



# KDE Printing

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- 1 Introduction
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Not much changed on the KDE printing front since  
Atlanta Summit.

See Atlanta Printing Summit presentation



Since Atlanta:

- bug triaging and fixing;
- Google Summer of Code:
  - no candidates in 2006;
  - 2 students in 2007;
    - 1st topic: openprinting.org on-line driver support;
    - 2nd topic: KDE GUI renovation;
  - only first student, Gavin Beatty, succeeded.
- work on KDE4 started. Printing for KDE4 severely lagging;
- new interest from KDE developers community in last 3 weeks.



## Protocols and technologies

- CUPS / IPP;
- other protocols very probably will be dropped;
- CUPS > 1.1 support still not implemented;
- renovation of CUPS backend required – major rewrite;
- PDF printing flux not supported fully.

Times grave for KDE printing – battle is on



## Tools

- Minimize centralized/shared library;
- Move tools to optional workspace package;
- Essential applications:
  - kprinter – **essential**: “lpr with a GUI”;
  - printer installation wizard;
  - job viewer;
  - dearly needed: better previewer;
  - dearly needed: pdf editor.

Times grave for KDE printing – battle is on



## KDE 4

- latest analysis by ad-hoc community group;
- for KDE4 4.0:
  - KDE3 code porting partially failed – lack of manpower;
  - use Qt infrastructure directly;
  - regressions and limitations over KDE3;
  - **very** short time for implementation.
- for KDE4 4.1:
  - back to full KDE platform:  
pre-filter, customizable dialog, printer wizard etc.;
  - using PDF as job format;
  - new GUI (usability driven);
  - look up wishes (and bugs);



# Planning ... concretely



- GUI redesign – wait for consensus?
- KDE3 GUI was serving well (*“it ain't broken...”*);
- pass as much of the job as possible to Qt (natural);
- CUPS 1.3 – use greedily (PPD parsing?);
- CUPS 1.4? (PDF printing already required by developers);
- take a look at PAPI ⇒ back to supporting many printing backends;



# Collaboration with printing community

- Still not enough;
- First implementation of OpenPrinting.org drivers search:  
Code available
- Attentive eye on usability. No action yet on KDE side.



- KDE Printing is **no more** in acceptable shape;
- High steam work in progress for KDE4. Stages:
  - 4.0 – placeholder;
  - 4.1 – full (**best**) solution (again);
- Acute lack of manpower.



Thank you!

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