

Squashing RC Bugs for fun and profit

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Debunking an annoying myth

The myth:

Debian release cycles are not predictable

The facts:

Code name	Cycle start	Cycle duration
Etch	Jun 2005	22 months
Lenny	Apr 2007	22 months
Squeeze	Feb 2009	24 months
Wheezy	Feb 2011	?

Since 2005 (7 years ago) we've released on average every 22.66 months (with very low variance).

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But we badly need short freezes

long freezes:

- slow down development and **frustrate enthusiasts**
- make software **obsolete** (yes, even for Debian standards)
- increase support **burden** (security, infrastructure, ...)
- diminish the **usefulness of testing** for users and derivatives
- breed -devel **flames** :-)

We have seen all of this during the **Sarge cycle**.
We don't want to see it again.

Discourse on the state of the Wheezy

Affecting wheezy: **366** (need to get down to zero)

- Affecting wheezy and unstable: **221** Those need someone to find a fix, or to finish the work to upload a fix to unstable
 - ▶ **38** bugs are tagged 'patch'.
 - ▶ [...]
 - ▶ **175** bugs are neither tagged patch, nor marked done.
- Affecting wheezy only: **145** already fixed in unstable

http://richardhartmann.de/blog/posts/2012/11/24-Debian_Release_Critical_Bug_report_for_Week_47/

November 24, 2012

Just Fix the Damn Release Critical Bug

Everyone can help:

- every morning, *before the coffee*:
 - <http://bugs.debian.org/release-critical/>
 - <http://udd.debian.org/bugs.cgi> (views at the bottom)
- if you are **packing unrelated stuff**: please, **stop it**, help fix RC Bugs instead
- submit new patches, review the existing one
- do **NMUs**, welcome NMUs. <http://deb.li/rcbw>
- **blog** about RC Bugs squashing activities:
e.g. <http://info.comodo.priv.at/blog/archives/2012/11/>
- **organize a BSP** near you
<http://wiki.debian.org/BSPMarathonWheezy>

It's fun and rewarding.

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Thanks!

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about the slides:
available at <https://gitorious.org/zacchiro/talks/trees/master/2012/20121125-minidc-rbugs>
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