

Technical specifications for Mandriva Linux 2009 Spring

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Revision History

Revision 0.2 26 Jun 2008 Revised by: FC/AN
add new specs, revise previous one

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Introduction

This document describes the ideas of new functionalities or improvements for Mandriva Linux 2009 Spring products. Each part has an author which can answer questions if some things are unclear (Author field), a version (Version field), an id (Id field) to identify uniquely the part for external reference, a person and a team responsible for the realisation (Implementor and Team fields), a Priority field between 0 and 3 (3 being the more priority) and a Status field to show the development status.

Chapter 1. Main focus

The main focus of Mandriva Linux 2009 Spring is improving user experience for daily tasks.

Requirements :

- No critical bugs in bugzilla and test plans for the major components in testzilla.

The products derived from the developments are:

- Free
- One
- PowerPack

The version of the main components will be:

- KDE 4.2
- GNOME 2.26
- kernel 2.6.29 (estimation)
- Xorg 1.6

Chapter 2. Distribution Core

2.1. Kernel

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec100
Team	core
Implementor	
Priority	
Status	

2.1.1. Stable ABI for modules

Implementor	Kernel team
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.1.1.1. General specifications

We need to get a complete policy on that point. Bogdano started work on it and we need to get common position and write it down.

2.1.2. Improve DKMS management

Implementor	Kernel team, oblin@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.1.2.1. General specifications

Allow to reuse binary DKMS packages if kernel ABI has not changed, instead of rebuilding them. Bogdano is already working on that. We should also have a close look to weak-modules in RedHat.

2.1.3. Remove old kernel on upgrade

Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.1.3.1. Boot menu cleanup

During a distribution release lifetime, a lot of update kernel are released and will clutter boot menu, for no user (except failsafe when a new kernel doesn't boot). MandrivaUpdate should propose to auto-uninstall oldest kernels when installing a new one (keeping current kernel, new kernel and previous kernel).

2.1.4. Improve wireless support

Implementor	herton@mandriva.com
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.1.4.1. Improve wireless support

Enhancements for RTL 8187 wireless driver

Include support for for RTL 8187 SE wireless driver

Check new wireless regulatory domain

Adopt Mesh utilities and test support for ralink, atheros and others.

2.1.5. Add some more tools support

Implementor	herton@mandriva.com, lcapitulino@mandriva.com
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.1.5.1. Add some more tools

Integrate kerneloops

Support Systemtap and adopt related packages

2.1.6. Improve virtualization support

Implementor	bogdano@mandriva.com, pterjan@mandriva.com
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.1.6.1. Virtualization

Support KVM and adopt related packages

Include virt-manager tools and support installation within virt-install.

2.2. glibc

Author	Anne Nicolas <anne.nicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec109
Team	core
Implementor	herton@mandriva.com
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.2.1. Abstract

Update to glibc 2.9

2.2.2. Benefit

2.2.3.

2.3. Xorg 1.6

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec107
Team	core
Implementor	ander@mandriva.com.br
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.3.1. Abstract

Update to Xorg 1.6

2.3.2. Benefit

2.3.3. Xorg 1.6

Update to Xorg 1.6 (check hotplug and autoconfig)

Modesetting (at least for Intel - depends on kernel)

2.4. IPv6 support

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec104
Team	Core
Implementor	eugeni@mandriva.com.br,blino@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.4.1. Abstract

Validate IPv6 support

2.4.2. Benefit

ensure distribution can work in IPv6 only environments

2.4.3. IPv6 ready distribution

IPv6 deployment is becoming a hot topic and some US agencies (DoD for instance) are now requiring IPv6 compliance for software they use. Distribution should be tested in IPv6 only environment. In a first phase, installer (stage 1 and stage 2) and Mandriva tools should be checked, as well as initial boot. In a second phase, most network aware applications should be checked.

2.5. Boot

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec101
Team	Distribution Core
Implementor	
Priority	3
Status	

2.5.1. Improve boot time

Implementor	Engineering team
Priority	3
Status	50%

2.5.1.1. General process

Work to be done in 3 main steps:

- collect concrete data (with bootchart) on our boot process to get a complete view of what can be improved
- collect internal practises about implementation of boot time improvements (OEM team, general ideas...)
- try to merge OEM hacks (if they are clear) or fix the root cause which requires those hacks
- list final points of identified improvements and implement in Cooker
- evaluate if readahead can improve boot time

- evaluate if prelink can improve boot time
- evaluate if preload can improve boot time
- evaluate if switching to dash as default login shell can improve boot time

A lot of work has been done on Mandriva Mini (and older OEM developmentis) to get fast boot, mostly using finit-mdv, but this is mostly based on customization for specific hardware and software configuration and can not be used in a generic environment (and finit also causes other issues). A fast boot mode could be implemented in rc.sysinit, just starting dbus, hal and dm services, if "standard" X startup was successfull with the same kernel / X display driver in the past.

2.5.2. GFXBoot bugs

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.5.2.1. GFXBoot bugs

- GFXBoot freezes on some systems, preventing boot.
- add support for wide screen in gfxboot

2.5.3. Switch to GRUB2 ?

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	0
Status	0%

2.5.3.1. switch to grub2

We need to wait for SUSE to switch to GRUB2 so we get gfxboot for it.

2.5.4. Ghost compliant mode for GRUB

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	0
Status	0%

2.5.4.1. Add Ghost compliant mode to our grub installation

Unlike some distributions (Fedora), our way to install grub is not compatible with Ghost.

2.5.5. initscript improvements

Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com / fcrozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.5.5.1. initscript improvements

Fedora has replaced rc.sysinit by upstart, starting with Fedora 9. This mean initscripts will probably no longer be maintained by Redhat soon. We should check upstart and see if it fits our needs (and doesn't duplicate with prcsys).

It could also be useful to start some services / programs after one specific event (desktop started, etc..) to make sure CPU is not overloaded at startup.

2.5.6. Change failsafe access on gfxboot

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.5.6.1. Change failsafe access on gfxboot

Failsafe boot menu entry is too visible, while it drop user in init 1 with only a shell opened. Until we ship a menu similar to rescue CD, failsafe should be removed from boot menu entry and replaced by a function key in gfxboot

2.6. Security tools redesign

Author	Anne NICOLAS <anne.nicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec105
Team	core
Implementor	Eugeni Dodonov <eugeni@mandriva.com>
Priority	5
Status	0%

2.6.1. Abstract

Audit security tools (drakperm, msec, ...) and frameworks (AppArmor) in distribution. Then reevaluate it, clean existing one and provide missing GUI.

2.6.2. Benefit

Delete unneeded fonctionnalities, improve tools integration in system, improve global maintainance and reliability.

2.6.3. General specifications

msec should be integrated more tightly with AppArmor. Right now, several features of msec are duplicated with AppArmor, and it creates unnecessary complexity and confusion. Besides, msec was one of the first security applications for Linux, and it still has several unique features, integrating the capability to manage all aspects of system security (tcp_wrappers, service configuration, file

permissions, user account settings, and so on). In that sense, msec could be extended with AppArmor support to support it in the same way it supports other security applications, centralizing all security aspects of the system in the same application (draksec). Also, several msec "features" which were important in the past are not quite useful right now (such as the background permission changing, /etc/issue* rewriting, and so on). Such features should not be forced by default, giving the user the ability to approve or not the changes.

Regarding msec:

- get rid of levels and create three usage profiles
- Combine Drakperm and Draksec, and use just one application to fine tune system security. Currently they have duplicated functions (both allow changing msec level). Drakperm could be included as a tab in Draksec application.
- Review msec code and levels
- Review msec functionalities, removing unnecessary features.
- Most essential feature: allow overriding default settings for each level on level change. So, if root has explicitly defined that root_login should be allowed, no level should override that.

New features should be considered for inclusion in msec:

- Enable AppArmor during the system boot, logging all suspicious activity; block actions not approved by AppArmor.
- Enable checking for unsafe .rhosts/.shosts permissions in user directories (idea came from #41709).
- Modular support, will require the redesign of msec-lib.
- Ability for sysadmin to add rules by dropping a config file
- LDAP support (ability to store msec config in LDAP to be able to apply restriction as if it was Active Directory GPO)
- Make draksec display the default value of the settings, instead of displaying "default" and forcing users to read the documentation

Regarding AppArmor, general idea is:

- to provide some default profiles for desktop use in GNOME and KDE environment. We should also have profiles for server-related stuff and desktop-agnostic tools
- to include activation of basic AppArmor profile for desktop in msec
- to provide gui editor to help advanced users to manage profiles, at least a simple "text editor" to edit the profile files.
- to provide howto for packagers so that they can include AppArmor configuration as a proposal in package

2.7. Improve cryptographic data support

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec103
Team	Core
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	20%

2.7.1. Abstract

Improve cryptographic data support in the distribution

2.7.2. Benefit

preserve user data safety

2.7.3. Improve cryptographic data support in the distribution

A review of cryptographic data support in the distribution should be done, to make sure the three following possible level of cryptographic are available :

- crypt the entire system (/ and maybe swap)
- crypt user home directory
- crypt one dedicated directory in user home

2.8. Packaging System

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1

Id	spec102
Team	Core
Implementor	
Priority	3
Status	

2.8.1. RPM 4.6

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	50%

2.8.1.1. Switch to RPM 4.6

RPM 4.4 codebase is no longer supported by anybody, unlike RPM 4.6 which is supported by Redhat. Codebase has been cleaned, the only feature regression is rollback support which was never really supported by Mandriva.

2.8.2. Orphans in urpmi

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	80%

2.8.2.1. Orphans in urpmi

Installing and uninstalling (or upgrading) packages often leave orphan packages, pulled by dependencies, installed on system, cluttering the system after a lot of upgrades / install-uninstall cycles. urpmi should track such packages at install time and should uninstall them when they are not needed (this behaviour should be configurable). apt-get has such a feature called "autoremove"

for Mandriva 2009 Spring, orphans support should be improved : in task meta-packages, replacing as much hard dependencies (requires) with soft dependencies (suggests). Support for orphans in UI should be enabled.

2.8.3. Mirror handling, based on geographical localisation

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.8.3.1. Mirror handling, based on geographical location

Mandriva 2008.1 introduced autoconfiguration for mirrors, based on system timezone. It proved to work quite well and geoip server to improve this location is probably overkill. A better way to improve location would be to ask for user localisation on a map (with timezone selection available as fallback). This information could also be used for weather forecast.

2.8.4. rpm rebuild bot

Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	2
Status	0%

2.8.4.1. RPM rebuild bot

Due to many changes in cooker distribution, rpm packages might become unbuildable without people noticing. This problem could be mitigated by setting up a rpm rebuild server which would periodically rebuild distributions (a full rebuild take about 2 days) and post results automatically on web pages, with logs and so on. rpm-rebuilder script can handle things. This doesn't ensure 100% of build dependencies are correct.

Another orthogonal problem is being able to rebuild and submit a set of packages automatically. This would imply using iurt and would ensure build dependencies are correct. Such build would be much

more slower than using rpm-rebuilder.

2.8.5. Update reason on api query

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.8.5.1. Update reason on api query

When urpmi queries on api.mandriva.com for mirrors.xml, when updating sources, it doesn't add "reason=updates" on api queries, so those queries can't be seperated from other queries.

2.8.6. Repositories description

Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.8.6.1. Repositories description

Installing and uninstalling (or upgrading) packages often leave orphan packages, pulled by dependencies, installed on system, cluttering the system after a lot of upgrades / install-uninstall cycles. urpmi should track such packages at install time and should uninstall them when they are not needed (this behaviour should be configurable). apt-get has such a feature called "autoremove"

2.9. Guest account

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec108
Team	core
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

2.9.1. Abstract

Create a guest account by default, with restricted privileges and auto-cleaning at logout

2.9.2. Benefit

2.9.3. Guest account

A guest account should be created by default on systems, with restricted privileges (not possible to start any applications requiring console privileges, like drakxtools for instance) and with content of guest account being removed at logout. User switching should be working between "standard" users and guest account. pam_mount might be a solution to handle account home directory creation / destruction at login / logout.

Chapter 3. Mandriva Tools

3.1. no longer use hdlist inside installer

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec206
Team	Core
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	1
Status	0%

3.1.1. Abstract

Drop usage of hdlist inside installer

3.1.2. Benefit

Lower network usage for network install

3.1.3. No longer use hdlist inside installer

Installer should no longer use hdlist but synthesis for package installation, it would allow to reduce network footprint of installation and share mode code with urpmi / rpmdrake

3.2. New design for installer

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec210

Team	Core
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	90%

3.2.1. Abstract

Update installer with new design from LN

3.2.2. Benefit

Better user experience for install

3.2.3. New design for installer

Installer design is quite old now (still ok) and need to be refreshed to stay ahead of competition.

3.3. Add map to choose geographic position to installer

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec221
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	1
Status	0%

3.3.1. Abstract

Add a map widget in installer, to choose system geographical position

3.3.2. Benefit

Easier selection for timezone, use info for weather forecast configuration

3.3.3. Add map to choose geographical position

Adding a map widget in installer would allow to easily :

- Configure timezone
- Preconfigure weather forecast

3.4. improve installer profiles based on hardware

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec212
Team	Core
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	80%

3.4.1. Abstract

hardware profiles in installer are not and might not be relevant to current hardware available now.

3.4.2. Benefit

Better tuned distributions for heterogenous hardware configuration

3.4.3. Improve installer hardware profile

Hardware related package install profile is no longer up to date with current hardware. It should be

updated with current hardware available, ensuring not too many packages are installed on systems.

3.5. Improve release notes access during installation

Author	Anne Nicolas <anne.nicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec234
Team	Tools
Implementor	Thiery Vignaud
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.5.1. Abstract

Make release notes readable during packages installation

3.5.2. Benefit

Give easily more information on new release.

3.5.3.

Include button on install packages screen to open release notes file

3.6. Rewrite autorun Windows code

Author	Frederic Crozat<fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec216
Team	Tools
Implementor	dlallement@mandriva.com

Priority	3
Status	0%

3.6.1. Abstract

Review autorun Windows code

3.6.2. Benefit

3.6.3. Fix autorun Windows code

Autorun Windows executable is in a very bad state (not sure it is working properly) and not up to date with latest graphics. Its code should be reviewed, maybe rewritten in a script language if possible, so it could be easily modified in the future without any need of a Windows compiler environment.

3.7. USB stick ready ISO images / USB dump tool

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec223
Team	Tools
Implementor	aginies@mandriva.com,tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.7.1. Abstract

Fix ISO to be dumpable on USB keys, reate an tool to dump ISO to USB key

3.7.2. Benefit

Easier installation of Mandriva Linux

3.7.3. USB stick ready ISO images / USB dump tool

Current ISO of Mandriva Linux are somehow incompatible with dumping them on USB bootable stick. This should be corrected and we should also create a small tool which could download ISO (either full ISO or just network images) from mirrors and dump it on a plugged usb stick and make it bootable.

3.8. Tune default partitions size for installer

Author	Frederic Crozat
Version	0.1
Id	spec201
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.8.1. Abstract

Default partitions size are no longer in adequation with current default software size and hard disk / SSD available on the market

3.8.2. Benefit

More flexible software installation, improve disk space usage

3.8.3. Tune default partitions size

Both software size and harddisk (and SSD) size have increased. We need to tune in installer (ie diskdrake) default partitions size to make sure enough space is given for system installation.

3.9. Windows migration tool

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec200
Team	Tools
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com, salem@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.9.1. Abstract

Complete set of fonctionnalities of Transfugdrake, adding mail migration and dual boot management in term of data.

3.9.2. Benefit

Provide a complete tool to help beginners migrating to Mandriva Linux

3.9.3. General specifications

2 main fonctionnalities need to be implemented to complete existing one:

mails migration: Transfugdrake should be able to propose migration of main mail clients, Outlook and Mozilla Thunderbird. This can be done using existing backend tool included in Mozilla Thunderbird migration tool. Salem can help on that point

dual boot management: provide a way to manage user data using symbolic link and keep synchronised data between Windows and Linux systems.

3.10. Live upgrade

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec207
Team	Core
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com dlallement@mandriva.com pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	90%

3.10.1. Abstract

Mandriva Online should notify user a new version of the distribution is available and should propose to upgrade it without using installer

3.10.2. Benefit

Stay competitive compared to Ubuntu, show urpmi power to handle this

3.10.3. Live upgrade

urpmi has been able to upgrade distributions for years but this feature has always been flagged as "not supported". Moreover, we have no way to notify users a new version of their distribution is available (it is specially problematic when a distribution is EOL). We need to do the following :

- Notify user, through mdvapplet a new distribution is available
- check no post configuration is done when upgrading using drakX installer (this mean package upgrade is enough for all upgades)
- check if X will be able to restart (reconfigure it if needed)
- setup older distribution installation (with maximum packages installed), create image for them in QA for upgrade test and run upgrade

For Mandriva 2009 Spring, we should :

- turn on live upgrade starting with Release Candidate 1 (so people from older distributions can test it if they want, and can upgrade from RC1/RC2 to Final).
- allow to optionally download ALL needed packages for the upgrade before starting it (if there is enough space). This will require to improve download size estimation.

- setup restricted repository at upgrade time too.
- add a message or a service if system was shutdown during an upgrade to restart the upgrade where it stopped.

3.11. Drakxtools UI review

Author	Anne Nicolas<anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec213
Team	Core
Implementor	anicolas@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.11.1. Abstract

Review UI of various drakxtools (based on community reviews and internal review) and try to improve UI

3.11.2. Benefit

Continue to ship best configuration tools across Linux distributions

3.11.3. Review and improve Drakxtools UI

Several community members have started reviewing drakxtools UI and we plan to improve those reviews when needed and fix our tools, whenever it is possible.

3.12. drakguard improvements

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec202
Team	Tools
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	50%

3.12.1. Abstract

add applications launch restriction, time based connection restriction

3.12.2. Benefit

More control for anxious parents

3.12.3. drakguard improvements

Drakguard is missing the following features :

- Prevent launching specific applications
- block / allow network connection based on system time

3.13. network tools memory footprint reduction

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec203
Team	Tools
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	50%

3.13.1. Abstract

Reduce memory footprint of Mandriva network tools

3.13.2. Benefit

Useful for OEM / small systems

3.13.3. network tools memory footprint reduction

Mandriva network tools (netapplet / network center) should be improved regarding their memory usage.

3.14. 3G features request

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec205
Team	Core
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	33%

3.14.1. Abstract

good 3G support imply : download (and upload) quotas, PIN/PUK code management, operator selection

3.14.2. Benefit

Better hardware support for USB 3G keys

3.14.3. 3G/3G+ features request

With 3G/3G+ subscriptions becoming broadly available, some features are missing from drakxtools / netcenter / netapplet :

- quota support
- PIN/PUK code management
- provider selection

a 3G meta package (as well as a wifi meta package) should be created, to easily pull all possible packages for supporting various 3G hardware (resp. wifi hardware).

3.15. Improve icon for protected network interfaces

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec230
Team	Tools
Implementor	Anne, Helene
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.15.1. Abstract

Improve icon for protected network interfaces

3.15.2. Benefit

3.15.3.

Improve icon for network interface protected by a firewall. To be defined with Helene.

3.16. Easier wifi key setup

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec225
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.16.1. Abstract

Easier wifi configuration

3.16.2. Benefit

Allow to double check WEP/WPA keys

3.16.3. Easier wifi setup

Typing wifi (wep/wpa) keys can be difficult, when entryfield are in password mode. MacOS X allows to display keys (with a checkbox) so, you can be sure you didn't make any typo, but can keep the key safe from other eyes around by default. To improve WEP keys filling, OK / Next button should be disabled when key lenght is not valid and warn if it is too long (this one is also valid for WPA).

3.17. libparted port of diskdrake

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec211
Team	Core
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com

Priority	3
Status	0%

3.17.1. Abstract

diskdrake is currently have its own code to handle partitioning. It should be ported to libparted

3.17.2. Benefit

Less development for Mandriva, add support for GPT partitions

3.17.3. port diskdrake to libparted

Disks above TB capacity are become available to average consumer and we are hitting 2 or 4TB limit from DOS partition format. We need to switch to GPT (or any other relevant format) and to get this support, it would be easier to port diskdrake to use libparted. In a first phase, We could start with libparted used only for GPT partitions.

3.18. Help user in partitioning his disks

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec219
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.18.1. Abstract

When user reaches partition step, he frequently do not even recall what is exactly on each of these

existing partitions. Installer will allow him to browse at least content for root of each partition

3.18.2. Benefit

Increase simplicity of general use of distribution

3.18.3. Help user in partitioning his disks

Provide a pop-up window when clicking on partition and gives required information

3.19. Allow to create ext4 partitions with installer

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec229
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.19.1. Abstract

Prepare ext4 arrival

3.19.2. Benefit

Future is coming

3.19.3. Allow to create ext4 partitions

Installer / diskdrake should be able to create and format ext4 partitions.

3.20. Improve rpmdrake startup speed

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec226
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.20.1. Abstract

Speedup rpmdrake startup

3.20.2. Benefit

Faster, better, stronger

3.20.3. Faster rpmdrake startup

Rpmdrake startup is quite slow, due to rpm databases parsing. Some data might be cached, allowing rpmdrake to start more quickly.

3.21. Improve user information in rpmdrake

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec217
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.21.1. Abstract

Improve kind of user feedback to help in better comprehension of what happens in rpmdrake

3.21.2. Benefit

3.21.3. Improve user information in rpmdrake

Move general messages from bottom of rpmdrake and find proper way to provide it. Ex: if nothing has been found in search, it must be more visible.

Other improvement : adding support for screenshots

3.22. Provide popularity attribute for packages

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec214
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	2
Status	0%

3.22.1. Abstract

Add popularity parameter for packages in rpmdrake.

3.22.2. Benefit

Help people to choose application to be installed

3.22.3. Provide popularity attribute for packages

rpmstats is existing now for years and not used at all. This could provide helpful information both for distribution components choice and end users.

Use rpmstats database to provide needed information. Add rpmstats in a more visible way in general tools

3.23. Urpmi media auto configuration in all products

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec218
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	90%

3.23.1. Abstract

Allow installer to auto configure installation media to make user life easier

3.23.2. Benefit

Increase simplicity of general use of distribution

3.23.3. Urpmi media auto configuration in all products

Auto configure media at the end of installation using same way as in One. Set of media should take into

account range of product. Ex: do not add non-free media in Free installation

3.24. Provide options on updates frequency

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec215
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.24.1. Abstract

Add option to allow user to plan updates

3.24.2. Benefit

3.24.3. Provide options on updates frequency

Use cron or anacron to provide personnalized options on mdvonline

3.25. Autodetect local urpmi repositories

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozt@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec220
Team	Tools
Implementor	pixel@mandriva.com

Priority	3
Status	0%

3.25.1. Abstract

Allow to use repository available on local network

3.25.2. Benefit

Allow users to lower their bandwidth usage

3.25.3. Urpmi autodiscovery of local repositories

Auto discovery of local urpmi repositories (using DNS-SD) would ease system deployments. Urpmi would use those repositories, without any configuration. It could also be used by ISP to advertise their Mandriva mirrors to their subscribers.

3.26. Draksnapshot restore tools

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec204
Team	Tools
Implementor	fcrozat@mandriva.com boiko@mandriva.com tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	20%

3.26.1. Abstract

Integrated UI in nautilus and Dolphin (or konqueror) should be created to access / restore draksnapshot backups. Integrated restoration in installer.

3.26.2. Benefit

Easier file restoration

3.26.3. GNOME and KDE UI for draksnapshot restore

Draksnapshot backup are currently not easily restorable. A native UI, integrating in Nautilus and Dolphin should be written. To prevent code duplication, a D-Bus service doing most of the work should be written and two UI frontend (one for nautilus and one for dolphin) would take care of plugging backups to file managers

Installer should also propose to restore a full system, based on previous backup

3.27. Remove some obsolete drakxtools

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec228
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.27.1. Abstract

No longer ship some obsolete drakxtools

3.27.2. Benefit

Less clutter

3.27.3. Remove some obsolete drakxtools

Candidate for removal :

- rfbdrake (replaced by vino / vinagre / krfb / kvnc)
- park-rpmdrake

3.28. Hardware test live CD

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec222
Team	Tools
Implementor	blino@mandriva.com
Priority	2
Status	0%

3.28.1. Abstract

Create an hardware autotest live CD

3.28.2. Benefit

Easier testing for compatible systems

3.28.3. Autotest Live CD

Create a live CD featuring hardware autotest, with possible reporting to HCL or to a external media (for later import or when network is not available).

3.29. Mandriva One improvements

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec209
Team	Core
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	50%

3.29.1. Abstract

One should be improved for boot speed, ISO size, setting languages based on timezone (from installer new work), removing unneeded packages at install time and install packages needed.

3.29.2. Benefit

Better user experience for One users

3.29.3. One improvements

One should be improve on the following aspects:

- boot speed (with file reordering when generating ISO)
- ISO image size (LZMA, better package selection)
- improved language selection (based on timezone and new work from installer)
- install / uninstall packages after initial ISO dump on disk, based on hardware configuration

3.30. Improve liste of codecs packages in One and Free

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
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Version	0.1
Id	spec231
Team	Tools
Implementor	blino@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.30.1. Abstract

Remove ugly plugins from One

3.30.2. Benefit

3.30.3.

Remove all non legal plugins in One and Free. Codeina will propose it by default

3.31. Improve Printing system management in One

Author	Anne Nicolas <anne.nicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec232
Team	Tools
Implementor	Anne, Helene
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.31.1. Abstract

Find a way to make easier and more automatic printing system management when One is installed

3.31.2. Benefit

CD size does not allow to embed printing system packages. As a matter of fact, printing system is not available when One is installed. The thing is to propose to install necessary packages after first boot.

3.31.3.

Choose either in post-install step or clicking on icon in mcc to install packages for printing system

3.32. PolicyKit integration in Mandriva Tools

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec208
Team	Core
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.32.1. Abstract

Some of our tools requires root privilege, which is achieved through usermode. PolicyKit would allow easier management for this and would ensure UI is never run as root

3.32.2. Benefit

Better security, fine grain configuration, MCC running as user

3.32.3. PolicyKit integration

usermode is slowly being deprecated (and has always been painful to setup), in favor of PolicyKit, which is cross distribution and cross desktop (KDE port in progress). This would allow MCC to be started as user and drakxtools would require privilege only when committing changes to configuration. It would also simplify fine grain configuration for those ACL.

3.33. Webkit based UI for drakxtools help

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec226
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.33.1. Abstract

No longer use Firefox for displaying drakxtools help

3.33.2. Benefit

Faster, less clutter

3.33.3. Dedicated help program for drakxtools

Currently, firefox is used to display drakxtools help, which is causing an hard dependency and some tricks to make sure firefox is not started at root. It would be better to use webkit inside drakxtools to display HTML (already done in installer).

3.34. UI to store my.mandriva.com account credential on local system

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec224
Team	Tools
Implementor	tvignaud@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

3.34.1. Abstract

Store my.mandriva.com credential locally

3.34.2. Benefit

Allow to use my.mandriva.com credential easily

3.34.3. Store my.mandriva.com credentials locally

Currently, my.mandriva.com credentials are requested at first boot but are only used for web login and are not stored on the system. This is preventing authentication to be reused when my.mandriva.com credentials are needed on the local system (for Restricted media for instance).

Chapter 4. Desktop environments

4.1. Icons theme choice

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec300
Team	Design
Implementor	KDE and GNOME teams
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.1.1. Abstract

We need a common choice for coming release on icons theme, GNOME, KDE3 and KDE4.

4.1.2. Benefit

Participate to general design of distribution and provide renewed look'n feel.

4.1.3. General specifications

We need to define some changes in icons theme: Tango, Oxygen could be one of the possible choice. Should we switch GNOME and maybe KDE3 to Tango, now that KDE4 has Oxygen ? Need to evaluate which icon theme are better with Oxygen.

4.2. Reduce dictionaries proliferation

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec301

Team	Interface
Implementor	fcrozat@mandriva.com, KDE team
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.2.1. Abstract

Reduce dictionaries proliferation

4.2.2. Benefit

Better language coverage, less disk space

4.2.3. Reduce dictionaries proliferation

ensure all spell checkers (evolution, gtkspell, KDE) are migrated to enchant (allow using OOo spell dictionaries)

4.3. KDE

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec303
Team	Desktop Environments
Implementor	
Priority	3
Status	

4.3.1. Background management depending on hours in day

Implementor	KDE team
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.3.1.1. General specifications

Implement hourly management of background using xml configuration file.

4.3.2. Ark improvement

Implementor	KDE team
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.3.2.1. General specifications

Ark needs to be reviewed, especially KDE4 integration before taking any decision of working more on improving it

4.3.3. Kpanels for Plasma

Implementor	boiko@mandriva.com
Priority	2
Status	0%

4.3.3.1. General specifications

Provide graphical tool to simplify user environment for upstream distribution and OEM versions.

4.3.4. KDE upgrade policy

Implementor	heliocastro@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	10%

4.3.4.1. General specifications

Write precise policy to upgrade between 2 versions of Mandriva:

- Describe KDE3 and KDE4 trees
- List all use cases in term of upgrade
- Provide test case for QA tests

4.3.5. krandr improvements

Implementor	boiko@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.3.5.1. General specifications

Make krandr more integrated into KDE4.

4.3.6. Plug Codeina with DragonPlayer

Implementor	kde@mandriva.com
Priority	5
Status	0%

4.3.6.1. General specifications

Plug Codeina to DragonPlayer and make it as default player for KDE

4.4. GNOME

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec304
Team	Interface
Implementor	
Priority	3
Status	

4.4.1. GNOME 2.26

Implementor	fcrozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.1.1. GNOME 2.26

Integrate latest version of GNOME : 2.26, which will be released on September 24 2008.

4.4.2. Port Ia-Ora to Cairo

Implementor	frozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.2.1. Port Ia-Ora to cairo

Current GTK2 version of Ia-Ora theme is using gdk for drawing. Porting to Cairo would simplify code and rendering could be hardware acceleration on some systems.

4.4.3. Bluetooth cleanup (GNOME)

Implementor	frozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.3.1. Improve Bluetooth support in GNOME

Bastien Nocera (from Fedora) has worked a lot on improving Bluetooth support in GNOME (and Fedora). Part of his work has been merged in Mdv 2008.1, we should resync with his progress.

4.4.4. Add theme support to GDM 2.22

Implementor	frozat@mandriva.com
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Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.4.1. Add theme support for GDM 2.22

GDM 2.22 is a full rewrite of GDM, which no longer supports themes, which was used for graphical login when using GDM. This is a regression, compared to Mdv 2008.1 and should be fixed.

4.4.5. Improve color management in GNOME

Implementor	frozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.5.1. Improve color management in GNOME

GNOME doesn't support setting a color profile (using XICC specification) for screens and nautilus doesn't support color profile for background rendering. Those easy tasks would lead the path to improving color management in GNOME.

4.4.6. UI improvement in Mandriva GNOME

Implementor	frozat@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.4.6.1. UI improvements in Mandriva GNOME

- add unmount / eject right click menu for removable entries in Places (in gnome-panel). Could be merged upstream
- add "About Mandriva(Linux)" in GNOME panel, opening manual describing the distribution

4.5. Applications

Author	Anne NICOLAS
Version	0.1
Id	spec306
Team	Desktop Environments
Implementor	
Priority	3
Status	

4.5.1. Make Windows programs emulation easier

Implementor	anicolas@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

4.5.1.1. Make Windows programs emulation easier

- Review existing GUI for emulator
- Check status of packages and test it carefully

Chapter 5. Infrastructure

5.1. Improve mirror management

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec400
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	pixel, fcrozat
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.1.1. Abstract

Improve mirror management

5.1.2. Benefit

Better service for our users

5.1.3. Improve mirror management

The current issue should be improved / resolved :

- clean up mirror list, remove obsolete mirrors, add new mirrors
- handle incomplete mirrors in mirror list
- add new mirrors provided by Mandriva partners

5.2. SVN migration

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec401
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	Blino, Spuk
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.2.1. Abstract

Provide a new kind of data storage in svn to avoid disk problem

5.2.2. Benefit

Easier server administration

5.2.3. SVN migration

Part of prapration work was done by mrl. Needs to read detailed specs written by him Blino and Spuk need to speak about final specifications before starting tests. Bogdano already modified repsys for this migration. More tests needed also before migration

5.3. Improve general svn management

Author	Anne Nicolas <anne.nicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec408
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	Spuk
Priority	3

Status	40%
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5.3.1. Abstract

Add some tools to help in general tasks in build system

5.3.2. Benefit

Monitor use of svn, help integration of new packagers

5.3.3. Develop some tools for svn

markrelease-watchdog: a script to monitor packages with commits pending a release

pkg-watcher: a script to allow for subscribing to commits to packages, and to mail commits from apprentice maintainers to their mentors

5.4. rpmlint improvements

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec402
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	oblin@mandriva.com, spuk@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.4.1. Abstract

Improve rpmlint to reflect Mandriva packaging policy.

5.4.2. Benefit

Makes life easier for maintainers

5.4.3. rpmlint improvements

Implement our policies in rpmlint checks. List of these modifications has to be done: check opened enhancement bugs (for what I can see: 28215, 29543, 30627, 34482, ...), mail to maintainers mailing-list to complete it. Bogdano will add it, as soon as there is one opened bug by proposal with a tracker

5.5. youri upgrade

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec403
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	Blino, Spuk, Pixel, Guillaume Rouse
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.5.1. Abstract

Get upstream version of youri in build system as current one is outdated

5.5.2. Benefit

Update build system components

5.5.3. youri upgrade

Needs some discussion with upstream team (Guillaume Rouse) and Blino, Spuk, Pixel. The point is to get upstream version of youri, integrating needed features for Mandriva build system. This list must be done before starting work

5.6. Monitoring build system

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec404
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	nvigier@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.6.1. Abstract

Set up common monitoring tools on build system

5.6.2. Benefit

Improve build system administration

5.6.3. Monitoring build system

Define final solution for all nodes so that we have complete monitoring and use same tools everywhere. Nicolas will make some proposals for tools to be used

5.7. Improve build dependancies in build system

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec405
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	bogdano@mandriva.com
Priority	3
Status	20%

5.7.1. Abstract

Provide a way to manage dependancies when building new version of one package

5.7.2. Benefit

Makes life easier for maintainers

5.7.3. Improve build dependancies in build system

Lots of maintainers complain on difficulties when they have to wait for dependancies build before submitting final package. Here is a solution that was discussed: allow multiple packages handling in repsys (we wait for Bogdano signal), provide and manage list of dependancies for such cases. This list will be provided by maintener and modify only by bs admins.

5.8. Reduce nodes number

Author	Anne Nicolas <anicolas@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec406
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	Blino, Spuk
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.8.1. Abstract

Reduce nodes number to get more efficient build cluster

5.8.2. Benefit

Reduce nodes number to get more efficient build cluster

5.8.3. Reduce nodes number

Allow official packages to be built only in Klodia and Tulsa (a new node as powerful as Klodia, to be added in bs). Keep other nodes for home directories and tests. Check with rtp we can use Tulsa (needs some cleaning)

5.9. Automatically clean testing repository

Author	Frederic Crozat <fcrozat@mandriva.com>
Version	0.1
Id	spec407
Team	infrastructure
Implementor	Spuk
Priority	3
Status	0%

5.9.1. Abstract

Remove packages from testing when they are no longer relevant

5.9.2. Benefit

Less clutter in testing repository

5.9.3. Automatically clean testing repository

When bugfix packages are first submitted in contrib/testing and then re-submitted to contrib/update, the initial testing package are not removed from contrib/testing and rpmctl doesn't allow to remove them (either on cooker or stable distro).