The present and future of Fedora Flatpaks

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August 7, 2021
Overview

- Introduction to Flatpak
- Fedora Flatpaks
- RHEL Flatpaks
- Flatpak in the future
Introduction to Flatpak
What is a Flatpak?

- New way to distribute applications
- Distribution: Flathub, Fedora registry...
- Platform (SDK & Runtime)
- Sandboxing
What is a Flatpak?
Flatpak advantages

- Cross distro
- Reproducible builds
- Develop against a specific stack version
- Isolated from your system and user’s system
- Security by default - apps are sandboxed
- Permissions handling system built-in
Fedora Flatpaks
Fedora Flatpaks

- Based on existing RPMs
  - Better control over the source code (RPMs are maintained, revised, trusted)
  - OCI images/containers instead of ostree
- Using Modularity - rebuild sources with /app prefix
- <app>.yaml - list of “private” dependencies
- container.yaml - most importantly, list Flatpak permissions
- registry.fedoraproject.org
- Process:
  - Module build (with /app prefix)
  - Container build (Flatpak)
  - Distribution
Current state of Flatpaks in Fedora

- 85 applications
- Delta updates
- Langpacks
- debuginfo
- New Tracker3 portals
RHEL Flatpaks
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation

- Disclaimer
- Stability in future-ready infrastructure
- Consistent platform for development
- Support
Flatpaks in RHEL

- Runtimes target specific RHEL versions
- Tech preview
- First applications as Flatpaks (LibreOffice, GIMP...)
- Available at registry.redhat.io
Advantages of RHEL Flatpaks

- Single Flatpak stream for all RHEL versions
- Bundled single-purpose dependencies
- Better user experience around updates
- Based on RHEL RPMs
Future of Flatpaks
Future

- Better Portal support
- Get Flatpaks to the maintainers and packagers (ideally, RPM and Flatpak should be done at one time)
- CVE tracking
- debug story
Questions?