Fedora Documentation Project

Paul W. Frields
Volunteer Contributor
August 2007

This Presentation

- Walk-through of the FDP Documentation Guide

- Not an in-depth demo of CVS or DocBook XML

- This presentation has hyperlinks throughout – use them!

Assumptions

- You have a Fedora account

  - Completed CLA

  - Not the same as a wiki account – *yet!*

- You want skills that will translate to other parts of Fedora

- You want to understand how to write and build documents with FDP building blocks

HELP!

- Not enough people are Doing the Work, except:
  - Translators
  - Beat writers for release notes (?)
- Only about 2.5 people working in CVS now
- Wiki does not support alternate publishing methods (PDF, RPM packaging, etc.)

HELP!!! (not kidding)

- There are a LOT of guides in CVS that need work and love
  - Release Notes, Installation Guide
  - Developers Guide
  - RPM Packaging Guide
  - SELinux FAQ and SELinux Apache Guide
  - Respin Guide
  - Desktop Users Guide
  - Upcoming: see wiki Drafts page

Drafting

- Drafting often occurs on the wiki

- Once a document is ready for formalization and translation, it moves to CVS

- Volunteers must convert it to DocBook

- DocBook is EASY!

System Setup

- yum -y groupinstall "Authoring and Publishing"
- yum -y install cvs
- Optional packages: rpm-build

Creating a Document

- Makefile

- DocBook XML files

- *rpm-info.xml* file

Makefile, I

- Link to DocGuide Makefile

- **PRI_LANG:** Primary locale of document (usually **en_US**) – matches name of directory in which DocBook XML files live

- **DOCBASE:** Name of uppermost "parent" XML file in collection

Makefile, II

- **XMLFILES_template**
  - Lists all DocBook XML files
  - *make(1)* parses everything between **define** and **endef** to fill in a variable
  - The **${1}** variable is filled in by calling the template with a parameter such as **en_US**
- **find-makefile-common:** short function to locate the required *docs-common/* folder

Creating a New Makefile

- Copy/paste it!

- The only changes are to **DOCBASE** and **XMLFILES-${1}**

- Use **${1}/** before each DocBook XML file name

rpm-info.xml

- Defines document metadata

- Follows a special DTD

- Don't understand DTDs? Don't worry, copy/paste and fill in from an existing file

- Lives in the same directory with the DocBook XML files

What Can I Do?

- Validate DocBook XML (*make validate-xml*)
- Make HTML (*make html*, *make html-nochunks*)

Localization/Translation

- Create a *po/* directory

- Add a po/LINGUAS file which lists additional languages, one per line in alphabetic order

- *make pot && make po*

  – POT template contains strings for translators to use

  – Each PO file contains translations for a single locale

Using a Single Locale

- Add a dash and locale name to a target (*make validate-xml-en_US*, *make html-ja*)

- Overall targets automatically build translations and work against each in order

Publishing Docs

- Need access to the web CVS module

- Need approval from FDP principals, i.e. demonstrated skill

- Need "sandbox"

Sandbox

- A copy of web CVS (docs.fp.o) that your machine runs locally

- Instant checks on results

- Real web server pulls from CVS hourly based on "LIVE" tag

Publication Process

- Build HTML version

- Convert pages to PHP

- Test in sandbox

- Commit changes to web CVS

- Tag **LIVE**

Questions?

- http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/DocsProject/Join