The Evolution of KDE's App Ecosystem and Deployment Strategy

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Who am I?

🌸 Aleix Pol i Gonzàlez <aleixpol@kde.org>
🌸 KDE Contributor
🌸 Employed by MBition
🌸 KDE e.V. President
🌸 From Barcelona, living in Berlin
How do we create thriving KDE products?
Ingredients for a thriving product:

- Useful
- Safe & resilient
- Easy to fix & extend
- Great to collaborate on
Where do we come from?
The OS is the Product

- KDE's software is a by-product
- Hard to innovate
- Complex to navigate
- Pushes us to think about the future
First to evolve, the apps.
Apps as products

🌸 We are building for separate OSs
🌸 We are building for several Linux-based solutions

Treat them as such!
A world in which everyone has control over their digital life and enjoys freedom and privacy.
How theoretical is Plasma?
Hardware makes is real!
How do we help keep control over our digital lives if we don't control what runs it?
Why now?

- We aspire to help our current users
- We are invested in hardware products
- There's new technical solutions that can help
Ingredients for a thriving product:

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🌸 Safe & resilient
🌸 Easy to fix & extend
🌸 Great to collaborate on
Ingredients for a thriving hardware product with KDE:

🌸 Useful: Plasma 🔔
🌸 Safe & resilient: 🐧
🌸 Easy to fix & extend: ⚡
🌸 Great to collaborate on: 🌸
How does the hardware industry do it?
Steamdeck
Yocto
Android
Others...
What do we need?

- Build infrastructure (CD, CI, QA)
- Supported hardware
- Great software solutions
- Great ecosystem
Challenges

- Increased workload
- Higher liability
- Clear developer story
I'm in, let's do this!
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