

AKADEMY 2007

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KDE CONFERENCE

PRESS DOCUMENT

Discover a New Desktop

KDE 4.0





Table of contents

aKademy 2007	Page 3
Schedule.....	Page 3
Support.....	Page 4
Contact.....	Page 4
KDE e.V.	Page 5
KDE e.V. Activities.....	Page 5
Board of Directors.....	Page 6
Current members of the Board.....	Page 6
Working Groups.....	Page 6
KDE 4	Page 7
Increasing Interoperability.....	Page 7
Opening new doors to Interoperability.....	Page 8
Breathtaking Beauty.....	Page 8
Elevating the Desktop.....	Page 8
Modernized and Simplefied.....	Page 9
Applications in Abundance.....	Page 9
Discover KDE	Page 11
aKademy Press Releases and Announcements	Page 12
Recent KDE Press Coverage	Page 12
Sponsors	Page 13
Host-Sponsor.....	Page 13
Platinum Sponsors.....	Page 13
Gold Sponsors.....	Page 13
Silver Sponsors.....	Page 14
Bronze Sponsors.....	Page 15
Media Partners.....	Page 16





aKademy 2007

The aKademy conference is an annual meeting of KDE community members. Since the community is spread all over the world, it takes place in another country every other year.

This year's aKademy will be held in the Department of Computer & Information Sciences at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland.

The event will span eight days and includes an exciting programme of talks and presentations by many of our outstanding KDE developers and community leaders.

Alongside the meetings, members can explore their creativity in joint development, bug-fixing & coding sessions, workshops for all KDE contributors, and design, usability and polishing work.

Since most of the community's communication is over the internet, aKademy is also one of the best opportunities to meet many other KDE contributors in person.

aKademy occupies an important place in the yearly Free Software Calendar because it is here that cross-project collaboration takes place and tries to form a common platform for the Linux desktop.

The KDE project expects over 200 contributors to visit aKademy 2007 this July in Glasgow, Scotland.

Schedule

The opening of aKademy will be led by a two-day KDE Contributors Conference, followed by the general assembly of the KDE e.V. and an intensive week of developing, discussing and meeting people.

Like all the previous aKademy conferences, one of the main activities will be hacking on code. This year's focus will be on KDE 4.

At aKademy 2006 we defined the scope of KDE 4, the next generation of the KDE desktop scheduled to be released by the end of October.

The aim of the developers at aKademy 2007 will be to ensure that the KDE 4 platform achieves its ambition of creating the best user experience.

By bringing together Human Computer Interaction experts in the fields of usability, accessibility and artwork with the core library developers, we can ensure that a powerful, friendly and innovative desktop is created.

This year's conference will bring all of KDE's contributors up to date with recent developments of the KDE 4 platform, including information for translators and documentation writers.

And to ensure the best integration of KDE 4, we also invited representatives from different KDE distributions.





Support

Thanks to the availability of internet access through Wifi and Ethernet, all participants will have unlimited network access in the Development room.

For those who cannot bring a portable, aKademy provides the free use of desktop computers.

Organizers

The core-organizer of this year's aKademy is Kenny Duffus. Other important members are Adriaan de Groot, Alex Walker, Calum Morrell, Chris Nicolson, Cornelius Schumacher, Kevin Ottens, Kyle Gordon and Jonathan Riddell.

Together with the organizing team, there's also the support of many other contributors from the KDE Community.

Contact

To contact the akademy organizing team please email

akademy-team@kde.org

or phone

from uk: 07972 275 738

from outside: +44 7972 275 738

The press contact number for aKademy 2007 is

in uk: 07972 275 682

from outside uk: +44 7972 275 682

or for other matters contact the board of the KDE e.V at kde-ev-board@kde.org





KDE e.V.

KDE e.V. is a registered non-profit organization that represents the KDE Project in legal and financial matters.

"The Association's purpose is the promotion and distribution of free desktop software in terms of free software, and the program package 'K Desktop Environment (KDE)' in particular, to promote the free exchange of knowledge and equality of opportunity in accessing software as well as education, science and research."

Quote from the articles of association of the KDE e.V.

The Association aids in creating and distributing KDE by securing cash, hardware, and other donations, then using donations to aid KDE development and promotion.

KDE e.V. Activities

- KDE Free Qt Foundation

This foundation was founded by the KDE e.V. and Trolltech in 1998 to ensure that the Graphical User Interface Toolkit Qt will always be available as free software.

- aKademy

Since 2003 the KDE e.V. organizes an annual meeting of the KDE community and is now known under the name aKademy since 2004.

- Infrastructure

The KDE e.V. provides the KDE Community with servers for SVN (concurrent code access), mail, web site, bug tracking, download.

- Events

The KDE e.V. helps representing KDE at events like trade shows and conferences. It does this by subsidizing travel costs or by providing material.

- Developer Meetings

These meetings of developers have proven to be a very efficient tool to get useful and exciting work done. The e.V. supports these by taking over travel costs and helping with organization.

- Trademarks

The KDE e.V. owns the trademarks on KDE and the K Desktop Environment logo.

- Get Involved

If you are an active member of the KDE community you can join the KDE e.V. as an active member.

If you are a corporation and want to support KDE you can become a supporting member.

Board of Directors





The Board of Directors is an elected board of five people. The members of the board are elected by the KDE e.V. general assembly for a maximum term of three years.

Contact: kde-ev-board@kde.org

Current Members of the Board

- President and Executive
Eva Brucherseifer
eva@kde.org
- Vice President and Treasurer
Cornelius Schumacher
schumacher@kde.org
- Vice President
Adriaan de Groot
groot@kde.org
- Board Member
Aaron J. Seigo
aseigo@kde.org
- Board Member
Sebastian Kügler
sebas@kde.org





KDE4

Freedom To Work and Play in Comfort

The first release in the KDE4 cycle, version 4.0, is scheduled to be released in the fourth quarter of 2007 and promises to push the state of desktop computing forward through technological innovation and usability enhancements. Here are some of the defining qualities of KDE 4.0:

Increasing Interoperability: the freedom to access your favorite applications and all your data on any contemporary desktop operating system!

Breathtaking Beauty: modern artwork and design are hallmarks of KDE4, allowing you to truly enjoy the computing experience

Elevating the Desktop: rethinking and improving the desktop metaphor to free your potential

Applications in Abundance: more free, bundled applications than any other offering



For business, educational, governmental or personal use it is hard to beat the combined features and freedom offered by KDE4.

Increasing Interoperability

KDE4 applications run natively on the following platforms:

Linux

Unix (BSD, Solaris, ...)

Microsoft Windows **NEW!**

MacOS X **NEW!**



Opening new doors to interoperability between these systems

Software developers can easily deploy applications across all the major platforms with a single code base, while users enjoy greater access to standards such as the Open Document Format with the KOffice2 suite and Open Source groupware solutions through the Kontact groupware suite. Never again will your applications or data be held captive on just one computing system!

KDE is also translated into 65 different world languages and provides extensive accessibility features for those working with disabilities such as low or no vision and motor control difficulty.

Breathtaking Beauty

It is said that people eat with their eyes, and KDE4 aims to please. The Oxygen design project has brought a fresh new look and feel with a comprehensive set of artwork and design that includes icons, desktop graphics, application styling and audio. These elements are modern and elegant while emphasizing usability.

Elevating the Desktop

The new Plasma desktop, available only on Linux and Unix platforms, delivers advanced window techniques such as translucency, zooming and much more.

The desktop has been revitalized as a place users access collections of gadgets and tools to help them work better and enjoy their desktop more. With an emphasis on beauty and usability, Plasma brings common tasks within easy reach of average users with a visual design and harmony usually associated only with high end proprietary offerings.

Built in scripting (JavaScript, Python and Ruby) makes creating new gadgets, or Plasmoids, trivial, while built in networking and package makes sharing them a breeze. All of this is delivered with elegant animations, new interaction concepts such as zoom-and-pan and artwork that can be easily toned down or turned up depending on personal preference and available hardware horsepower.

Modernized and Simplified

KDE4 also brings a host of technologies aimed at modernizing and simplifying desktop software titles. These Pillars of KDE4 include:

Phonon: audio and video framework that offers easy and consistent access to multimedia features

Decibel: on-line communication framework providing unified access to VoIP and instant messaging

Akonadi: integrated, scalable storage and access to email, calendaring and contact information

Solid: hardware awareness that allows the desktop and applications to interact with and respond to hardware events such as network availability, hot plug devices such as cameras and USB storage and much more.

Strigi: Fast, integrated desktop search.

Nepomuk: A semantic web for the desktop and built on top of Strigi, it provides a full metadata and tagging system for desktop information with an emphasis on social networking and identity.

Sonnet: multi-lingual spell and grammar checking

Threadweaver: a multi-threading architecture to allow applications to take full advantage of multi-core systems

Applications in Abundance

KDE4 comes with more bundled applications than any other desktop system, including:

Dolphin: Modern and sleek file management including tagging and ergonomic browsing

Konqueror: Advanced web browsing suite. This where Apple got the engine for Safari and Adobe the HTML engine for Apollo.

KOffice2: a full office suite including word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, databases, sophisticated image creation and editing, charting and project management. The open Open Document Format (ODF) standard is the native format of KOffice2 applications.

Kontact: groupware including calendaring, email, contacts (including corporate LDAP) and support for several groupware servers

Okular: universal document viewing and annotation with support for over a dozen formats including PDF

Education: astronomy, chemistry, math, language skills and more are

addressed in an advanced set of educational software titles

Entertainment: a collection of over 25 games including card games, sudoku and mahjongg

Software Development: Integrated IDEs for C++, C, Ruby, Python, PHP and web development

Multimedia: audio and video players

Kopete: Instant messaging that supports all the major instant messaging networks

... and so many more! Additional software titles including the iTunes killer Amarok, 3D modeling with KPovModeller, digital photograph management with Digikam, BitTorrent downloader KTorrent and more are available in the add-on "Extra Gear" packages containing dozens of other titles.

No other desktop system provides such an extensive collection of integrated and consistent applications out of the box at no additional cost.



Discover KDE!

KDE, or the K Desktop Environment, is a contemporary desktop environment fulfilling the need for an easy to use desktop for GNU/Linux and other UNIX operating systems.

Similar to desktop environments found on Macintosh and Microsoft Windows, KDE comes with all the features a desktop user would expect to find for their daily work.

Before KDE, the lack of an easy to use contemporary desktop environment created a barrier between typical computer users and UNIX at home and in the office. The KDE project aims to change this.

KDE constitutes a completely free and open computing platform available to anyone free of charge. Source code is available for anyone to look at, learn from, modify and improve.

Since its initial release in 1996, KDE has grown to a large and vibrant community of developers, accessibility experts, usability experts, documentation writers, and promotional staff. Today, KDE delivers a desktop environment that is in line with, and in many ways ahead of, other major desktop environments. It is our hope and continued ambition that KDE will bring open, reliable, stable and monopoly free computing to the everyday user and computing professionals all over the world.

More information about the current version of KDE, the KDE development platform, KDE's history, and more can be found at: <http://kde.org/whatiskde/>





aKademy Press Releases and Announcements

- 7th June 2007** - aKademy Keynote Speakers Announced
- 24th Apr 2007** - aKademy 2007: Edu & School Day
- 12th Apr 2007** - aKademy 2007 Registration Open
- 13th Feb 2007** - aKademy 2007 Call for Sponsorship
- 4th Jan 2007** - aKademy 2007 Call for Participation
- 17th Oct 2006** - aKademy 2007 Will be Held in Glasgow
- 24th July 2006** - aKademy 2007 Call for Location and Organisation

Recent KDE Press Coverage

- 11th July 2007** - HIG Hunting Season: Icons
- 20 June 2007** - CA-Browser Forum Finalises Extended Validation Certificates
- 12th June 2007** - Interview with Lars Knoll, creator of KHTML
- 7th June 2007** - *KOffice 1.6.3 Released*
- 30th May 2007** - The Road to KDE 4: KWin Composite Brings Bling to KDE
- 31st May 2007** - Semantic Desktop and KDE 4: State and Plans of NEPOMUK-KDE
- 25th May 2007** - *KDE Project Ships Seventh Translation and Service Release for Leading Free Software Desktop*
- 22nd May 2007** - *Munich's KDE Desktops Usability Certified*
- 12th May 2007** - KDE 4.0 Alpha Arrives
- 11th Apr 2007** - The Road to KDE 4: Strigi and File Information Extraction

Recent news also available at the "Dot", KDE's own news website:
<http://dot.kde.org>

To read recent blog entries from our developers please visit Planet KDE:
<http://planetkde.org>





Sponsors

Akademy is financed thanks to the generous contributions of our sponsors. Thanks to our sponsors, we can provide free admission and top quality support to the whole KDE community.

We are very pleased to introduce the sponsors of aKademy 2007.

First of all we have our **Host-sponsor**:



The Department of Computer and Information Sciences, University of Strathclyde. The DCIS will provide aKademy with all the necessary infrastructure and some important parts of logistics like our coding marathon lab.

Our **Platinum Sponsor** is:

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HP focuses on simplifying technology experiences for all of its customers - from individual consumers to the largest businesses. With a portfolio that spans printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure, HP is

among the world's largest IT companies, with revenue totaling \$97.1 billion for the four fiscal quarters ended April 30, 2007. More information about HP is available at <http://www.hp.com>.



Kubuntu is a free, user-friendly operating system based on the K Desktop

Environment and on the award winning Ubuntu operating system. Its community-driven development and pervasive availability are grounded in the concept of "humanity to others."





Individuals and teams provide the code, artwork, documentation, and technical assistance in addition to promoting Kubuntu to a wider audience.

Kubuntu is a showcase to bring out the best of KDE.

Also Canonical is very pleased to be a Gold Sponsor for this year's Akademy.

Canonical Ltd is the leading global provider of free Linux software. Canonical provides full commercial support for Kubuntu and Ubuntu.

<http://kubuntu.org/>, <http://ubuntu.com>, <http://canonical.com>.



The Linux Foundation is a nonprofit consortium dedicated to fostering the growth of Linux.

Founded in 2007, the Linux Foundation sponsors the work of Linux creator Linus Torvalds and is

supported by leading Linux and open source companies and developers from around the world. The Linux Foundation promotes, protects and standardises

Linux by providing unified resources and services needed for open source to successfully compete with closed platforms. For more information, please visit

www.linux-foundation.org.

Our **Silver Sponsors** are:



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Google is a global technology leader focused on improving the way people connect with information. Google's innovations in web search and advertising have made its website a top Internet destination and its brand one of the most recognized in the world. Google maintains the world's





largest online index of websites and other content, and Google makes this information freely available to anyone with an Internet connection. Google's automated search technology helps people obtain nearly instant access to relevant information from its vast online index.



Mandriva, formerly known as Mandrakesoft, is the publisher of the popular Mandriva Linux operating system, one of the most full-featured and easy-to-use Linux systems. The company offers enterprises, governments and educational customers a complete range of GNU/Linux open source software and related services. Mandriva products are available in more than 140 countries through dedicated channels and from Mandriva Store, the company's online store. Born in 1998, the company has offices in the United States, France and Brazil. For more information, please visit <http://www.mandriva.com>.



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Portal designed to make researching and shortlisting software solutions as simple yet comprehensive as possible.

Located at B2Bsoftware.com, Best of the Web offers a convenient place for IT managers and administrators to research enterprise software solutions.

B2BSoftware.com presents thousands of technology solutions conveniently ordered in a way that makes finding the right software easy to do. Discover how B2BSoftware.com can help streamline the technology research process. Visit us today to find a solution for your needs, including offering your software products to the right people.



CodeYard is a Dutch Free Software community that aims to bring Free Software software development, its practices and tools into high-schools. CodeYard bridges the gap between education and Free Software communities by providing a controlled environment, localised documentation and the infrastructure typical for Free Software development. CodeYard is a project of the Radboud University of Nijmegen, supported by the NLnet foundation.

Our **Media Partner** is:



Linux Magazine is a monthly, English-language magazine serving readers in over 50 countries. Founded in 2000, the magazine has grown rapidly from a local UK publication to an internationally-active leader in the Linux Community. Linux Magazine is very active in supporting events and organizations related to Linux and Open Source. For more information please visit our website: <http://www.linux-magazine.com>.



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