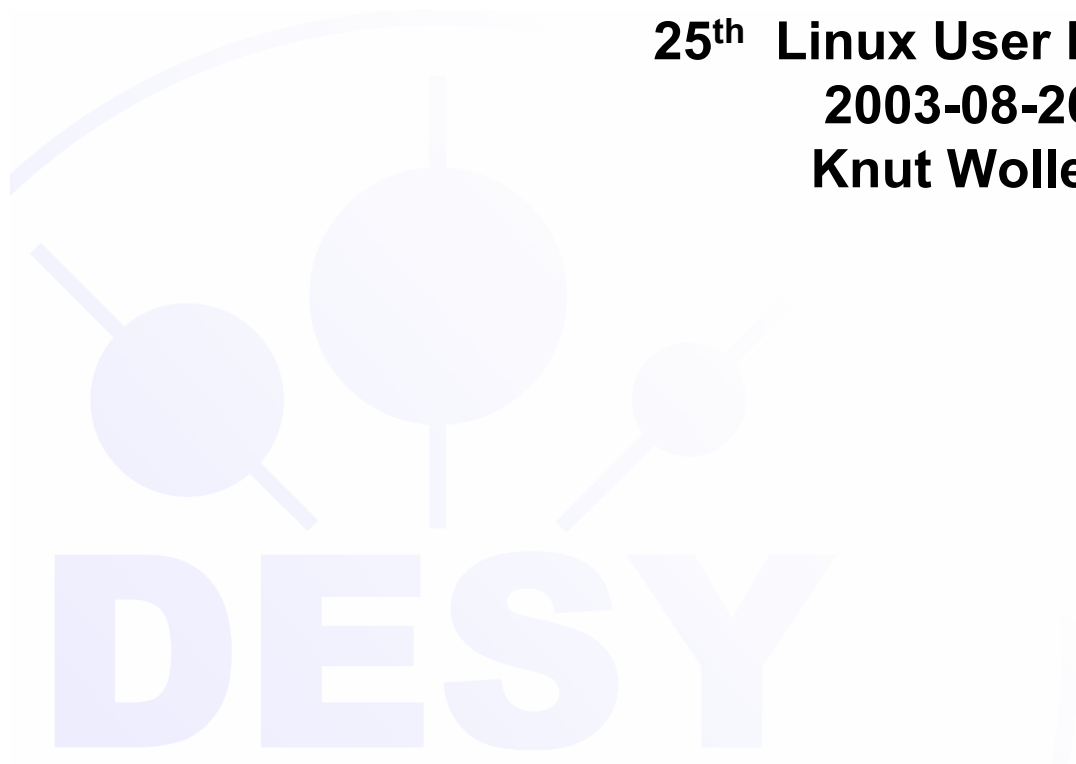




HAMBURG • ZEUTHEN

DESY Linux 5 Development Status

25th Linux User Meeting
2003-08-26
Knut Woller



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Work Packages (1)

- **Installation Server**
 - **Repository** **done**
 - **y2update patch** **done**
 - **Repository update mechanism** **avail.**
 - **Profile generation** **WIP**
- **Boot Media**
 - **GRUB based floppy for desktops** **WIP**
 - **Update via DL4 LILO option** **WIP**
 - **tftp server** **one**
 - **dhcp server (from QIP)** **WIP**
- **Documentation**
 - **Release Notes** **WIP**
 - **User and Admin Guides** **todo**



Work Packages (2)

- **OS**
 - **Kernel 2.4.22 + OpenAFS 1.2.10** **WIP**
 - **Package selection** **WIP**
 - **System configuration (X11, NTP, NFS, ...)** **todo**
- **DESY Add Ons**
 - **System Software Components** **WIP**
 - **Group specifics** **todo**
 - **Application software** **todo**
- **Maintenance Tools**
 - **Software distribution and update** **todo**
 - **System Maintenance and security updates** **todo**

Design Decisions: Kernel

- **Do not use SuSE Kernel and SuSE AFS**
 - **SuSE's 2.4.20 has trouble with USB, too low symlink depth, 'old' drivers**
 - **Need recent aic79xx for dCache servers**
 - **Need symlink depth around 20 for AFS**
 - **Need working USB support**
- **We will continue to build our own kernels from vanilla sources (kernel.org)**
- **We will have to bundle our own OpenAFS clients**
- **We plan on having only one kernel for all systems (plus a small one for installation)**



Design Decisions: X11 Config

- **sax2 vs XFree86 scripting**
 - **sax2 is comfortable and versatile**
 - **works fine with known graphics cards**
 - **needed updates/patches for new hardware over distribution lifetime**
 - **We will not use sax2 in DL5**
- **Requested Configuration Features**
 - **Use command line or GUI to set resolutions, frequencies, color depth and keyboard layout**
 - **Available to users (not only admins)**





Design Decisions: Font Service

- **Fonts will be installed locally wherever possible**
- **DL5 shall be independent of font servers**
- **Where needed (e.g. Mathematica), font server access shall be enabled via startup scripts of the application**
- **Application defaults shall be coordinated between Hamburg and Zeuthen**
- **We will install and use publically available TrueType fonts**

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Current Problems

- **GRUB vs. LILO?**
 - GRUB has problems on 'old' or 'exotic' hardware
 - LILO plus kernel plus initrd hardly fit on a floppy
- **Floppy Drives**
 - SPC 1201 has problems with floppy access (BIOS)

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Next Steps

- **Increase Transparency of the development process by web documentation**
- **Generate machine profiles and DHCP entries from woom database**
- **Provide boot media and update triggers**
- **Provide stable kernel and OpenAFS**
- **Provide initial software selection**
- **Running desktops and reference systems by end of September**

