

Debian Accessibility Blend

Accessibility made easy using pure Debian

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Overview

- 1 Debian Pure Blends for accessibility
- 2 Demonstration of Blends tools
- 3 Future

History: CDD → Debian Pure Blends

- Term Custom Debian Distributions was always misunderstood
- Main misunderstanding: CDD was regarded as “something else than Debian” even if people were told that it is a concept *inside* Debian explicitly
- Dropped the misleading name in favour of a name where you just have to read the docs
- **Debian Pure Blend (in short Blend)**: a subset of Debian that is configured to support a particular target group out-of-the-box.

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Accessibility support in Debian

- Debian Accessibility project = Debian for blind and visually impaired people
- Special care for
 - Screen readers
 - Screen magnification programs
 - Software speech synthesisers
 - Speech recognition software
 - Scanner drivers and OCR software
 - Specialised software like edbrowse (web-browse in the spirit of line-editors)
- Making text-mode interfaces available
- Providing screen reader functionality during installation

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Other Blends

- **Debian Jr**
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- Debian Edu
- Debian Science
- Debian EzGo, BrDesktop
- Debian GIS, DebiChem
- Debian Lex
- Debian Multimedia?
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Basic goal of Blends

- Debian > 29.000 packages
- Users interested in *subset*
- Groups of specialised users
- Easy installation and configuration
- While Debian stays general support specialists as well
- **No derivative** from Debian

*Basic idea: Do not make a separate distribution
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Using Blends techniques in Debian Accessibility

Attracting Users

- Easy overview about accessibility related software in Debian
- I18n-ed web pages displaying relevant packages
- Promoting software that fully supports all needs of disabled people
- Focus more people on accessibility topic

Attracting developers

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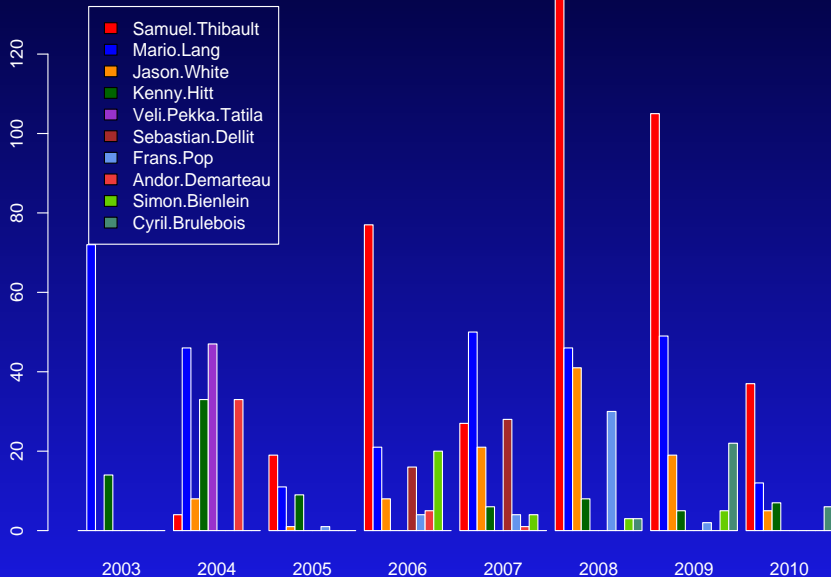
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List activity on Debian Accessibility mailing list









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- Need to relay on experiences of disabled people
- Probably no single solution for everybody
- Seek for smallest common denominator
- Advantage: Giving the project some structure

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- Using the Blends framework might enhance visibility of Debian Accessibility
- Do not underestimate the effect of a Debian release announcement mentioning explicitly accessibility features

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This talk is available at
<http://people.debian.org/~tille/talks/>
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