



FreeBSD[™] JOURNAL[™] Editorial Board

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LETTER from the Board

More than 1,000 Subscribers Worldwide!

We're excited to announce that the launch of *FreeBSD Journal* has been a great success, and, as the title of this letter has already announced, we have had over 1,000 subscribers to date. This is an exciting and auspicious start for a new magazine and we anticipate more growth as the word gets out.

This issue features a set of articles on FreeBSD's new package system. For everyone who has maintained a large installation of FreeBSD systems using the existing ports and package system, the advent of the new system will definitely be a breath of fresh air. The ability to maintain related package sets, build your own repository of packages, and maintain a diverse set of software on top of FreeBSD is a boon to individual users and administrators of large sites alike. Everyone on the mailing lists has been raving about the new package system, and now you can read about how it works directly from the authors themselves—Baptiste Daroussin and Bryan Drewery. PCBSD has had its own packaging system for a while and Kris Moore concludes our packaging coverage with his article on the evolution of the PBI format.

Two articles on timely topics not directly related to packaging round out this issue: the first is on Journaled Soft-updates and the other focuses on performance analysis with the hwpmc(4) device driver and related tools. Finally, when you're looking for an informative "quick read," check out any of this month's columns to keep up-to-date on the latest in the world of FreeBSD.

The Board thanks everyone for their feedback, especially those who sought us out at the recent NYCBSDCon in New York and AsiaBSDCon in Tokyo to discuss this new venture. The response has been gratifying, educational, and appreciated. Readers have already suggested some great ideas for articles and columns in future issues.

Speaking of BSD events, one of our biggest events of the year, BSDCan, is quickly approaching. BSDCan, held in Ottawa, Canada, every May is the largest of the BSD events and attracts developers, vendors, and users of all BSDs for several days of developer summits, tutorials and paper presentations. Representatives of the FreeBSD Foundation and the *FreeBSD Journal* will be present at BSDCan, and if you're a reader of *FreeBSD Journal*, you may be able to snag a collector's item at the Foundation's table—a limited-edition, one-time-only print copy of Issue #1!

Enjoy!
**FreeBSD
Journal
Editorial Board**

