Iaconelli to help to minimize the total costs. The Oxygen team would like to thank the e.V. very much for supporting this meeting and assisting with the travel expenses.

LinuxTag

LinuxTag 2007 was big for KDE. The e.V. supported the KDE presence there by financing travel costs and through the attendance of many e.V. members, including three members of the board. KDE 4 was promoted through a well-received talk by Sebastian Kügler.

LGM 2007

Between the 4th and the 6th of May, Boudewijn Rempt was a KDE e.V sponsored attendee at the Libre Graphics Meeting (LGM) 2007 in Montréal, Canada. Boudewijn attended as an representative for Krita, in which interest was very high. In the high-bandwidth networking atmosphere of the event, important communications channels between people of different graphics projects were established.

Peter Sicking of the GIMP usability team took the time to discuss usability for graphics applications with Boudewijn and offered to do a product/project vision session with the Krita team at some time in the future.

Boudewijn met with the Quebec government representative responsible for the introduction of Free software in Primary and Secondary schools and connected fellow e.V. member Anne-Marie Mahfouf with him; he was very interested in the description and promise of the KDE-Edu project.

There were over two hundred attendees: project members, graphics artists, educators and people from the printing industry. KDE e.V was publicly visible as a sponsor and thanked in the final speech.

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:

- Continuation of the HIG Hunting Session: Additional checklists for usability and accessibility were published to help the community get involved in Human-Interface Guideline issue reporting. Problems were and can still be reported in the bug system.
- XDG Icon Namespace: The Oxygen team is working on porting the KDE icon names to the XDG icon namespace, the freedesktop.org icon naming specification.
- Season of Usability: Two KDE projects - Basket and okular - have successfully participated in the Season of Usability, a series of mentored student projects sponsored by OpenUsability. Other than the Google Summer of Code they aim at students of usability and user interface design. As a result, Basket produced a new interface/vision for the project, and okular made significant progress on its new toolbar.

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

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.

The Marketing Working Group is currently very healthy. There are some new people taking over the lead in the team. Franz Keferböck as event dude, Danny Allen, Jos Poortvliet and Troy Unrau from the writing team agreed at a meeting in Glasgow during aKademy to become more active in coordinating the Promo team. Currently, the focus lies on planning the release event of KDE 4.0, and preparing material for this important release. The Marketing Team is also closely working together with the Release Team to streamline and coordinate the release promotion process, not only the one of the stable series, but also those of betas and release candidates leading up to KDE 4.0.

Another big event in Q2 was of course aKademy 2007. Jos Poortvliet and Danny Allen have done an excellent job covering all aspects of aKademy and making it accessible to the community and press. This has not been without effect, coverage of aKademy in the press has been excellent.

Other activities include setting up an AdWords campaign sponsored by Google, refreshing the list of press contacts and making sure on this front interfaces to the outside world work well and some work on a joint Corporate Partnership programme.

A highlight in the activities of the Promo and Marketing Team is the relaunch of the Guerilla Marketing platform spread.kde.org. Unfortunately, the domain has been picked by a squatter due to problems in getting it re-registered in time, so everything has moved to the KDE subdomain spread.kde.org. The site is now running the latest version of Drupal and the content is being updated, making SpreadKDE the platform for enabling community-based marketing and promotion activities.

So the Marketing Team is getting some new blood on a high level, while activities are going on at full pace.

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 71 new contributors, and disabled 1 Subversion account.
- created 18 kde@kde.org aliases, disabled 2 kde@kde.org aliases, and modified 4 kde@kde.org aliases.
- created 7 kde.org aliases, disabled 3 kde.org aliases, and modified 4 kde.org aliases.
- created 1 new mailing list:
 - [kde-italia](mailto:kde-italia@kde.org)
- disabled 5 mailing lists:
 - [kde-events-de](mailto:kde-events-de@kde.org)
 - [kde-events-benelux](mailto:kde-events-benelux@kde.org)
 - [kroupware](mailto:kroupware@kde.org)
 - [kde-kafka](mailto:kde-kafka@kde.org)
 - [fspace](mailto:fspace@kde.org)
- created 1 kde.org mailing list, and disabled 5 kde.org mailing lists.

Jes Hall volunteered to help out with various system administrative tasks and has joined the [sysadmin](mailto:sysadmin@kde.org) mailing list.

We've also renewed our SSL certificate in the last quarter successfully and for free (sponsored by GoDaddy.com).

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

Welcome New Members

The KDE e.V. is pleased to report that Intel, Klarälvdalens Datakonsult AB, and Novell Inc. are now Patrons of KDE.

In this quarter we added 7 new members to the KDE e.V. membership. The new members are:

- David Jarvie
- Anne-Marie Mahfouf
- Jos van den Oever
- Seb Ruiz
- Riccardo Iaconelli
- Anne Wilson
- Jos Poortvliet

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 €87,519

Income during the past quarter included:

- €700 Krita sponsorship drive
- €4,200 aKademy 2006
- €18,300 Supporting membership fees
- Various donations from a few cents up to €500

While our expenses included the following:

- €400 Hardware
- €1,800 Developer meetings
- €1,800 Travel support for conferences, meetings, etc.
- €3,370 aKademy merchandize
- €500 Business cards
- €2,600 KDE presence at LinuxTag

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:

- 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:

- Danny Allen <dannya@kde.org>

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