Documentation Working Group Results

EuroBSDcon DevSummit
Warsaw, Poland

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Outline

Achievements since last EuroBSDcon

Infrastructure changes:

- Documentation repo switch from CVS to SVN done by Hiroki Sato
  - brought support for branches for projects, translations, etc.
  - doc developers generally happy with it
  - (Literally) check it out: `svn+ssh://svn.freebsd.org/doc/head`
- Conversion from DocBook SGML to XML done by Gábor Kövesdán
  - big changes in the build infrastructure, source file renames to .xml
  - XSLT scripts for conversion to EPUB and other formats

Documentation Working Group Results
└─ Topics we talked about this year
  └─ Open issues from both conversions

Outline

1 Achievements since last EuroBSDcon

2 Topics we talked about this year
   Open issues from both conversions
   Handbook print edition

Open issues from both conversions

We identified a few things after the conversions:

- To create nice looking PDFs would require a full blown Java now
  - we are hesitant to do that (too much overhead for just one format)
  - Do we really need all fancy features that it provides for our docs?
  - Alternatives were discussed, no definite solution found yet
- SVN revisions are now repo global, translators struggle with it
- Discussing creating UTF8-only docs as a next step
  - Input from Ed Schouten on status of UTF-8 support in the system

Documentation Working Group Results
└─ Topics we talked about this year
   └─ Handbook print edition

Handbook print edition

We want to create a new print edition of the handbook

- We have the proper infrastructure now with SVN and DocBook XML
- We could even sell eBooks with revenue going to the Foundation

Many open tasks remain:

- missing `indexterms`
- finding outdated sections that need rewrite or removal
- Updating content to cover 9.X releases
- Restructuring chapters
- Rewriting the preface
- Refreshing the glossary and acronyms

Documentation Working Group Results
└─ **Topics we talked about this year**
　└─ **Handbook print edition**

Handbook print edition

Discussion about how to go about it:

- Combined hackathon-like 1 week session to get it into proper shape
- Foundation sponsored single-person marathon

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Handbook print edition

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Decisions

- Use the FreeBSD wiki to identify outdated content that require care
- We aim to have a copy-edited version ready by BSDCan 2013
- bcr@ was put in charge of "cracking the whip" to move things forward
- No SVN branch, changes will be made directly to the live handbook

Questions?