

PORTSreport

by Frederic Culot

The Level of Activity during the January–February period was very high on the problem-fixing front. During this period, we were also pleased to welcome miwi@ back to the port management team and to bring three new or returning committers onboard. Also, some major ports were updated, which may require caution when upgrading, as described below.

NEW PORTS COMMITTERS AND SAFEKEEPING

Three commit bits were taken in for safekeeping during the first two months of the year: mmoll, milki, and brian. On the other hand, two new committers were awarded. The first goes to Olivier Cochard-Labbe, who was already well-known to the community as the creator of FreeNAS and the BSD Router project (BSDRP). The second commit bit was awarded to Christoph Moench-Tegeger, who submitted some major patches to Chromium, Firefox, and Thunderbird, together with almost 200 problem reports since 2005. In February, we were also delighted to reinstate Dima Panov (fluffy@)'s commit bit, which was taken into safekeeping last September after 18 months of inactivity.

STATS

February figures were not yet available at the time of writing, but based on the ones for January, the numbers are encouraging: more committers worked on the ports tree than during the last period (128, an increase of more than 10%), which led to an increase of almost 20% in the number of commits. But more significant is the number of problem reports that were closed in January, which increased by more than 30%. This is very stimulating, and let's hope all the developers will manage to keep up the pace!

INFRASTRUCTURE

A lot of work was done by bdrewery@ and Antoine@ to improve the package building and testing infrastructure. This involved upgrading the system on the machines hosting those services as well as moving the machine that hosts the pkg-status service (<https://pkg-status.freebsd.org>). Some work was also done to improve the performance of the build system.

A CHANGE in the Management Team

In January, a vote was held to bring miwi back into the portmgr team. The outcome was unanimously positive, making miwi the sixth portmgr member. We have missed miwi since the end of 2014 when he had to step down from his duties to allow time for his growing family and real job. We are all pleased to welcome him back to our ranks! That being said, if you wish to know more about the portmgr team and its duties, you can start with the link <https://www.freebsd.org/portmgr/>.



IMPORTANT PORTS UPDATES

As always, many exp-runs (around 30) were run by Antoine@, to check whether major ports updates are safe or not. Among those important updates, we can mention the following highlights:

- Ruby 2.3 was added to the tree and default version set to 2.2
- ruby-gems updated to 2.5.1
- clang updated to 3.8.0
- Qt5 updated to 5.5.1
- setuptools updated to 20.0
- Gnome updated to 3.18

As usual, more information is available in the `/usr/ports/UPDATING` file, which should be read carefully before upgrading major ports.

Having completed his PhD in Computer Modeling applied to Physics, FREDERIC CULOT has worked in the IT industry for the past 10 years. During his spare time he studies business and management and just completed an MBA. Frederic joined FreeBSD in 2010 as a ports committer, and since then has made around 2,000 commits, mentored six new committers, and now assumes the responsibilities of portmgr-secretary.