

The Debian Release Team

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Outline

Debian release process

Team members

Tasks

New stuff in wheezy

Freeze

Communication channels

Tools



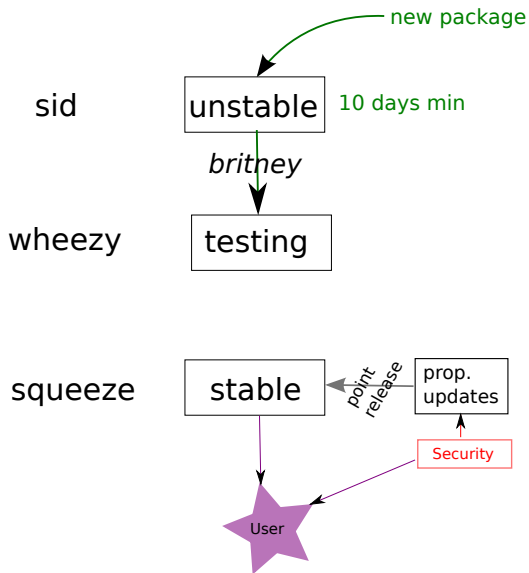
1 Debian release process

Open development

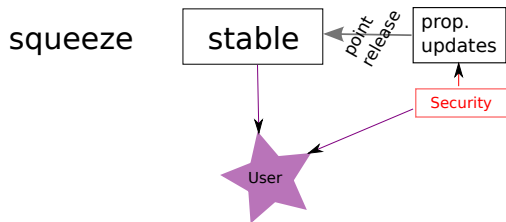
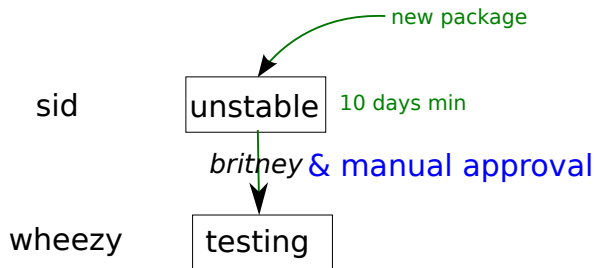
Freeze



Open development



Freeze



2 Team members



Team members

Release managers	adsb	// Adam D. Barratt
	neilm	// Neil McGovern
Release assistants	jcristau	// Julien Cristau
	kibi	// Cyril Brulebois
	mehdi	// Mehdi Dogguy
	nthykier	// Niels Thykier
	pkern	// Philipp Kern

... plus former RMs as “wizards”.

Always looking for more vict^H^H^Holunteers



Roles

Release managers get the final say
 have to feel responsible

Release assistants do the work ;-)

In reality:

- ▶ consensus-driven “whoever does it, gets to make the decision”
- ▶ we really feel as one team — you get empowered pretty soon to take the decisions you’re comfortable with
- ▶ we still expect potentially destructive actions to be discussed first



3 Tasks



Tasks

- ▶ Take care of the testing distribution
 - ▶ Outside of freezes, ensure migrations from unstable to testing happen as smoothly as possible
 - ▶ During a freeze, let bug fixes flow to the future stable

- ▶ Take care of the (old)stable distribution
 - ▶ Regular(ish) point releases

- ▶ Maintenance
 - ▶ debian-archive-keyring
 - ▶ britney
 - ▶ various other own tools



Testing

- ▶ Packages may move to testing if they are:
 - ▶ at least ten days old
 - ▶ with no new critical bug
 - ▶ installable within testing
 - ▶ building properly

- ▶ Delays come from:
 - ▶ severe regressions
 - ▶ ABI changes and other transitions



4 New stuff in wheezy



New stuff in wheezy

- ▶ KDE 4.8
- ▶ Gnome 3.4
- ▶ Python 2.7 / 3.2
- ▶ Linux kernel 3.2
- ▶ X11R7.7
- ▶ ...



5 Freeze



Freeze

Time-based:

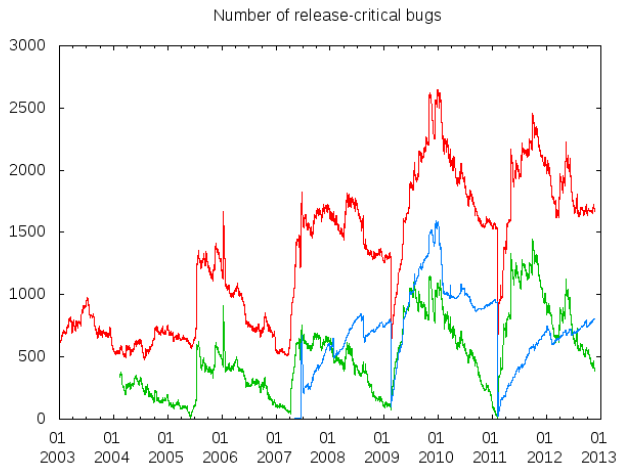
- ▶ Freeze date announced a year in advance
- ▶ Allows maintainers to plan ahead

Freeze policy:

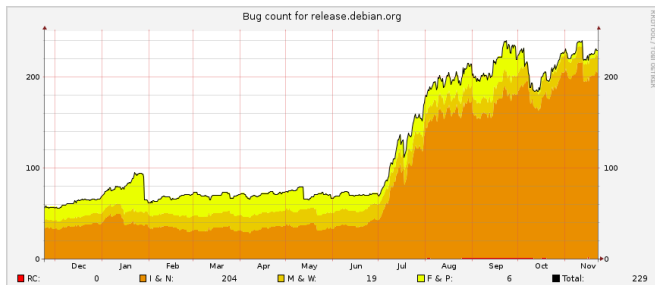
- ▶ http://release.debian.org/wheezy/freeze_policy.html
- ▶ RC bug fixes
- ▶ Release goals
- ▶ Important bug fixes
- ▶ Documentation and I10n updates
- ▶ Gradually reduced to only RC fixes



Freeze, 5 months in



Freeze, 5 months in



```
$ bts select user:release.debian.org@packages.debian.org \  
  usertag:unblock package:release.debian.org archive:both | \  
  awk '{ if ($0 + 0 > 670000) print }' | wc -l  
1319
```

147 bugs still open as of this writing



Other tasks

A release isn't just bug-free packages, it's also:

- ▶ Installer
- ▶ Tested upgrade path
- ▶ Release notes
- ▶ Security support (build, etc)
- ▶ ...



6 **Communication channels**



Communication channels

- ▶ Mailing list: `mailto:debian-release@lists.debian.org`
- ▶ IRC: `irc://irc.debian.org/debian-release`
(no back room channel)
- ▶ Internal discussion list: `mailto:team@release.d.o`
- ▶ TitanPads: as needed
- ▶ We try to keep internal discussion to a minimum, where possible.
(Like crafting announcements and their phrasing, some tricky decision making.)



Communication channels

- ▶ If you want to get involved, lurking on the mailing list and especially the IRC channel helps.
- ▶ Likewise if you want to be sucked in.



7 Tools

For the next stable release. . .

For stable and oldstable. . .



Tools

- ▶ *britney*: testing migrations; excuses for packages that did not migrate just yet
<http://release.debian.org/britney/>
<http://git.debian.org/?p=mirror/britney2.git>
- ▶ the incredible transition tracker *ben*
<http://release.debian.org/transitions/>
<http://git.debian.org/?p=collab-maint/ben.git>



For the next stable release. . .

- ▶ *d*: shorthand for “debdiff between testing and whatever we want to migrate”
- ▶ *hint*: generate the rightly versioned hints for britney (e.g. easy, hint, force, unblock, urgent, etc.); cleanup; grep
- ▶ *wb*: generate the right invocations for wanna-build
- ▶ . . . those and more can be found in <http://git.debian.org/?p=mirror/release-tools.git>



For stable and oldstable. . .

- ▶ *queue-viewer*: shows an annotated list of packages that are in (oldstable-)proposed-updates, with information like:
 - ▶ numbers (DSA, bug)
 - ▶ which architectures are still missing compared to stable proper
 - ▶ installability
 - ▶ versioning checks
 - ▶ rationales
 - ▶ . . . and more
- ▶ **most important bits**: provides debdiffs for review and helps to generate the announcements

