



Google Linux Client Team

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Google Linux Client Team

- **Develop Linux desktop applications**
- **<significant accomplishments / releases this year: TBD>**



Dependencies/Interoperability

- **Some projects will be open source**
- **Use third-party open source libraries**
- **Support most main distributions**
- **Interoperability considerations**
 - I18n
 - Desktop integration
 - Packaging
 - Binary compatibility
 - System and user configuration



I18n

- **Some encodings not supported by iconv**
 - ISO-8859-8-I, ks_c_5601-1987
- **Relationship among encoding names**
 - Normalization & Equivalence detection
 - Latin1 to ISO-8859-1
 - Superset relationship
 - GB2312 < GBK < GB18030
 - Normally no side-effect to use a superset encoding



I18n

- **File system encoding**

- Standardize file name encoding?
- A user may also mix different encodings in a single system

- **System default locale encoding**

- Some distributions use non-UTF8 encodings for default locale

- **“2-byte Unicode” is used in many software**

- Claims UTF-16, but UCS-2



Desktop Integration

- **Lacking of high-level standard API**
 - Menu, autostart, tray icon, etc.
 - File/url scheme action association
 - Icons and thumbnails
- **XDG is not fully supported in some distributions**



Packaging

- **No standard packaging mechanism (especially with GUI) for third-party applications.**
- **No standard mechanism to do some initialization tasks during installation, such as:**
 - Install init script
 - Install cron jobs
 - Install desktop menu files
 - Install autostart desktop file.



Binary Compatibility

- **C++ binary compatibility issue between different gcc/libstdc++ versions**
- **32bit/64bit compatibility issue**
 - Some 64bit distributions for 32bit/64bit mixed hardware don't support 32bit application.



System and User Configuration

- **No standard mechanism to modify or get system or user configuration, such as:**
 - User default proxy configuration
 - Default applications setting
 - File/url scheme action association
 - File type detection