

TDebs

Neil Williams

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# TDebs

A guide to the Draft TDeb Specification.

Neil Williams

February 8, 2009

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- Translation updates should not require a source rebuild, either by the maintainer or as an NMU.
- Localisation data should not be distributed in architecture dependent packages.
- Translators should have a common interface for getting updates into Debian (possibly with automated TDeb generation after i18n team review).

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- 2008 - Emdebian implements modified TDebs with extra features for embedded usage.
- 2009 - Lenny release allows work to start on preparing the Debian toolset to work with the Draft TDeb Specification.

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- Emdebian currently implements 98 locale roots.
- Future development can support isolating individual locales from a set of packages without installing unsupported localisation data.

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- During the transition to TDebs, +t1 uploads will be able to close [i18n] bugs assigned to the source package. After Squeeze, i18n.debian.org will take over translation tracking.

There is room for further discussion about whether and how much untranslated content can or should be in a TDeb.

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- Not the config or other related scripts. The regular deb will need to contain a untranslated copy of the templates file, too.

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- Current code for generating TDebs needs to be extended to cope with non-gettext translations, where possible.
- Translated packages do not need to make changes to generate TDebs until after the release of Squeeze but splitting l10n data into separate Arch: all `.deb` packages can be done beforehand.



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- Convert non-gettext packages and non-native packages where the Debian maintainer is not part of the upstream. (Squeeze +2?)

Maintainers will need to make a variety of changes to support TDebs:

- Replaces - Add the recommended \$src-tdeb package name with Replaces: \$binaries (<< \$srcversion) where \$srcversion is a fixed string for the version prior to TDebs
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- Remove any lines in debian/rules that handle translated content
- Ensure that dh\_gentdeb is called in debian/rules (CDBS will be patched to implement this support automatically).

<http://www.emdebian.org/>

Many individuals : Joerg Jaspert, Thomas Viehmann, Mark Hymers, Frank Lichtenheld, Christian Perrier, Stephen Gran, Luk Claes, EddyPetrisor, Steve McIntyre, Jonathan McDowell, Moray Allan, Aurelien Jarno and anyone I might have forgotten.