What is tech-ctte

Recent activity

Fresh blood wanted

Q&A

Meet the Technical Committee

Current tech-ctte members

- Sean Whitton (`spwhitton`, chair)
- Simon McVittie (`smcv`)
- Christoph Berg (`myon`)
- Matthew Vernon (`matthew`)
- Helmut Grohne (`helmutg`)
- Matthew Garrett (`mjg59`)
- Stefano Rivera (`stefanor`)
- Timo Röhling (`roehling`)

(Red $\Rightarrow$ present at DC23)

Past tech-ctte members — Thanks!

- Elana Hashman (2020-05-28–2022-07-31)
- Gunnar Wolf (2018-01-02–2022-12-31)
- Niko Tyni (2017-06-21–2022-12-31)
- David Bremner (2017-04-13–2021-12-31)
- Margarita Manterola (2016-07-07–2021-12-31)
- Phil Hands (2016-04-16–2020-12-31)
- Tollef Fog Heen (2015-03-05–2019-12-31)

Past tech-ctte members — Thanks!

- Didier Raboud (2015-03-05–2019-12-31)
- Sam Hartman (2015-03-08–2017-11-09)
- Keith Packard (2013-11-29–2017-12-31)
- Don Armstrong (2009-01-11–2016-12-31)
- Andreas Barth (2006-01-05–2016-12-31)
- Steve Langasek (2006-01-05–2015-12-31)
- Bdale Garbee (–2015-12-31)
- Colin Watson (2011-08-24–2015-03-05)

Past tech-ctte members — Thanks!

- Ian Jackson (–2014-11-19)
- Russ Allbery (2009-01-11–2014-11-16)
- Manoj Srivasta (–2012-08-12)
- Anthony Towns (2006-01-04–2009-01-05)
- Raul Miller (–2007-04-30)
- Wichert Akkerman (–2006-01-05)
- Jason Gunthorpe (–2006-01-05)
- Guy Maor (–2006-01-05)
- Dale Scheetz (–2002-09-02)
- Klee Dienes (–2001-05-21)

What is the Debian Technical Committee?

Debian Constitution §6.1
The Technical Committe may:

- §6.1.1 Decide on any matter of technical policy
- §6.1.2 & 6.1.3 Decide any technical matter where Developers' jurisdictions overlap
- Make a decision when asked to do so
  - Tie-breaking
- §6.1.4 Overrule a Developer
  - Requires a 3:1 majority
  - Last-resort
- §6.1.5 Offer advice

Constraints

- §6.3.3 Public discussion and decision-making
- §6.3.5 No detailed design work
- §6.3.6 TC makes decisions only as last resort

Picking options

Meet the Technical Committee

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Constitutionally, we are asked to *break ties* amongst available options

After all efforts to solve it via consensus have been *tried and failed*

Offer advice and make our views known

Meet the Technical Committee

What is tech-ctte

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The TC can offer you advice.

The Debian Technical Committee is a. . .

Meet the Technical Committee

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Q&A

- Self-nominated
- DPL-appointed
- Last resort
- Conflict resolution and advice-providing body

Issues in front of the TC since DebConf22 (https://bugs.debian.org/tech-ctte)

Membership bugs

- #1024823 Membership of Matthew Garrett
- #1037562 Membership of Stefano Rivera
- #1037563 Membership of Timo Röhling
- #1040228 Voting for the TC Chair
  - spwhitton

Issues in front of the TC since DebConf22 (https://bugs.debian.org/tech-ctte)

Decided

- #1035831 Reinstate merged-/usr file movement moratorium
  - The moratorium was reinstated.

Issues in front of the TC since DebConf22 (https://bugs.debian.org/tech-ctte)

Closed without a formal resolution

- #1019409 decide whether pam should support DPKG_ROOT
  - Issue resolved itself in the interim.
- #1020792 Halt merged-/usr transition until dpkg filesystem damage bugs fixed
  - Determined, after discussion, that existing measures were sufficient.
- #1020923 please clarify if atomic updates are required
  - Closed as too early for TC involvement.

Issues in front of the TC since DebConf22 (https://bugs.debian.org/tech-ctte)

Closed without a formal resolution

- #1026104 longstanding problem w/ dependencies of python3-numpy in testing
  - Not actionable due to lack of proposed solutions to choose between.
- #1035904 dpkg currently warning about merged-usr systems (revisited)
  - Closed as too early for TC involvement.

Term expiry §6.2.7

On January 1st of each year the term of any Committee member who has served more than 42 months (3.5 years) *and* who is one of the two most senior members is set to expire on December 31st of that year.

- 2023
  - Simon McVittie
- 2024
  - Sean Whitton
- 2025
  - Christoph Berg
- 2026
  - Helmut Grohne
  - Matthew Vernon
- 2027
  - Matthew Garrett
- 2028
  - Stefano Rivera
  - Timo Röhling

Need fresh blood

We are roughly looking for 1-2 new members per year.

§6.2.1: The Technical Committee consists of up to 8 Developers, and should usually have at least 4 members.

Don't worry – Not so draining

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Our regular issues are *not at all* like #727708

TC work is

- Often more *social* than technical
- About *disagreements* and conflicts
- At the *broad* technical level
- *Listening* to what people have to say
- Sometimes taking hard decisions
- Essentially political

Required skillset

- Empathy
- Technical agility
- Mentorship
- Responsiveness
- Social sensitivity
- Cool-headed

The TC needs more diversity.

Meet the Technical Committee

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Q&A

We need nominees!

Meet the Technical Committee

What is tech-ctte

Recent activity

Fresh blood wanted

Q&A

- Nominate yourself
- Nominate someone else

Talk to us

Meet the Technical Committee

What is tech-ctte

Recent activity

Fresh blood wanted

Q&A

Come talk to us if you have worries, questions or else!

We are just developers.

Meet the Technical Committee

What is tech-ctte

Recent activity

Fresh blood wanted

Q&A

Time for Q & A!

Thanks!

debian-ctte@lists.debian.org

https://people.debian.org/~spwhitton/talks/2023/tech-ctte.pdf