

PORTSreport

by Frederic Culot

The new year started with sustained activity on the PR front, culminating in February with more than 600 problem reports closed! Thanks to all contributors and developers who helped make this happen. Regarding the ports tree, January and February saw a bit more than 4,000 commits in total. That's not bad, but at this rate last year's record with more than 37,500 commits is still standing, so any volunteer interested in working on ports is more than welcome to join our ranks in 2015!

the creator of redports.org, QAT, and the developer who ported and maintained VirtualBox for FreeBSD. Many thanks to him for all his hard work. For anyone who would like to know more about Bernhard you can find his interview at <http://blogs.freebsdish.org/portmgr/2013/10/29/getting-to-know-your-portmgr-bernhard-froehlich/>.

IMPORTANT PORTS UPDATES

Several exp-runs were performed (23 actually) to check whether major ports updates are safe or not. From those important updates we can mention the following highlights:

- default python3 version set to 3.4
- default ruby version set to 2.1
- gcc updated to 4.9
- clang updated to 3.6.0
- cmake updated to 3.1.3
- ruby-gems updated to 2.4.5

As usual, please read the `/usr/ports/UPDATING` file carefully before updating your ports, as manual steps may be involved.

NEW PORTS COMMITTERS AND SAFEKEEPING

In January and February two new committers were granted ports commit bits: Jan Beich, who is mentored by bapt@ and flo@, and Brad Davis, who already owned a doc commit bit and who is mentored by bdrewery@, swills@, and zi@.

Only one commit bit was taken in for safekeeping during the last two months (rafan@), but we also had some sad news with decke@, who decided to step down from his duties at FreeBSD to focus on his family and professional life. decke@ has been invaluable to the FreeBSD Project, being

And to close this issue's column, we would like to give a few stats so that people can get a better idea of the outstanding amount of work performed by our volunteers. In the first two months of 2015, 4,046 commits were applied to the ports tree, 1,182 PR were closed, and 1,002 emails were received by portmgr@ (without counting the spam...). And all this handled by an average of only 130 active ports developers!

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.

EVENTS

There was an important event (FOSDEM) in Europe that brought together major players in the open-source world. During this event bapt@ delivered an interesting talk about the history of pkg(8), which has become the main tool for installing third-party software on FreeBSD. Slides can be found online at <https://fosdem.org/2015/schedule/event/4yearofpkg/>.