Evolving KDE
Shaping Our Future
Motivation
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Unix popularity grows thanks to the free variants, mostly Linux. But still a consistent, nice looking free desktop-environment is missing. There are several nice either free or low-priced applications available, so that Linux/X11 would almost fit everybody needs if we could offer a real GUI.

Of course there are GUI's. There is the Common Desktop Environment (much too expensive but not really the solution), and several free X-Filemanagers that are almost GUI's. Moxfm for example is very well done, but unfortunately it is based on Motif. Anyway, the question is: What is a GUI? What should a GUI be?

First of all, since there are a lot of misunderstandings on this topic, what is NOT a GUI:

- the X-Window-System is NOT a GUI. It's what its name says: A Window system
- Motif is NOT a GUI. They tried to create a GUI when they made Motif, but unfortunately they couldn't really agree, so they released Motif as Widget-Library with a Window-Manager. Much later they completed Motif with the CDE, but too late, since Windows already runs on the majority of desktops.
- Window-managers are NOT GUI's. They are (better: should be) small programs that handle the windows. It's not really the idea to hack a lot of stuff into them.

IMO a GUI should offer a complete, graphical environment. It should allow a users to do his everyday tasks with it, like starting applications, reading mail, configuring his desktop, editing some files, delete some files, look at some pictures, etc. All parts must fit together and work together. A nice button with a nice "Editor"-icon isn't not at all a graphical user environment if it invokes "xterm -e vi". Maybe you have been disappointed long time ago too, when you installed X with a nice window manager, clicked on that beautiful "Help"-Icon ... chir chir (the hard disk)...an ugly, unsuable, weird xman appeared on the desktop :-(
Unix popularity grows thanks to the free variants, mostly Linux. But still a consistant, nice looking free desktop-environment is missing. There are several nice either free or low-priced applications available, so that Linux/X11 would almost fit everybody needs if we could offer a real GUI.
Our world is changing
And so are we
Evolving KDE
Where are we?
Great community
“There is a sense of working for the greater good that drives the community. It is welcoming and friendly, and able to integrate people from very different backgrounds and cultures. For me, it represents the ideal of what a Free Software community should be.”
Great technology
I wasn't using my civil rights anyway
Learning
“The wide variety of people involved, in the past years - it did teach me to see the world in different ways.”
Time and energy
Skills, tutorials, entry points
Vision, strategy and focus
“While we are not always moving in the same direction, we always want to move "forward".”
Where do we want to go?
Vision, strategy and focus
More devices, the cloud and convergence
Truly excellent software that is used everywhere
Continue to be friendly and open
Defending user freedom
More concentration on the bigger picture
We’re partly there already!
How do we get there?
1. Develop vision, strategy and focus
2. Review all initiatives and products and evaluate which we should concentrate our focus on
3. Improve recruiting and onboarding processes and documentation
4. Simplify and clarify our main web presence
5. Develop ideas and processes for how to make better use of our social media presence, dot and other outreach venues.
What’s the one small thing you can do to move us forward?
Let’s discuss!

Join the BoF tomorrow at 15:00!