Best practises in team package maintenance

Part 2

gregor herrmann
2008-08-16

Objectives

- Concrete proposals for the collected ideas
- Roadmap

Possible topics for discussion

- (meta) Communication around this topic?

- Recruitment, induction, mentoring of new members
- Workflows/policies/tools - common "standards"/ documentation
- Maintainer vs. Uploaders
- Compilation of tools

- Roadmap

Communication around this topic?

What are appropriate places (ML, IRC, wiki, ...)
for discussing and documenting this topic?

Recruitment, induction, mentoring of new members

- "grabbing" people at DebConf, on ITPs or sponsoring requests
- be friendly to new members
- It is good for the groups and newcomers for people entering Debian to learn from a group rather only from reading than policy and Google.
- encourage NMs (?) to join teams?
- work in a team must be fun!

Workflows/policies/tools - common "standards"/documentation

- We already have all the necessary mechanisms (e.g. README.source for packages and wiki.d.o/Teams for teams)
- Have an "abstraction" package per-team containing team workflow documentation

Maintainer vs. Uploaders

- It would be good to standardize the definitions by policy.
- The goal of adding at least one person responsible for each package was to know who to ping when there was a problem.
- Important not to restrict people helping out on different packages
- often performs updates quicker than single maintainer
- recipient of bug reports?
- Possible to automatically update Uploaders with recent developers -> tools

Compilation/creation of tools

- Would like better tools to make changes to all packages in a team in a batch fashion
- Need package with common tools like this [Uploaders]
- a lot of tools, but they are opt-in; it would be good to have them enabled by default on alioth
- Sometimes difficult having to learn different tools for each team
- In general converging the multiple tools (and at least making them better known and easier accessible) seems desirable.

Roadmap

- Who
- does what
- until when?