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:

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

Stefano Zacchiroli
leader@debian.org

http://upsilon.cc/zack
http://identi.ca/zack

about the slides:
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