The Debian FTP Team

Masters, Assistants, Trainees
Motto: Fuck it! What could possibly go wrong?

Joerg Jaspert

`joerg@debian.org`

Debian Conference 2009

Cáceres, July 2009

debian

Outline I

debian

History - Scripts

- Ian Murdock/Jackson makeshift scripts
- Monolithic perl dinstall written by Guy Maor
  - Not exactly secure: upload, shipit
  - Not even using PGP either.
- Katie: a rewrite in python. Known as DAK.

- Under a desk @ cmich.edu
- First master.d.o by Bdale @ HP
  It was an HP Vectra 486 tower system with 66mhz CPU upgrade, an Adaptec 1740A EISA SCSI controller and two disk drives. A 330Mb root disk and a 660Mb disk to hold the archive. Both were 5.25full-height drives. All the pieces came off pallets of materials heading out for scrap. Before it left Bdale the archive disk got swapped out for a 1.3Gb drive, also 5.25full height scsi and a cast-off heading for scrap.

  The first machine to host .debian.org using Debian.

- Under a desk @ cmich.edu
- First master.d.o by Bdale @ HP

  It was an HP Vectra 486 tower system with 66mhz CPU upgrade, an Adaptec 1740A EISA SCSI controller and two disk drives. A 330Mb root disk and a 660Mb disk to hold the archive. Both were 5.25full-height drives. All the pieces came off pallets of materials heading out for scrap. Before it left Bdale the archive disk got swapped out for a 1.3Gb drive, also 5.25full height scsi and a cast-off heading for scrap.

  The first machine to host .debian.org using Debian.

- Moved to I-Connect
- Then to Novare for several years
- Then to Visi.Net, as 'ftp-master.d.o'
- Relocated to above.net
- Then to the HP DC in Ft. Collins
- Currently at Brown.edu

- Architectures / Releases:

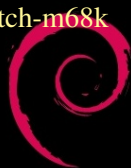|	
Bo	1: i386
Hamm	2: + m68k
Slink	4: + sparc, alpha
Potato	6: + powerpc, arm
Woody	11: + mips, mipsel, hppa, ia64, s390
Sarge	11 (unofficial amd64 release)
Etch	11: + amd64, - m68k (there is a semi-official etch-m68k release)
Lenny	12: + armel
Squeeze	?: + kfreebsd-i386, kfreebsd-amd64, - arm, ...

- Proposed Architectures:
  - avr32
  - sh{3,4}

- Releases:

Buzz	229Mb
Rex	306Mb
Bo	1.2Gb
Hamm	2.1Gb
Slink	4.1Gb
Potato	6.7Gb
Woody	27Gb
Sarge	57Gb
Etch	82Gb
Lenny	125Gb
squeeze+X	1Tb?

debian

- Releases:

Buzz	229Mb
Rex	306Mb
Bo	1.2Gb
Hamm	2.1Gb
Slink	4.1Gb
Potato	6.7Gb
Woody	27Gb
Sarge	57Gb
Etch	82Gb
Lenny	125Gb
squeeze+X	1Tb?

- Daily pushes:

2005	200Mb up to 2Gb, average 1Gb. Once a day.
2009	1Gb up to 6Gb, average 2Gb. 4 times a day.

debian

- Ian Murdock
- + later Ian Jackson, Bruce Perens, Bdale Garbee
- Guy Maor takes over (moved to dinstall) [somewhere 1995/1996]
- Richard Braakman and James Troup push in [July 1998]
- James recruits Antti-Juhani Kaijanaho and Gergely Madarasz [Dec 1999]
- Michael Beattie tricks his way in [August 2000]
- Richard becomes inactive [August 2000]
- Work on katie starts (named da-katie) [2000]
- Anthony Towns joins [January 2001]
- Guy becomes inactive [February 2001]
- Ryan Murray is added [June 2001]
- Randall Donald joins [November 2001]
- Daniel Silverstone follows [August 2003]

debian

- Team restructured, Assistants role added [March 2005]
- Joerg Jaspert and Jeroen van Wolffelaar join as Assistants [March 2005]
- Kalle Kivimaa and Thomas Viehmann join as Assistants [February 2008]
- Joerg Jaspert promoted to FTP Master [April 2008]
- Anthony Towns and James Troup leave [April/May 2008]
- Mark Hymers joins as Assistant [July 2008]
- Frank Lichtenheld joins as Assistant [December 2008]
- Thomas Viehmann resigned [December 2008]
- Mike O'Connor joins as Assistant [January 2009]
- Ryan Murray becomes inactive and leaves [March 2009]
- Mark Hymers promoted to FTP Master [March 2009]
- Kalle Kivimaa leaves [July 2009]

debian

The Team
Me fail English? That's unpossible.

FTP Masters
- Joerg Jaspert - Ganneff
- Mark Hymers - mhy

FTP Assistants
- Frank Lichtenheld - djpig
- Mike O'Connor - stew

FTP Trainee
- Barry deFreese - bdefreese
- You?!

Since April 2008 we almost always had people in the FTP Trainee role.

FTP Master

The FTP Master role, unix group debadmin, is ...

> **(Lets cite Matthew Garrett)**
> ... responsible for maintaining the infrastructure required to support the archive. This takes the form of the scripts used for processing uploaded packages, but also the flow of packages between distributions.

- Keep the archive running
- Keep the archive legal
- Support the teams that depend on it (Release, Security, soon backports/volatile)
- Keep the archive uptodate with the requirements of the project

The FTP Assistant role, group ftpteam, created 2005, allows additions of people to the FTP Team without having to hand out full FTP Master rights. It allows

- to process NEW,
- to handle overrides,
- to remove packages.

Thus the most common actions can be done but the possible damage that can happen by accident is limited.
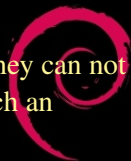
FTP Trainee

Kids, you tried your best and you failed miserably. The lesson is, never try.

Hello i18n cabal. :)

The FTP Trainee role, group ftptrainee, was created in 2008 to allow easy training and testing of future team members.

- Initially called "slave_NEW"

debian

FTP Trainee

Kids, you tried your best and you failed miserably. The lesson is, never try.

Hello i18n cabal. :)

The FTP Trainee role, group ftptrainee, was created in 2008 to allow easy training and testing of future team members.

- Initially called "slave_NEW"
- 6 people trained so far
- 2 promoted to Assistants

Trainees can look at NEW and do the usual package checks, but they can not actually accept or reject a package. Instead they leave a note, which an Assistant or Master reads and acts on.

Archives

You can't keep blaming yourself. Just blame yourself once, and move on.

- The main archive, ftp.debian.org
- The security archive, security.debian.org
- (Soon) The volatile archive, volatile.debian.org (integrated into main archive)
- (Soon) The backports.org archive, www.backports.org (-> backports.debian.org)

Removals and Overrides

- Removals
  - (Semi)-Automagic via cruft-report
  - Manual, with help from a nice html page
- Overrides
  - Priority / Section
  - Override disparity
  - Currently by mail, should be changed to using BTS

NEW checking is about three things. In order of priority:

- trying to keep the archive legal,
- trying to keep the package namespace sane,
- trying to reduce the number of bugs in Debian.

A small list of most common checks

- Check the source for license problems
  - incompatibility
  - non-free license terms
- (sane) package renames / splits
- Policy violation
- source for everything included?
- ...

git clone https://ftp-master.debian.org/git/dak.git

- Python
- and some Shell
- and some Perl
- at least 9 years old
- at minimum 40 different authors

Join the Army, err, QA Team

mhy - oh god. Ganneff has been on TV? I'm surprised the sets didn't all explode

- Do QA work
- File removal bugs for unmaintained, outdated or otherwise no longer needed packages

I am so smart! I am so smart! S-M-R-T! I mean S-M-A-R-T...

- Retitle bugs to fit our removal format
- Close bugs that don't apply (anymore)
- Make sure removals can happen (rev-deps anyone?)

I'm normally not a praying man, but if you're up there, please save me Superman.

Hi, my name's Moe. Or as the ladies like to refer to me, 'hey you in the bushes'

Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org NOW.

The future

Facts are meaningless. You could use facts to prove anything that's even remotely true!

- Replace database code in dak with sqlalchemy
- source v3
- Split long description out of Packages files, make it nothing than another translation
- debtags integration, sections death
- tdebs
- ddebs
- lintian autorejects
- autosigning
- binary throw away
- ...

Joerg Jaspert
ftpmaster@debian.org
http://ftp-master.debian.org/
https://ftp-master.debian.org/git/dak.git