

COMMUNITY REPORT

1ST QUARTER 2013 | ISSUE 25



WELCOME MESSAGE

The first quarter is always a time of preparation for us. With Akademy as our central community event in summer, there are a lot of things which need to be put into place to make this event the energetic place where people come together from all over the world to work on KDE and its various projects. This special feeling of getting together, meeting old and new friends, and feeling the inspiring vibe of the community, the momentum which drives free software, this needs a carefully prepared environment. This year Akademy is taking place in Bilbao. We have an excellent team there which does magic to provide this environment, together with all the other community members who take on the task of organizing Akademy.

This year we have a special setup for Akademy, because we joined forces

with the Qt community and will hold the Qt Contributors Summit together with Akademy. This is a unique opportunity to get Qt and KDE contributors together and discuss and work on common ground. KDE wouldn't be here without Qt, and Qt wouldn't be what it is today without KDE. Maintaining these common roots and nurturing our communities and what we can do together is one of the cornerstones of our future. This joint meeting also takes preparation.

There are many more things which need preparation; we had an extended board meeting in March to work on some of these topics. Extended means that the board invited a number of other members to work on specific topics. We kicked off the Financial Working Group, discussed fund-raising activities and

how we will approach them. We worked on publishing more information about KDE e.V. and the board to make our work more transparent. You will hear more about all this over the course of the year.

There were also some fantastic activities this quarter. For example, there was the meetup of our awesome Indian community, and the PIM and Calligra communities had their annual sprints. Read more about all this in this quarterly report.

We are looking forward to the coming quarters of 2013 and the exciting things they will bring for KDE. Be prepared.

Cornelius Schumacher
for the KDE e.V. Board of Directors

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KDE INDIA

Pradepto Bhattacharya

KDE India is a purely volunteer effort by a group of contributors based in India.

A small bit of history. Indian involvement in The KDE Project is as old as the Project itself. Sirtaj Singh Kang, who was a student based in Australia, was one of the first contributors to KDE. After returning to India, Sirtaj went around the country spreading the word of KDE by speaking at various events. During FOSS.IN/2005, Sirtaj along with Till Adam, a core KDE PIM hacker, and a group of individuals came together to form an informal group called "KDE India". On 2nd December 2005, in a Birds of a Feather session at FOSS.IN/2005, it was decided to create a mailing list, an IRC channel and a website for Indian contributors. Till got all the infrastructure issues sorted out by talking to the KDE Sysadmin team. Soon we had our own mailing list, IRC channel and temporary website (in.kde.org) since the kde.in domain was not available. Later the KDE e.V. Board kindly bought the domain and still owns it.

This is how things started moving. I started going to various colleges and FOSS events to speak about The KDE Project (as it was known then). Between 2006 and 2010, I pretty much went to every FOSS event in India I could afford or was invited to. I remember February of 2009 when I was away from home every weekend speaking about KDE at a different city in India. We got excellent support from FOSS.IN organizers, where we have organized a KDE mini-conference pretty much every year since 2007. Other FOSS events also supported us. A bunch of current Indian contributors met us first at one of these events. We were fortunate that the KDE e.V Board sponsored one or two KDE developers to travel to India to speak at these conferences. Eventually we reached a critical mass of contributors, if you can call it that. Programs like Google Summer of Code and Season of KDE saw good and healthy participation from India. Many of the new contributors stay past their internships. Akarsh, Shantanu, Vishesh, Sinny, Rohan have all stayed for good. It was really great to have a full house at the KDE booth at events.

During each of these events we did something different and stretched our limits. One example was getting the "KDE Booklet" done. It was a super effort by the team. My initial idea was to make a bunch of simple flyers. But with the amount of content the team built up, it soon became a full 32 page color booklet. Thanks to Lakshya Srivastava who

volunteered to design it and Sirtaj whose company sponsored the printing costs, we could print and ship the booklet. The KDE booklet travelled far and wide to Asia, Europe, North America and Africa. Thank you Ade for being the awesomest messenger ever. We are proud that the booklet was the inspiration for the even-more-awesome official KDE Booklet.

This was when I set out to fulfill my long cherished dream of having a KDE event in India (ok to be honest, I wanted to organize Akademy in India, but I knew it was probably not economically feasible). Sometime in late 2010, I believed that it was the right time to go ahead and execute the plans to fulfill the dream. I spoke to a few people and then finally the KDE e.V Board who extended their full support. So with a bunch of folks none of whom had ever organized a conference, we started organizing one. We learned the ropes as we moved ahead, secured sponsorships, convinced speakers to come to India, made it happen! "conf.kde.in" took place between March 9th and March 13th 2011. Earlier this year, a team led by Yash Shah organized the KDE Meetup in Gujarat.

Going forward, we plan to register KDE India as a non-profit society according to Indian laws. That would give us some legal standing here and would also help to secure sponsorship for events. The number of KDE contributors has been increasing slowly every year thanks to Google Summer of Code (GSoC) and Season of KDE (SoK). It is really heartening to see that many of these students still contribute after their internship is over. My hope and commitment is that we can build up a self-sustaining system here in India so that these KDE contributors can continue to work on their projects even after they leave college or university. It would be awesome to have more local KDE events during the year and one big event each year.

An article on KDE India can never be done without thanking people who have stood by us since we came into existence. The KDE e.V. Board, Sirtaj Singh Kang, Till Adam, Atul Chitnis (RIP), Swati Sani (Sanisoft), FOSS.IN, Prashanth Udupa (VCreate Logic), Rajeev Sebastian, Madhusudhan C.S., Santosh Vattam, Krishna Bharadwaj, Aditya Kavoor, Kamleshwar Morjal, Supreeth Vattam, Abhishek Patil and many others. Thank you all.

SUPPORTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

KDE e.V. BOARD MEETING

BERLIN, GERMANY

23-24 Mar 2013

Apart from bi-weekly conference calls, the KDE e.V. board of directors usually meets in person 2-3 times per year. The most recent meeting took place in Berlin on the weekend of March 23-24. The meeting was hosted at the Wikimedia Germany office. The goal of the meeting was to follow up on the plans that were made at the last board meeting in November 2012, and get work done on various items.

To accomplish that we held the meeting as an extended board meeting inviting individual members of the community in order to share the workload, involve the membership, and promote a scalable way of running KDE e.V.'s business.

From the board Lydia, Agustin, Cornelius, and Pradepto participated. In addition to that, Claudia Rauch, KDE e.V. business manager, and Till Adam, Mirko Böhm and Jos Poorvliet joined for parts of the meeting.

Fundraising

Fundraising is an essential part of the KDE e.V. activities as it provides us with the financial means to execute on supporting the community. The board is working on professionalizing the fund-raising activities in order to mitigate risks, and grow beyond what we do now.

During the board meeting, we discussed the current strategy - reaching the KDE "friends and family" via dot.kde.org and blogs. In the future we want to expand that and reach out to people who are active in the community, but

also address users and people who are interested in KDE not only because of the software, but also because by supporting KDE they are contributing to the public good by supporting Free Software and Free Culture.

For specific activities KDE e.V. is planning to do focused sponsorship drives like the one for the Randa sprint in Summer 2012.

To professionalize our fund-raising the plan is to work with other organizations and consultants from the non-profit space to improve our tool infrastructure and to build up knowledge and skills in general fund-raising.

The group also discussed concrete actions and next steps. It was decided to implement CiviCRM as a tool for managing the relationships with donors and supporters, and fund-raising activities.

Another topic that was discussed was if KDE e.V. wants to apply for grants to do development. Since there were a couple of requests in the past, there seems to be a need for this. This, however, would mean that KDE e.V. needs to change its policy and build structures to handle paperwork and administration of such projects. This is currently not possible, but might be a strategic move for the future of the organization.

Financial Working Group

This board meeting was also the kick-off meeting of the financial working group of KDE e.V. Attendees were Agustín Bethencourt, Mirko Böhm, and Till Adam. The purpose of this working group is to work with the board and specifically the treasurer on an ongoing basis to

ensure the fiscal side of e.V. is sound beyond the sanity checking done by the auditors once a year. This involves structuring the way expenses and income are tracked among other things. Guidance and oversight remains with the treasurer.

In this first meeting, the working group members focussed on creating an improved cost code structure. Currently cost codes are already in use, but the categories are too broad and poorly separated from the account structure. The goal is to have every invoice and spending associated with a cost center. These cost centers all have budgets associated, allowing the board and the working group members to keep an overview of whether money is spent as budgeted and to notice when budgets are in danger of being exceeded or need to be adjusted.

With the budgeting and tracking based on the cost code structure, the reporting on those budget numbers will also be structured along the same lines. The idea is for the reporting to be largely automatic, given up-to-date and cost-coded accounting. This will help to reduce the workload of the treasurer and make things more transparent.

Akademy 2013

A good part of the board meeting was also spent on taking a decision about the first round of travel sponsorship requests for Akademy 2013. Each year, KDE e.V. offers to sponsor travel and accommodation costs for Akademy attendees that would otherwise not be able to travel to the Akademy location. In this first round, requests for 27 people were approved.

The board also discussed topics for the upcoming annual general assembly of the association that will take place as part of Akademy on 12 July 2013 in Bilbao.

conf.kde.in 2013

Pradepto Bhattacharya informed his board colleagues that he is looking into organizing another conf.kde.in in October/November 2013 or February/March 2014. The dates for the event depend on availability of venue, volunteer time, sponsors, local factors etc.

The model of the last conf.kde.in (raising local money through fees to cover local expenses, covering travel costs and international sponsors through KDE e.V.) was approved by the board. There were discussions about the possibility of creating a local KDE organization to handle events like this in the future. KDE e.V. could give support for that, the initiative and decisions need to be with local volunteers, though.

Presentation of KDE e.V.

The board also spent some time during the meeting to brainstorm how KDE e.V. could be promoted and presented more effectively. While the association plays an important role in the KDE community, we often have to explain why it's there, what it does, who is involved, and how others can contribute.

The group together with Jos Poortvliet worked on an explanation of KDE e.V. that can be used as a template for the website and other channels (flyers, presentations, etc.). The goal is to create a detailed document, a one-page summary, and a short one-paragraph version.

Perhaps the most effective tool to present KDE e.V. activities is the quarterly report. It was discussed how to make even better use of the reports, perhaps by creating a printed version of all reports for special occasions or donors.

The KDE e.V. website needs some love to be more clear, provide more information, and be easier to maintain. Discussion about what to do resulted in these topics:

- * Improve the structure of the website
- * Get a better design (including photos)
- * Add a quick links area everywhere (forms, donate, contact)
- * Move to WordPress
- * German translation of at least key parts of the website (important for local donors)

In terms of transparency, the plan is to add more details to the website about the people running KDE e.V.'s business.

Next meeting

In-person board meetings are essential for enabling the board to discuss important topics and work as a team. They provide an opportunity for high-bandwidth conversations and concentrated work, which is hard to achieve with electronic media across locations and time zones. The board will get together at Akademy, and we plan to have another in-person board meeting after Akademy with the board member newly elected at the general assembly.



Developer Sprints

KDE PIM NEW YEAR MEETING

BERLIN, GERMANY

1-3 March 2013

Jos Poortvliet

Once most people had arrived at the KDAB offices in Berlin, the KDE PIM sprint started around 4 on Friday afternoon with an introduction by Till Adam. He welcomed everyone and issued a warning: there were only one-and-a-half crates of beer and all KDAB attempts at ordering more had failed. The participants would have to take care of this themselves!

Friday beginnings

Cornelius then kicked off the introductions. The introductions suggested an in-crowd meme of "I do some random Kolab stuff" with Jeroen and Kevin claiming to "play around with IMAP", Volker (The Guru) topped everyone by mentioning that he's "done a patch or two to Akonadi". Nobody bothered being more modest than that. Following the introductions, tasks were brainstormed and written on sticky notes in the 'TODO' area on the whiteboard.

Work started and fun as well. In the hallway, the fussball tables were busy. With over 30 participants, the hacking room couldn't hold everyone comfortably. David, coming late, even had to bring his own table to the meeting and Ingo arrived just in time for dinner at 19:00. We had our evening meal at an Asian place. There was a little trouble fitting in so many people but it



was fun. A Spaniard had to tell the Indian guy what to eat ... We'll leave the results to your imagination.

Saturday continuations

On Saturday, Popcorn, Jos's dog, once again joined the sprint and attempted to help the PIM hackers hunt bugs while simultaneously entertaining them. During the course of discussions, it was decided to drop the KDEPIM coding style for the KDE Libs coding style. And a list of ideas for Google Summer of Code was brainstormed. Till gave an update on PIM/KDE on Win/Mac, promising an installer Coming Real Soon™. There was also talk about Frameworks 5; it was decided to wait until the dust has settled a bit before taking KDE PIM fully in that direction. In some areas however, there will be movement right away

as kdepimlibs is already being compiled against Frameworks 5 and some Time/Date-related code is going into Qt5. There was a Nepomuk discussion about how to improve performance and give a smoother experience to users. The Saturday evening meal was in a Greek place near the office.

Sunday endings

End users were again the focus of the marketing meeting on Sunday. Much work has been done lately to modernize the Kontact architecture. The quest for this sprint was to find the remaining major blocks for Kontact users. The group made a list of the most serious issues; anything that can't be fixed will be disabled until a proper fix can be found.

Negative attitudes about KMail are frustrating, especially when they come from within the Community.

Yes, KMail has been around a while, and people would enjoy a new mail client based on Akonadi (which shouldn't be too hard). But venerable KMail is still by far the best Free Software mail client on Linux, years ahead of the competition. The negativity feeds a vicious cycle—KMail can be improved, but development work is not satisfying when this general attitude prevails. So developers don't want to work on it.

The group discussed ideas for promoting "eat our own dogfood", including "I use KMail" and "I have a good Kontact experience" stickers. Popcorn especially enjoyed this discussion. Suggestions for artwork are welcome!

There were discussions about the future of calendaring, and a first draft of QML components was

created for calendaring. Sandro Knauß had been annoyed with issues about encrypting and signing emails with unicode characters and had joined the sprint in order to fix those. Which he did! And there were many more subjects as well as hacking and coding, fussball, and the deep philosophical inquiries expected at any KDE Sprint. As a relatively new participant remarked: I can't wait for the upcoming Akademy.

These sprints are awesome and everybody says "wait until you've been at Akademy, it's 10 times more cool".

Conclusions

All in all, barking, epic fussball losses and group hugs included, it was a fun and productive meeting again. More happened than is reported here ... in summary, good code was written and there is significant progress with KDE PIM.

The decision to get as many fixes as possible into the 4.10.2 release will benefit users of most major distributions in the short term. In the longer run, code is being written to bring in new functionality as well, giving users something to look forward to.

We all look forward to meeting again at Akademy to assess progress and work further on bringing KDE PIM to enlightened, freedom-loving people around the world.

CALLIGRA SPRING SPRINT

BANGALORE AND ESSEN

8-10 March 2013

[Boudewijn Rempt](#)

For the first Calligra sprint since 2011, the Calligra community assembled at the Thoughtworks office in Bangalore, India, and the Linux Hotel in Essen, Germany, for a long weekend of discussions and hacking. Six people gathered in Bangalore and another eleven met in Essen.

The sprint was sponsored by KDE e.V., KO GmbH and Thoughtworks, as well as individual developers. Bangalore had a four and a half hour lead on Essen, and had already started taking apart Calligra Active when the rest of the team assembled in the Linux Hotel. We kept both teams connected using IRC, piratepads, google docs and google hangouts - even if the sound often failed, having the other location on a projector gave a real sense of togetherness.

Compared to previous sprints, this sprint was much more technical. We delved deep into the basic Calligra architecture to figure out how to make Calligra ready for the next decade (our codebase already dates back to the previous century!), we had initial discussions on moving to Qt5/KDE Frameworks 5, on better integration in OSX, on improving the way we use git. Some applications have become unmaintained, and we started looking for new maintainers. There was a mini-Krita sprint as well with discussions about recording, macros and actions in Krita. Everyone was busy!

But of course that was not all. Pizza was consumed, guitars were played and many people who

hadn't seen each other before, or hadn't seen each other for over a year got together and had a good and productive time! And welcome to Somsubhra—a newcomer to Calligra development—who got his KDE developer id this weekend!

On leaving Essen, I was really convinced that this was one of the best Calligra sprints ever, and that Calligra has a great future to look forward to.

Trade Shows and Community Events

FOSDEM

BRUSSELS

2-3 February 2013

[Lydia Pintscher](#)

Every year FOSDEM marks one of the highlights of the Free Software calendar. It's the event where thousands of Free Software contributors from all over the world meet to plan, discuss and hear what other projects are doing. For at least the fifth year in a row, KDE was present again with a well-attended booth showing Plasma Active, Marble, Kolab and more. Together with other desktop projects Enlightenment, Gnome, Razor, Unity and XFCE, KDE also organized a very successful devroom with talks about window managers, usability testing, build systems accessibility and tutorials on the latest technologies across the stack. The neighboring Qt Project booth also brought many visitors that were interested in both KDE and Qt.

Thanks to all the people that helped out at the booth!

KDE INDIA MEETUP

GANDHINAGAR

23-24 February 2013

Yash Shah

The month of February saw the advent of a new era with enthusiastic students who showed signs of budding future developers by taking the first step - attending KDE MEETUP 2013 organized on the beautiful campus of Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology (DA-IICT), Gandhinagar. KDE Meetup held on the 23rd and 24th of February, 2013 was the largest KDE event in India after conf.kde.in in 2011 and the largest technology event to be held in Gujarat. The event was a huge phenomenon with the participation of over 350 students from the far ends of the country, including Delhi, Durgapur, Mumbai and many more. The meetup started with an "Introduction to KDE" talk by Pradepto Bhattacharya, a KDE e.V. Board member. He introduced the audience to the KDE Community and its technologies. The next session by Vishesh Handa was an introduction to Qt and Git, followed by a hands-on session where the students were taught how to execute all that they had learned in the talk. This was the end of Day One. Everyone left



the campus eager to learn a whole lot more. Day Two saw talks on the KDE EduSuite, Plasma Workspaces and Nepomuk by Rishabh Arora, Shantanu Tushar Jha and Vishesh Handa respectively. The students were also encouraged to participate in Season of KDE and Google Summer of Code. Hands-on sessions were organized on both the days after lunch where all those who participated were taught Qt framework, how to build and modify the code used in KDE applications and also to apply their own changes to them. KDE contributors Sinny Kumari, Aditya Bhatt, Rohan Garg and Jigar Raisinghani volunteered to help with the hands-on session.

Organizing KDE Meetup was a great experience for all the

volunteers because as students, it was the first time organizing such a large scale event. Every story has its own heroes. KDE Meetup had not one but almost 20 of those who were led by a proud KDE contributor Yash Shah. There was only a month for all the preparation but due to these great heroes, it was possible. They visited more than 10 colleges, sent emails to more than 100 colleges and spread the word about KDE Meetup through word of mouth as well as through intensive blogging. Venue arrangement, ensuring internet access, food arrangements and accommodation, delegates, t-shirts, certificates and many other things - all was planned and organized very well.

One of the major highlights of the event - the Bardoli incident - is an



inspiration and an indication of the dedication of the members of the KDE community to spread knowledge among all and to ensure that everyone is a part of the community and that no one feels left out. Many enthusiastic students from Bardoli gave up their weekends. They came from far away places and were all enthusiastic to make the most of the event. In spite of traveling a long distance accompanied by fatigue, they did their best to work along with the speakers but it didn't work out for them and they decided to leave the event. The organizers convinced them to stay. The next day, special sessions were organized just for these students and all of them showed up with renewed spirit. They quickly caught up with all that they had missed and were eager to learn more.

Also, in the evening of the first day, we celebrated with a KDE 4.10 release party. It was so cool celebrating the latest release together with KDE Contributors and the volunteers for the KDE Meetup 2013.

At the end of the event, there was a newfound inspiration within all the participants. They had the desire to contribute, to be a part of the largest and friendliest community in the world. This was a change, a different sort of experience for the students which relieved them from the usual drudgery and boredom of college education which doesn't expose them to real world programming. The event lived up to its goals—to help people know about KDE and to provide them with the basic skills and techniques so that they can contribute to free and open software. The community speakers were warm and approachable. Students were encouraged to talk

with them and ask as much as they could. This event left the students asking for more. All that they had in their minds was to learn, explore and innovate. Create something that could be the next revolution.

MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS

BARCELONA

25-28 February 2013

Boudewijn Rempt

Krita Sketch developer Dan Leinir Turthra Jensen and I went to the Mobile World Congress 2013 in Barcelona to show Krita Sketch at the Intel App Developer booth. The booth was pretty much perfectly placed, near the entrance of the whole show, at the entrance of the biggest hall, and we were right at the entrance to the Intel booth.

Dan and I had shirts with the Krita mascot image done by Tyson Tan, and those were quite attention grabbing in all their cuteness! Pretty much everyone who saw the shirt had to smile.

Apart from some getting-started problems, the demos went well. We had a good story and showing the transformation tool video

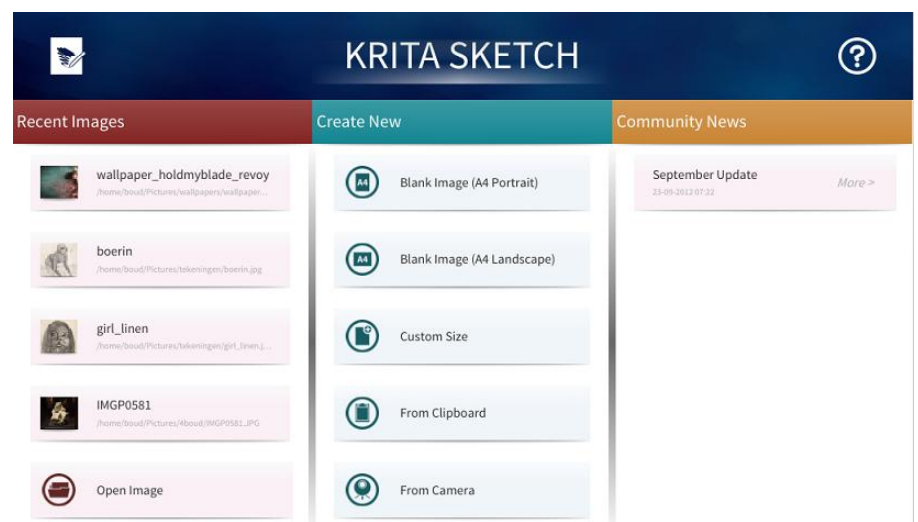
Deevad had made got us lots of attention. Most people were impressed, really impressed. We did get a number of questions like "is that photoshop?", or "are you really competing with photoshop?". The Free Software aspect didn't really grab anyone's fancy, but the free to download part amazed people. This was the first time we have really shown Krita to a broad audience outside the Free Software world, and it went quite well. I pointed several groups of students to the upcoming Libre Graphics Meeting in Madrid, they were really interested in that as well.

On leaving MWC on Thursday, I came away with several conclusions:

- * a good Windows version is really important.

- * Krita can, at least as a demo, hold its own outside the Free Software world. We can compete with other vendors and we should go to other events, instead of limiting ourselves to Free Software conferences like LGM and Akademy.

All in all, good fun and a good opportunity to make Krita better known. Thanks to Intel for inviting us to show Krita Sketch and Krita!



Sysadmin Report

Created 32 subversion accounts
Disabled 661 subversion accounts

Created 2 kdemail.net aliases
Created 2 kde.org aliases
Disabled 1 kde.org aliases
Modified 6 kde.org aliases

Created 4 kde.org mailing-lists:

kde-l10n-tr
amarok-private
kde-jp
gwenview-devel

There was a high number of disabled subversion accounts this quarter as all prior password accounts have now been disabled - part of the continuing shutdown of Subversion (and migration to Git).

Finances Q1 2013

One goal for 2013 for KDE e.V. is to improve several aspects of our financial tracking and reporting processes.

Because of this, we will publish the numbers for the first and second quarter of 2013 together with the 2012 summary in the next quarterly report

Agustin Benito Bethencourt
KDE e.V. Treasurer



New Members

KDE e.V. is happy to welcome the following new members:

- Daniele Elmo Domenichelli
- Andreas Cord-Landwehr

Financial support

If your company is interested in providing financial support to the KDE community on a continuing basis, please visit the Supporting Members page on the KDE e.V. website, <http://ev.kde.org/getinvolved/supporting-members.php>

If you would like to support KDE financially as an individual, please visit the individual supporting membership program site at <http://jointhegame.kde.org>.

KDE E.V. BOARD

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Thanks to the other KDE members and supporters who contributed to this report.

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