

Debian annual conference - 2009



DON'T USE!
NO OFFICIAL!
...CONSTRUCTION...



What is Debian?

Debian GNU/Linux is a free operating system. This means that it includes the set of basic tools that make a computer work, and that everyone is free to use it, modify it and distribute it. It also contains thousands of applications that make Debian usable both in personal computers and in business servers without the need for getting software from others.

Debian has a strong commitment to free software. It is a non-profit organization, and has an open development model that makes it unique among GNU/Linux distributions, and operating systems in general.

Debian has been developed for 15 years by thousands of volunteers spread around the world that review, select, and fix software with the aim of creating the best operating system possible: the universal operating system.

One of the Debian project's key strengths is its volunteer base. Communication is done mainly through the Internet, using mailing lists and chat. Although this type of communication works effectively, some discussions can take a long time. This is where DebConf shows its potential in helping the project.



Debian developers around the world

What is Debian?

Debian is known for its adherence to the Unix and free software philosophies, and for its abundance of options—the current release includes over eighteen thousand software packages for eleven computer architectures, ranging from the ARM architecture commonly found in embedded systems and the IBM s390 mainframe architecture to the more common x86 and PowerPC architectures found in modern personal computers.

The core program in the system is the Linux kernel, and a large part of the basic tools that fill out the operating system come from the GNU project; hence the name GNU/Linux. These tools are all free software.

Of course, the thing that people want is application software: programs to help them get what they want to do done, from editing documents to running a business to playing games to writing more software. Debian comes with thousands of packages (pre-compiled software that is bundled up in a nice format for easy installation on your machine) — all of it free.

Debian is also known for its package management system, especially APT, for its strict policies regarding the quality of its packages and releases, and for its open development and testing process. These practices afford easy upgrades between releases without rebooting and easy automated installation and removal of packages.



Debian GNU/Linux is the basis for several other distributions, including Knoppix and Ubuntu. A full list is available at <http://www.debian.org/misc/children-distros.html>

What is DebConf?

The annual Debian conference is the main meeting point for the project, and it's used for decision making, groups using the time to work face to face, and the implementation of innovative ideas. It also allows hundreds of workgroups to interact and exchange experiences, through talks, workshops and round-tables.

DebConf is a two week event that is split into three sections.



Debian Conference

Debian Conference is the annual Debian developers meeting, an event filled with coding parties, discussions and workshops - all of them highly technical in nature. It will be held in Cáceres,

Extremadura, Spain, from July 16 to 30, 2009.

Previous Debian Conferences have featured speakers from around the world. They have also been extremely beneficial for developing key Debian software components, including the new Debian Installer, and for improving Debian's internationalization.



Debian Camp

Development teams like debian-installer and debian-edu also have the possibility of meeting beforehand for undisturbed collaborative work. However, note

that only the basic necessities like bed and network connection will be provided at that time. Interested teams should contact the organizers upfront to make special arrangements.



Debian Day

Meanwhile, decision-makers interested in discovering the benefits of Free Software and Debian users are invited to attend Debian Day, an open house event

with presentations of general interest. Debian Day consists of a fully packed day of presentations.

Educational

The talks and Bird of a Feather sessions that occur during DebConf add to the knowledge of those attending. This helps broaden and share the knowledge and experience of individual developers with the entire community. It encourages others to get involved in specialized areas, and creates a better overview on how to move Debian forward.

Work Groups

The ability for people to work together in a group creates some of the most productive sessions that Debian has experienced. To have everyone in one place, at the same time, working on the same system allows the participants to bounce ideas off each other instantaneously.

Networking

People come away from DebConf with renewed enthusiasm for Debian and its goals. DebConf gives people a chance to meet face to face, socialise and brainstorm new ideas. The latest ideas and systems that Debian implements often start as an informal get-together at DebConf.



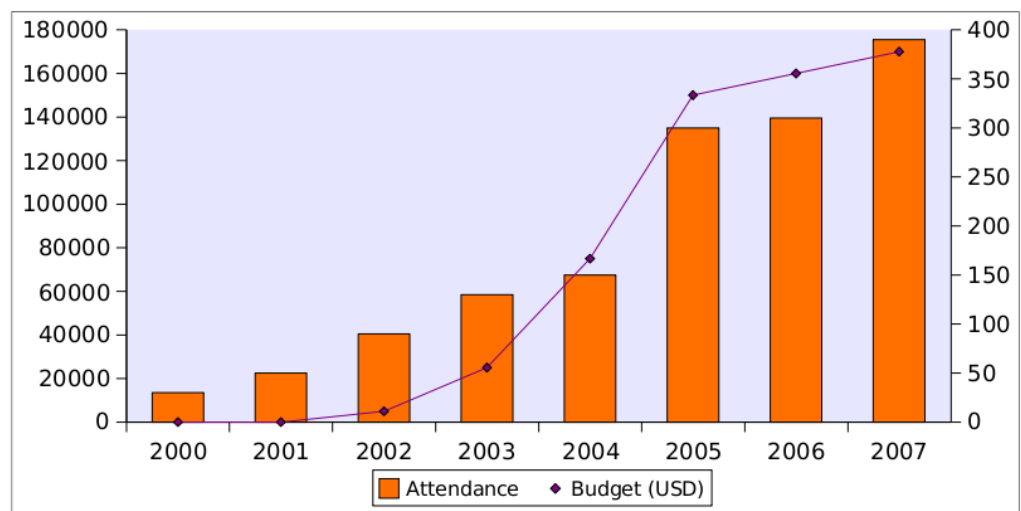
Why sponsor DebConf?

Because the Debian Project doesn't engage in commercial activities, it depends on donations from well-wishers. A modest amount of sponsorship would not only help Debian immensely but would reap huge dividends in terms of goodwill in the Linux community at large.

Looking at the historic development of the event we have been growing steadily, which indicates an increasing importance and (corporate) interest:

Year / Venue	People	Budget (USD)
2000 - Bordeaux, France	30	0
2001 - Bordeaux, France	50	0
2002 - Toronto, Canada	90	5,000
2003 - Oslo, Norway	130	25,000
2004 - Porto Alegre, Brazil	150	75,000
2005 - Helsinki, Finland	300	150,000
2006 - Oaxtepec, Mexico	310	160,000
2007 - Edinburgh, Scotland	400	180,000

This year, DebConf will be held in Argentina during August 2008. We are expecting 400 attendees, and require a budget to match.



How you can help DebConf

There are a number of ways in which we could benefit from sponsorship:

- » Travel expenses for actively involved developers who would otherwise be unable to attend.
- » Food and Lodging funding, so that those who can't pay their stay to attend the conference.
- » Internet connectivity. In a conference of this nature, it's necessary to have a fast, reliable connection.
- » Hardware donations for the event. We will set up networking for all these participants, and thus we need both servers for cpu intensive activities, and networking gear for the connectivity itself.
- » Funding for t-shirts or other gifts for attendees.
- » A day trip for all participants to local sights.



How DebConf can benefit you

As sponsorship returns we can offer your logo on:

- » the conference T-shirt
- » the website
- » the food tickets
- » all conference printed material (conference proceedings etc)
- » the banners
- » the full page "Thank You" advertisement in Linux magazines worldwide
- » your name mentioned in the press releases.

If you provide your own banners we can put them up in the lobby, the auditoriums, the HackLab, etc. Handouts and flyers can be put in the sleeping rooms and the conference bags. These could contain, for example, advertising

for your products and services and/or career information for your company. You could even provide the conference bags with your logos on them.

Within the Debian community, there is a strong sense of loyalty and brand awareness. Sponsoring a large conference is a good method of ingratiating your brand with the attendees.



Sponsor Categories

Debconf sponsors are classified according to the amount of money donated towards the cost of the conference. Each sponsorship level has a donation range and a matching set of benefits for the sponsoring company.

Platinum sponsor

- Exclusive size and placement of the logo in all conference related material.
- Banner in conference lobby
- Possibility of having a stand during DebianDay
- 45 minute slot for giving a free software related talk.

Gold sponsor

- Speciago in all conference related material.
- Banner in conference lobby
- Possibility of having a stand during DebianDay

Silver sponsor

- Logo printed in all conference related material.
- Banner in conference lobby

Bronze sponsor

- Logo printed in local magazine

Supporter

- Logo printed in local magazine and on the website

Non-monetary contributions (hardware donation or loans, special event funding, etc) will be taken into account for the sponsor categorization.

Specific areas to sponsor

Some companies may prefer to be the sole named sponsor for a specific event or area. These are some examples of specific areas in need of sponsoring for DebConf8:

A DayTrip, to visit some special place in Argentina, near the conference venue. Estimated cost: 10,000 USD.

Funding for a party, to celebrate Debian's 15th anniversary and the gathering of the community. Estimated cost: 3,000 USD.
conference bags. Estimated cost: 4,000 USD.

Technical accessories: USB flash drives, notebook locks, etc.

3 central servers, for processor intensive tasks.

Networking equipment (CAT-5 cable, switches and access points).

The photos in this document were the DebConf8 in Mar Del Plata, Argentina. This eighth edition we have the following sponsors:



DebConf 8



MAR DEL PLATA - ARGENTINA

2-17 AUGUST 2008