COMMUNITY REPORT

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear members,

KDE is a community—an amazing one—made up of dedicated people from all around the world. It is always a pleasure for me to travel near and far and know for sure that I'll be able to meet fellow contributors. My latest experience was traveling to India for FOSS.in and meeting so many enthusiastic fellow contributors. Each and every one of us has had a part in making KDE what it is today and what it will become tomorrow. Meeting each other in person is immensely important for a community like ours. As large and diverse as we are, one can no longer know everyone, and it is crucial to build

community feeling in many places on a smaller scale.

KDE e.V. plays a vital role in making this happen through sprints, conferences and other get-togethers. In this report, you can read about what happened in the last quarter of 2012. In addition, many more sponsored activities happen throughout the year. But growing this community is too big a task for KDE e.V. alone. There are local groups who help move KDE forward locally, who help run events, who talk to people, who show up at trade-shows and much more. In this report we highlight KDE España, the first official organization to represent KDE locally, in this case

in Spain. They will help make Akademy 2013 happen in Bilbao, Spain. We hope to see more of these groups grow in the future, as they are already in India and Brazil.

Lydia Pintscher
for the KDE e.V. Board of Directors

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MEET KDE ESPAÑA

Aleix Pol i Gonzàlez

KDE España is a Spanish registered association that officially represents the KDE community in legal matters in Spain. The organization was registered in 2009. During Akademy 2010, KDE e.V. and KDE España board members signed an agreement making KDE España an official representative of KDE e.V.

KDE España includes people of different backgrounds: developers, translators, promoters, and other KDE enthusiasts. The current board members are:

President: Aleix Pol i Gonzàlez

Vice-president: Alejandro Fiestas Olivares

Treasurer: José Millán Soto

Secretaría: Eduardo Robles Elvira

Spokesperson: Daniel Gutiérrez Porset

Photo courtesy of kde-espana.es

What do we do

The main focus of KDE España is the yearly Akademy-es event that gathers contributors and users from all over the country for 3 days. We have been celebrating the event in one way or another since 2006; it was one of the reasons the association was founded.

A bit of history

The idea of KDE España first surfaced when a few of us organized Akademy-es 2006. The first related e-mail to a larger group of people was sent in April 2008, proposing the idea of a formal association. Organizing and hosting events is great, but they involve dealing with money. We realized that having a legal entity for financial matters would work better than how we had been doing things. This is similar to the way KDE e.V. was founded.

Even though we recognized the opportunity in 2006, we did not start acting on it seriously until 2008 when we gathered at a Free Software party to draft the statutes of the association (thanks to Debian España for the inspiration). We then started working through the regulatory bureaucracy. The Association was registered officially in the third quarter of 2009.

The lack of a legal entity did not stop us from organizing Akademy-es, which we did in collaboration with various organizations like Hispalinux and GPUL (Grupo de Programadores e Usuarios de Linux). Even after the Association was official, we still sought partnerships with other groups when organizing Akademy-es to build on synergies. We have partnered with Itsas (a free software advocacy group at EHU, the University of the Basque Country) and CENATIC (Centro Nacional de Referencia de Aplicación de las Tecnologías de la Información y la Comunicación) for 2010 and 2012. Itsas is now helping to organize Akademy 2013 for the global KDE Community.

Going local, worldwide

KDE España is about developing roots for KDE and Free Software in Spain. This might sound strange, considering that KDE is a worldwide community. But KDE España is not about the territory. It is about getting closer to people by talking to them in their language and working together hand in hand. This has materialized in many different ways, enabling some people to join the KDE community. Baltasar is a good example. He is a teacher who blogs about KDE in Spanish with great impact (http://www.kdeblog.com) and who has collaborated with KDE Edu on many occasions. We want to inspire other communities all over the world to develop local KDE roots.

In addition to producing Akademy-es, we organize "Release Parties" for each of the major KDE releases. We also travel to various cities in Spain to give talks and workshops at other Free Software events. KDE-es members help to organize KDE sprints taking place in Spain, such as the KDE Next Iteration sprint in 2012 or the KDE Edu sprint in Bilbao in 2011.

KDE España is proof that narrowing in on one aspect of a huge project can open many interesting possibilities.

Developer Sprints

KDE PIM SPRINT

BERLIN, GERMANY
October 2012

Kevin Krammer

Supported by KDE e.V. and KDAB, a group of enthusiastic KDE PIM (Personal Information Management) contributors gathered on Friday, October 12th in KDAB's Berlin offices and worked hard over a weekend to improve KDE PIM applications and their underlying infrastructure.

Even though it doesn't have such a long history as the annual KDE PIM meeting in Osnabrück at the beginning of each year, a second PIM sprint around October/November is starting to become a tradition of its own. Similar to last year and in contrast to the Osnabrück meetings - which usually focuses on discussing ideas and planning - this year's October sprint again concentrated on improvements to existing features.

Emails, lots of them

One of the guys at the sprint -let's call him Bob for privacy- not only has tons of email, he also likes having many folders, organizing several hundred thousand messages! Bob expects KMail and all involved background components to be able to deal with his situation. He actually expects them to work really well. And rightfully so!

Naturally a challenge like that could not go unanswered for long at the sprint. So soon after Bob's arrival, several people started

looking into different areas that would potentially be affected and then began investigating and implementing various improvements.

Thinking big

Milian Wolff, for example - famous for his work on KDevelop- took on the task of improving the runtime memory consumption of KMail itself, i.e. the actual end user application. Most developers confronted with that task would run and hide. Milian, however, is KDAB's master of memory profiling and author of the Massif Visualizer. There was a distinct air of defiance in the air.

At the other end of the process, where emails are fetched from various backends, several people worked hard on speed, parallelism and timely progress reporting. One team, consisting of Alex Fiestas of Solid and BlueDevil fame, and Volker Krause, a.k.a. The Guru, worked on a new way to speed up the initial synchronization with IMAP servers. They referred to this as "The Spanish Sync", which is neither a reference to the Spanish Inquisition, nor any hint whatsoever of Bob's identity.

Somewhere along the processing chain, Andras Mantia, the guy who

brought you Quanta+, fought various email filtering issues. All by himself. With one hand tied to his back. Victoriously!

Sources close to various email filtering issues report that there are discussions within the group to retire from the active fighting scene and move on to consulting. We shall see!

Teaching, Learning and Research

An important aspect of any KDE sprint, independent of the topic of interest or any strong focus area, is spreading knowledge! Several people new to KDE PIM had the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of KDE PIM technologies, from design considerations (during an introduction to KDE PIM components) to implementation hints and best practices. Naturally, those who currently have this knowledge welcome these sessions as a means to reflect on things, gather input from new points of view and identify areas with missing or outdated documentation.

Sprinting hard

Within such an environment, thriving on the free flow of information, where people with

Photo courtesy of Martin Klapetek

expert knowledge in lots of areas are readily available, new use cases being brainstormed, prototypes being shown off and world domination plans being refined, some minds are tempted to explore uncharted territory.

Kevin Krammer—famous bridge builder and chocolate supplier—indulged in a project which should, once it is completed, allow fluent JavaScript developers access to the KDE PIM infrastructure similar to what their C++ knowledgeable counterparts currently enjoy.

Being a persuasive chap, Kevin managed to divert another developer, Tobias König (of Address Book fame) from The True Path (TM) into the abyss of unbounded hacking. It's rumored that this project is all about UI. And QML. And QtWidgets. Something not quite entirely different, but better.

More tangible results were achieved by Mark Gaiser, continuing his work on QML-based user interfaces for calendaring, and Martin Klapetek—known for his outstanding work on KDE Telepathy—who continued to improve on the Social Feed integration he began this year as a Google Summer of Code project.

Socializing, videos and dogs

KDE sprints always provide good opportunities to socialize, put faces to email addresses or IRC nicks, chat about life, the universe and everything during breakfast, lunch and dinner. Deep undercover informers reported that some people were even seen drinking beer while lounging on the couches in KDAB's office. Rest assured that the proper authorities are on to them!

During the sprint Alex and Martin, who are part of a Behind the Scenes of KDE effort called KDE TeaTime sat down with Kevin Krammer and Volker Krause, and talked about KDAB, KDE PIM, Akonadi and other things. You can watch the video at http://www.youtube.com/user/kdeteatime.

The Pimsters (TM) and, of course, Bob, greatly enjoyed visits from other members of the wider KDE Community: Plasma guru Chani Armitage, KDE Women activist Camila Ayres, openSUSE community dude and KDE Promo legend Jos Poortvliet and, really needing no elaborate introduction, Jos and Camila's dog Popcorn, currently being trained to herd developers.

KATE/KDEVELOP SPRINT

VIENNA
October 2012

After the successful developer sprint in Berlin in 2010, the Kate and KDevelop teams met for the second time from the 23rd to the 29th of October. This time, the developer sprint was held in the beautiful city of Vienna. In total, 13 contributors discussed and collaborated on the future of Kate and KDevelop for a whole week.

The developer sprint was organized and partly financed by Joseph Wenninger, who also showed himself to be an excellent city guide in Vienna. The remaining travel costs were kindly supported by the KDE e.V., which is possible thanks to our supporting members and the Join The Game campaign. Further, a special thanks goes to Vivid Planet for supporting the joint Kate/KDevelop with a really tasty dinner.

What's new in Kate

The developers worked hard to make Kate, KDE's Advanced Text Editor, an even more pleasant experience. There were about 400 commits in Kate's source code in just this week, ranging from major changes to small details such as bug fixes or fine tuning. Some of the new features and improvements are:

The editor component Kate Part (also used in KDevelop and Kile) received a new message interface that allows applications to show passive, interactive notifications in the editor text view.

A scrollbar minimap shows text in a miniature view and is useful for fast text navigation.

A new Project Management plugin has a sidebar that shows all the files belonging to the project. It is tightly integrated with the Search & Replace plugin and the new Quick Open feature. It uses ctags in the background to parse all project files, so basic auto completion support is available in all project files.

Kate developers reduced the number of bug reports from 850 to just 60 open bug reports and 300 wishlist items. Assistance with finding and reporting bugs is much appreciated.

What's new in KDevelop

KDevelop hackers were also productive during the sprint. About 550 commits were made during the week. They address performance issues, fix bugs, polish the user interface or integrate new features.

Miha Cancula could not attend the development sprint. However, prior to the sprint he created a framework for Unit Test integration

for KDevelop. During the sprint, this work was given a final review and merged into our development branches. It was then further polished and stabilized.

Considerable work has been in process on special templates for extended semantics and frameworks. This includes C++ classes, Qt shared value semantics, GObject, PHP, CMake, and more. All this work was finally merged into master during the sprint. In addition, the implementation was polished and proper Ruby file templates were created. Now KDevelop users can create their own templates and share them with colleagues or other KDevelop users.

Language support for Python and Ruby got some intense attention with code optimizations, clean ups and bugfixes. The sprint helped achieve a successful release of kdev-python 1.4 which works together with KDevelop 4.4 and supports python 2.7. and proper Ruby support for the new File Templates and Unit Testing features for KDevelop. Work started on a language support plugin for both JavaScript and QML, based on related work done by the QtCreator team. All that remains is to integrate the parser

into a proper KDevelop language plugin. Existing C++ language support was improved as well with template support, bugfixes and a new "lookahead matching" code completion feature.

We accepted the fact that Quanta is dead because there are not enough people. The bright side is that KDevelop is a very good—in many ways superior—alternative to Quanta, especially with the language support for PHP, Ruby and Python that makes KDevelop users more productive when writing code for the web. Still, we understand that people miss neat Quanta features. Some work was done at the sprint to make various Quanta plugins work with KDevelop. These include plugins for SQL, XDebug PHP Debugger, Upload and CSS language support.
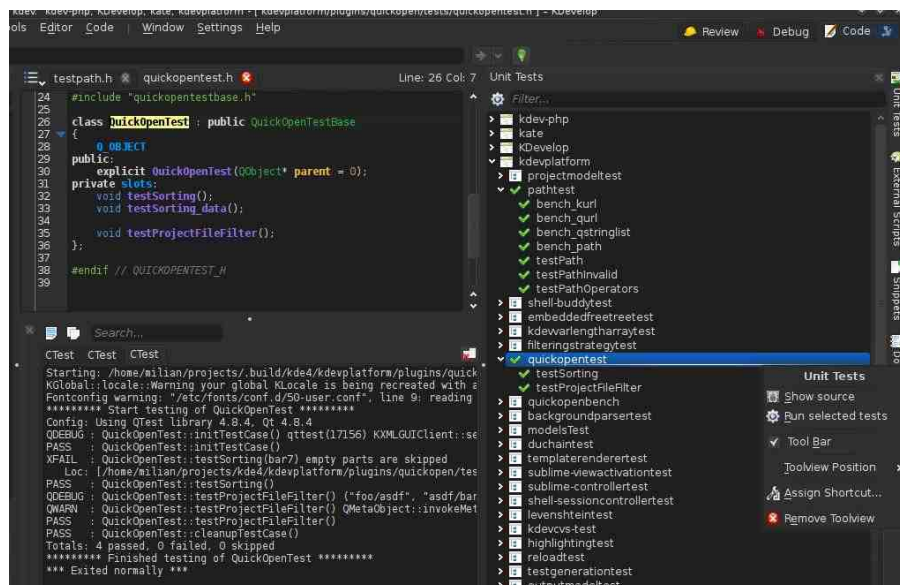
There were discussions and paired programming work on improving and polishing the user interface. This experience showed us again how important it is to meet regularly in person. The simpler UI is more visually appealing thanks to the reduced cruft and clutter.

Besides visual polish, the KDevelop source base saw lots of other small improvements over the week of the sprint. This included

optimizing the Quick Open feature for large projects with thousands of files, and improvements to the "Open with" plugin and the CMake support in KDevelop.

Conclusion

This year's Kate/KDevelop sprint was a huge success. Many important new changes were completed and lots of bugs were fixed. The KDevelop 4.5 release will be an exciting milestone. In addition, from a social perspective, the sprint was an excellent experience. It was especially valuable that some new people attended and were warmly welcomed. We want to see even more new people in the future. As in previous years, a joint sprint between KDevelop and Kate developers was fun and productive. If you are interested in joining us in 2013, consider submitting your first patches to either KDevelop or Kate.

Unit Test Integration

Ruby Language Support

Trade Shows and Community Events

AKADEMY-FR

TOULOUSE, FRANCE
24-25 November

Aurélien Gâteau

This November weekend saw the second edition of Akademy-fr, a French KDE event organized by Toulibre, and co-hosted in Toulouse as part of Capitole du Libre 2012.

Saturday

Just like last year, Akademy-fr 2012 was a two-day event. On Saturday we hosted a KDE booth and gave talks. Our booth had two laptops running latest major KDE releases and two WeTab tablets running Plasma Active. Thanks to Kévin Ottens, we had a nice set of demo materials on all machines: videos, music, pictures and other documents as well as real-world-like KDE activities.

Tablets really are visitor magnets. We put them out in front to attract people. Our demo scenario usually went like this: catch the attention of someone with our tablets, then demo the way Plasma Active works and introduce them to the concept of Activities. After this, transition to the laptops, explain that the Activity concept works on laptops as well, and continue with a demo of KDE there.

We also gave away KDE stickers and buttons. Thanks to Kévin, Kin-Foo and PixCyl, we had a nicely done KDE leaflet in French and A3-sized KDE Akademy-fr posters. We also had two A2-sized posters,

one with a big K logo and another to recruit testers. The recruiting poster looked good, but was not immediately successful at attracting more testers.

We had a nice chat with David Revoy, who gave a great presentation about Krita. David is an artist who now creates all his artwork with Krita, MyPaint and GIMP. He worked, among other projects, on Sintel and Tears of Steel, the latest movies from the Blender Foundation. Some of his work has been in previous KDE e.V. quarterly reports and is shown on krita.org.

Sunday

Sunday was a workshop day. David Faure and Kévin Ottens ran a KDE Frameworks 5 workshop, Sébastien Renard ran a translation quality workshop, I had a "UI Clinic" workshop. My clinic was not overcrowded: I had only one patient. Jean-Nicolas Artaud came to discuss Calligra Stage. Together we came up changes to improve slide thumbnails as well as many of Stage toolboxes. Some of those changes should also benefit other Calligra applications.

After-thoughts

I had a great time at Toulouse and I am looking forward to the 2013 edition.

I am also very happy about the demo data files Kévin put together. We've discussed this before but never actually did it until this year. We want to find a way share them: the whole set is quite big (2.3GB). There is a already a git repository for KDE Promo material but that is impractical in some ways. It should work to use Subversion (which allows for partial checkouts) or to

setup separate git repositories per language or country. The Brazil team already has a separate repository, so maybe there could be language specific repositories. Subversion would be handy for downloading a few files in situations where only low quality internet access is available.

Based on my experience with the "UI Clinic", I've come to the conclusion that it simply does not scale. For Akademy 2013, I intend to recruit some "UI doctors" and contact application developers to see if they are interested in discussing UI improvements for their applications. The "UI doctors" could study applications ahead of time and schedule separate individual sessions.

KDE AT QT DEVELOPER DAYS

BERLIN AND SILICON VALLEY
5–7 December

Carl Symons

This year, KDE e.V. was a partner for the Qt Developer Days 2012, and KDE associates played a significant part in the conferences—one held in Berlin, and one a few weeks later in Silicon Valley. Here is a report is about KDE's participation in Qt Developer Days Silicon Valley 2012.

Background

Since KDE's start in 1996, Qt technology has been a key element of KDE. In turn, KDE has also had considerable influence on Qt in that time. In 2011, several major developments occurred within the Qt environment—in March, Nokia sold some Qt commercial licensing rights to

Digia, and in October, the open Qt Project became the main development force behind Qt. (KDE has substantial influence within the Qt Project.) In August 2012, Digia bought the remaining Qt software business from Nokia. These events created significant changes in the Qt environment, as well as opportunities that are not yet fully realized. KDE is well positioned to have a leadership role in the future of Qt.

The Qt Developer Days 2012 Silicon Valley were an opportunity to show the strong relationship between Qt and KDE, the interrelated structures of Qt 5 and KDE Frameworks 5, and the substantial value that KDE brings to the Qt ecosystem. KDE e.V. member Dario Freddi started the idea of KDE participating in a big way in QtDevDays in California. Dario, and a small team put together KDE activities at the conference, recruiting KDE speakers and attendees as well as open source supporters from throughout the Silicon Valley area. There were other activities as well, including a KDE exhibit and KDE Birds of a Feather session. Special thanks to Google for sponsoring the BoF session.

Martin Klapetek, David Edmundson, Martin Gräßlin, Arthur Arlt and I shared staffing responsibilities at the KDE exhibit. As might be expected, there were many other people at the conference with KDE ties who helped promote the KDE presence and answered questions at the KDE booth. Frederik Gladhorn was at the conference with Digia and showed off accessibility magic at the KDE exhibit space. Aaron Seigo showed up from time to time to talk about Plasma Active and Workspace architecture ... when he wasn't busy with Vivaldi open tablet strategy discussions and several presentations.

There were a few laptop computers and a tablet with Plasma Active 3 showcasing QML. People were encouraged to experiment and play. Of course, there was plenty of hacking.

KDE presentations and influence

About 1/3 of the presentations were given by people with strong ties to KDE. The sessions dealing

with How To Qt were overflowing, especially those presented by people who are speaking from experience...such as KDE contributors. It is clear that KDE is a major force in the Qt ecosystem. As Frameworks 5 becomes more of a reality, KDE's value and influence should grow substantially.

Visitors to the KDE exhibit space commented about how they can use what the KDE Community has developed. They were encouraged to join KDE projects for the obvious benefits they would receive and for the value of contributing to and serving others. Martin Klapetek and David Edmundson presented "Why Be A KDE Project?" based on the benefits and principles associated with the KDE Manifesto. At the booth, there was a biz card brochure with the Manifesto on one side and a QR code for various KDE websites and other resources on the reverse.

There were about 15 people at the KDE BoF, including KDE contributors and others interested in what KDE is doing. After a short meeting at the conference venue, we walked as a group to a nearby pizza place.

During the walk, the wait for a meeting space, and pizza & beer, there were lively conversations about KDE, Qt, KDE stories, jokes and areas of common interest. It was like a mini-Akademy, except no one was hacking.

My presentation about the Mer Project emphasized its value for device development and describing its open source, open governance and open

development. The presentation explored the background of the close relationship that has developed between the Mer Project and Plasma Active.

There was a panel on the future of open tablets that included Jono Bacon from Canonical, Aaron Seigo, David Greaves (the Mer Project) and Vesku Hartikainen (Jolla). I moderated this discussion that ranged beyond open tablets to the importance of communication, the value of open development, Qt as a development environment. There was even the timeless question—"The technology is free, so how does anyone make money?"

Preparing for my other presentation "What KDE Offers" gave me the opportunity to learn a lot. It really made clear the value that KDE provides, especially in the Qt world. During the presentation, there were several KDE contributors in the audience, all of whom have participated in Google Summer of Code. I presented an abridged version of several Frameworks 5 presentations (thanks to David Faure, Aaron Seigo and Kévin Ottens, as well as all the contributors to the Community Wiki dealing with Frameworks 5).

The presentation ended with a quote from Aaron ... "KDE is a smokin' deal for any Qt developer." I appreciate all the work that people have done to make it so easy to be a KDE enthusiast. I've been involved in many tech projects; none of them were as inspiring as KDE.

Berlin

A few weeks earlier, at the Qt Developer Days Berlin, the Qt Contributors Day on the first day of the conference, organized by Dan Leinir Turthra Jensen, brought together a group of 15 people to discuss collaboration between KDE and Qt. There was a wide range of sessions from the state of the Qt Project, to Inqlude the Qt library archive, a session about QX11Info in Qt5 and one about improving the marketing for Qt Project.

Like in Silicon Valley, many of the talks in the conference program were held by people with roots in the KDE project. KDE contributors were also present in the conference team, staffing the registration desk together with Digia and KDAB employees, or helping to set up rooms for workshop sessions and the party.

Many thanks go out to KDAB for providing free conference passes for the KDE attendees.

Sysadmin Report

Created 25 subversion accounts
Disabled 3 subversion accounts

Created 3 kdemail.net aliases
Created 5 kde.org aliases
Disabled 1 kde.org aliases
Modified 4 kde.org aliases

Created 4 kde.org mailing-lists:
- kdevelop-devel
- kde-metrics
- kdevelop
- akademy-attendees

Disabled 3 kde.org mailing-lists:
- akademy-registrations
- akademy-participant
- akademy-announce

Finances for 2012

INCOME (€):

Donations:	53,936
Corporate Supporters:	37,518
Individual Supportive Membership Program:	21,565
Akademy Sponsorship:	65,227
Others:	1,524
Total:	179,770

EXPENSES (€):

Personnel/administration/office:	67,684
Sponsorships for flights/accomodation for Akademy/sprints/events/meetings:	62,017
Akademy organization:	8,141
Other expenses:	10,162
Total:	148,004

RESULT 2012 .... +31,766 €

KDE has a total balance of: 244,011.28 €

Note: The rounded financial numbers are for information only. The lists do not include all income and expenses and don't constitute an accurate accounting statement.

New Members

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

- Armijn Hemel

- Thomas Pfeiffer

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.