Building a KDE4-based distribution, fostering community and collaboration.

...and strategies to suck-up to your spouse for letting you come to an all-too-fun software conference.

Rex Dieter, akademy 2008
Outline

* Developing a KDE4-based distribution: Fedora 9
  
  Released May 13, 2008
  Shipped with kde-4.0.3

* Collaboration, community, mentoring

* And sprinkled in, hints, tips, to keep your significant other happy enough, so that you can come to conferences without risking your relationship.
Packaging goals, guidelines

* Use a common prefix/root
* Everything must be parallel-installable (without conflicts)
* No duplicated (kde3/kde4) apps

Net Result: A single, kde4-only desktop.

Spouse tip: no magic bullet, relationships take time and attention.
What parts of KDE3 to include?

A KDE3 development environment and runtime (most of kdelibs, kdebase, basically).

Interestingly, this includes crystalsvg icon theme from kdelibs3.

Spouse tip: do cater to their whims and wishes
Building KDE4 was challenging

* New build technologies (cmake)
* New build/runtime dependencies
* New apps/packaging

Spouse tip: show love in everything you do.
**Distribution Integration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Want to keep this list as small as possible.</th>
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<tr>
<td>* Theming (kdm, ksplash, wallpaper)</td>
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<td>* kde3/kde4 -devel parallel-installability (in same prefix):</td>
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<td>* ConsoleKit support: work in progress to upstream.</td>
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<td>* Misc: PackageKit, PulseAudio, Selinux (*)</td>
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Spouse tip: gifts are nice, small and large. Can't go wrong with flowers.
Can't stress this enough.

By getting a KDE4 desktop into the hands of users, we're helping to lead the way for wider exposure and testing. Combine this with Fedora's “contributor” culture, it yields a healthy ecosystem.

Spouse tip: take time to talk.
Community

* Fedora: kde-sig continued growth, added several active members.

* KDE: Code of Conduct, etc... good stuff.

* Mentoring: Important to harness interested new contributors.

Spouse tip: surprises. A night or day off, dinner out, you take kids for a day/afternoon.
More talking-points

* spins, livecd-creator, revisor
* fedora's relationship with Red Hat
* what's up with mp3's? :) patents vs. freedom
* are the cub's finally going to win the world series?