FreeBSD Core.13 Update

[BSDcan 2025] v0.5

What's Cooking in Core?

- typically 1 conduct@ issue / month, sometimes more
- Technical Roadmap
- Draft AI policy – with core, next up *mgr teams
- Foundation Alignment
- 15.0 planning – pkg-base is the Big Thing
- DocEng review & support
- Wiki evolution
- Support Foundation with Project Reviews
- ByLaw Review

Technical Roadmap

- ==Primary mechanism== for feeding ==project-lead== priorities into Foundation
- Organised by group (srcmmgr, portmgr, doceng, clusteradm, releng ...)
- Anything of interest to these groups, some examples:
  - Hardware support (wifi, IOMMU, 1024 CPU core ...)
  - Releng & clusteradm upgrades
  - Non-trivial projects (major ports tree refactoring, bug/doc/wiki cleanups)
- Focus is on next year budget & planning

AI Policy – Easy Bits

- Problem Statement
  - Does including AI "stuff" allow us to maintain our license provenance & attribution?

- Easy Answer
  - No, so not in src/ports/docs – https://reviews.freebsd.org/D50650

- Our general committers guide could be more clear that:

  you must be fully transparent on the provenance & licence of your code/patches/contributions

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AI Policy – Draft <mark>D50650</mark>

Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models Contributions Policy

- The FreeBSD project has a long-standing focus on <mark>license compatibility, and appropriate attribution</mark> of source code. AI and LLMs, by their nature, are unable to provide the necessary assurance, that the generated material is compatible with the FreeBSD license, or that the material has been appropriately attributed to the original authors.

- Thus, it is <mark>expressly forbidden</mark> to contribute material generated by AI, LLMs, and similar technologies, to the FreeBSD project. This includes, but is not limited to, <mark>source code, documentation, commit messages, or any other areas of the project</mark>

AI Policy – Hard Bits, Open Questions

- Bugzilla / Pull Requests
  - Other projects already reporting AI slop wasting time
  - Maybe we will need to explicitly forbid this too, if problematic
- Commit Messages
  - Is Assisted Proof-reading & Grammar checking OK – "Yes"
- Docs & Translations
  - Are these covered by the same licences & expectations?
  - Translation could make FreeBSD more accessible to many end users
- Ports
  - Should we allow AI tools in ports? "Yes"
  - Can I use assisted tooling to maintain my ports? "Yes" **
- Ethical Concerns

Foundation Alignment – Ongoing

- Improve communication, relationships & alignment between Project & Foundation

- Understand how it all works today

- Identify areas of conflict & confusion

- Using annual Survey as a baseline & context

- Ongoing

Key Inputs to Foundation Planning & Priorities

- How does Project / Community / Companies give input?

  1. Annual individual user & committer survey
  2. Direct feedback via Foundation/User meetings & discussions
  3. Board Review & Annual Budget
  4. <mark>Technical Roadmap</mark> (when we have it!)
  5. You can also just talk with them at Conferences

ByLaw Review

- Core Elections

  - last Election had unfortunate timing (RIP)

  - Currently Core handover is all-at-once

  - Ideally we would *rotate* a %age annually

  - Considerable benefits in stability & continuity

- Election Process

  - Feedback is that we could improve this

  - Under discussion

Survey Results

- Apologies we couldn't cover all countries/regions

- Only Raw Data available so far

- ...

Question Time