

# Managing Gentoo

On the Gentoo Council & Foundation

Fabian Groffen

`<grobian@gentoo.org>`

Robin H Johnson

`<robbat2@gentoo.org>`





# Birth of Gentoo

- Founded by Daniel Robbins 1999
- Top of the chain: founder, leader, controlled directions, made final decisions
- Real life came into play

partly based on the presentation of  
Mike Fryinger, 25-02-2006



# Managers Project

- GLEP 4, mid-2003 by drobbins
- Top level projects
  - Operation manager (day-to-day)
  - Strategic manager (long term)
- Started off well, but soon lost their steam



# Gentoo Foundation

- Formed in 2004
- Copyrights and such were transferred
- Trustees board for legal issues
- Non technical focus
- But are no managers/leaders



# Restructuring

- Lack of leadership/authority reached crisis mid-2005
- Different restructuring proposals
  - FOSDEM, koon, g2boojum, ciaranm
- Gentoo wide vote was held



# Council was born

- GLEP 39, ciaranm and g2boojum
- Projects can be created by anyone
- Monthly meetings
- Yearly elections of 7 persons
- Slackers get booted from Council
- Global technical issues focus



# First Council

- Voted in Aug 2005
  - *agriffis, azarah, koon, seemant, solar, swift, vapier*
- Worked on directing the scope of things
- Retained the power to overrule any project
- Deferred to projects since they generally know best



# Second Council

- Voted Aug 2006
  - *flameeyes, kingtaco, kloeri, kugelfang, robbat2, vapier, wolf31o2*
- Addressed some common criticisms
  - impromptu meetings
  - status reports
  - “contactability”





# Fast Forward :)

- Currently, 8th Council
- My Second Council term
- Investments in effectivity



# Inefficiencies

- Meetings took too long
- Too much unstructured
- Too many “vague” topics on the agenda



# Structure

- Have discussions on ML prior to meetings
  - agenda assembled well in advance
- The Council is not just there to force opinions upon others
- Focus on original global technical direction



# Current Role

- Last stop for project wide changes
  - e.g. new EAPIs and their features
- Group of “old wise” man to make balanced decisions
- Less and less the silver bullet in conflicts



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License.

To view a copy of this license, visit  
<<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0>>  
or send a letter to Creative Commons, 559 Nathan  
Abbott Way, Stanford, California 94305, USA.





# Trustees: when & who

- In existence since 2004
- Major revamp in 2008
- Currently:
  - dabbott (2009), NeddySeagoon (2008), rich0 (2011), robbat2 (2009), quantumsummers (2009)



# Trustees: Purpose

- Paperwork, paperwork, paperwork
- Trademarks
- Taxes
- Corporation registration (New Mexico)
- Money...



# Trustees: Income

- Income 2012FY: \$17,835.58
  - 56% GSoC org payment
  - 40% PayPal donations
  - 1.7% CafePress
  - 2.3% interest
- 2011FY ~\$15800
- 2010FY ~\$24400 (\$12000 GSoC backpay)





# Trustees: Expenditure

- Legal: Accountant, Trademark, Corporation
- Infra hardware
  - \$2000 misc, plus major purchases
  - Thanks to Google for matching donations
- Dev hardware
  - MIPS+ARM machines, RAM, hard drives
- Conferences...