

# Building a Community

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# *About me*

- Working as Systems Administrator
  - Book author
  - Gentoo user since 2002
  - Started with German translations
  - Became lead translator and developer in 2003
  - Took the ebuild quiz in early 2005 and joined the PPC and HPPA teams
  - Maintain several random packages
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# *How I came to Gentoo*

- Tried several distributions since ~1999
  - Gentoo user since 2002
  - Main Gentoo Box: Pentium D 3GHz, 4gb RAM, 160gb disk, running x86
  - Also running Gentoo on: HPPA (735/99, C240, C3700), MIPS (Indy, Indigo2 R10K), Alpha (433Mhz Miata), Sparc (SparcStation 20, Ultra 5), PowerPC (iBook G4, RS/6000 7043-140, Pegasos), and there are some other machines ;)
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# *Overview*

- Communication Platforms
- The Gentoo cloud
- How do we integrate people?
- What others do
- Where do we want to go?



# ***Communication Platforms: forums.gentoo.org***

- 4 Million Posts
  - >100k Users
  - More than 5 years
  - One of the biggest phpBB setups worldwide
  - Really amazing knowledge repository – „if you can't find a solution in the forums it's really a bug“
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# ***Communication Platforms: bugzilla.gentoo.org***

- Nearly every bug is handled there
  - Bug-wrangler assign bugs to herds and maintainers
  - Lots of current developers were „discovered“ on bugzie – helpful comments, patches, testing, ...
  - Bugday
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# *Communication Platforms:*

## *IRC*

- Installation support (#gentoo)
- development discussions (#gentoo-dev and #gentoo-dev-help)
- In most cases the easiest way to contact developers directly (#\$projekt)

# *Communication Platforms: Mailinglists*

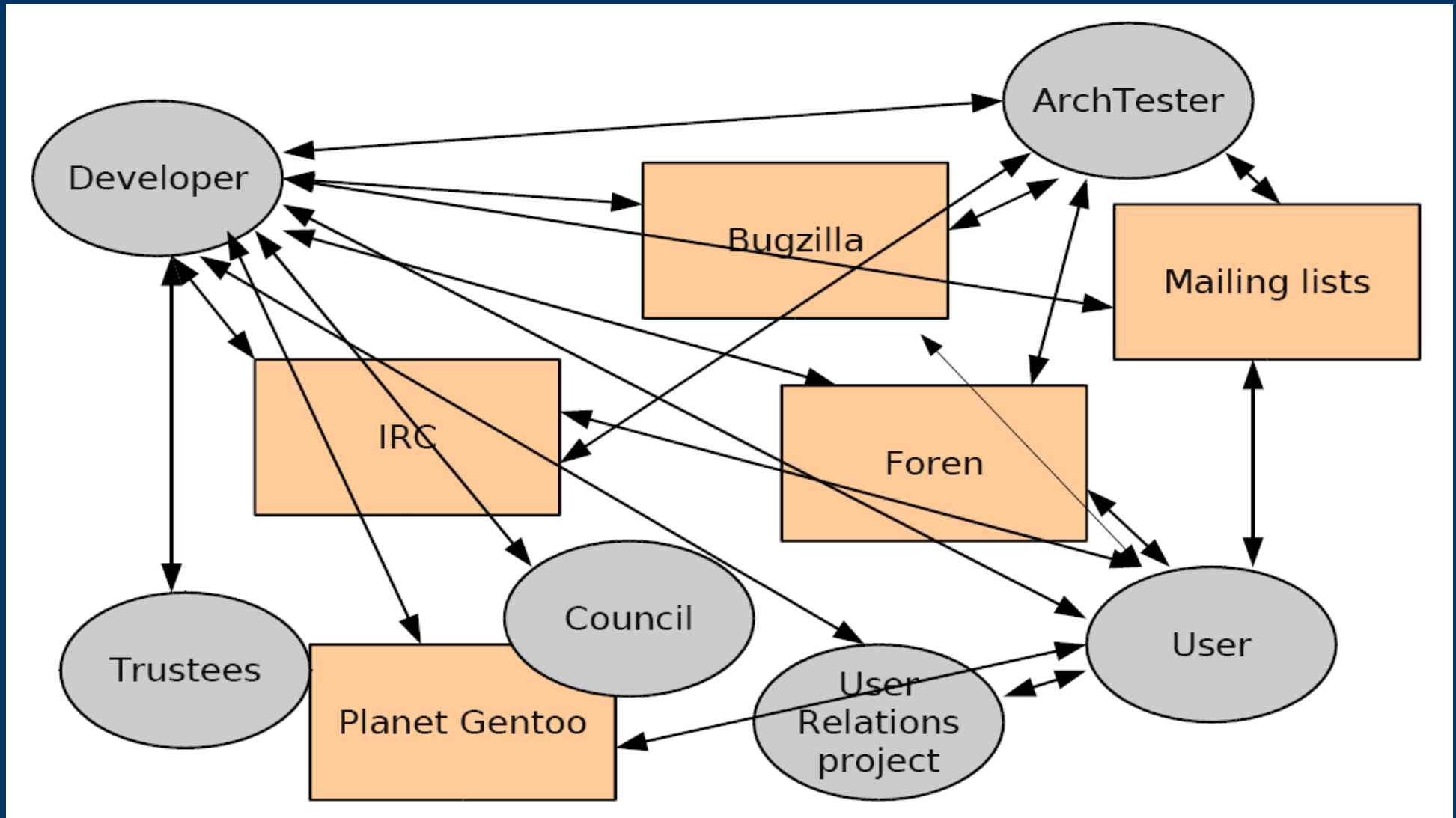
- Communitysupport on the gentoo-user list
- gentoo-dev list used for flames^wdevelopment stuff
- lots of project specific mailinglist



# *„Propaganda“*

- [www.gentoo.org](http://www.gentoo.org):  
News, Announcements
  - GWN:  
Gentoo (currently not that) Weekly  
Newsletter
  - Planet Gentoo:  
aggregation of Developer Blogs,  
information about what Developers are  
doing and interested at
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# The Gentoo cloud



# *How do we integrate people?*

- User-Representatives:  
elected by the forums community,  
elected for a limited period, should be  
able to influence Gentoo and decision  
making processes – but has any of you  
seen User-Reps being involved  
somewhere in the past year?
  - Nice idea, but it failed
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# *How do we integrate people?*

- [overlays.gentoo.org](http://overlays.gentoo.org) / Sunrise Overlay: Allow users to maintain a semi-official overlay monitored and supervised by Developers, train ebuild-related knowledge
  - Let users work on project overlays, experimental features, patchsets and so on
  - People get even more involved!
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# *How do we integrate people?*

- Architecture Testers:  
started by the AMD64 Team,  
incorporate users into the development  
cycle, let them being helpful and get  
them more and more involved
  - Great idea, has been ported from  
AMD64 to several other architecture  
teams
  - Lots of former Arch-Testers became  
„full“ Developers
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# *How do we integrate people?*

- Local Groups:

„Friends of Gentoo e.V.“, Germany

Gechi, Gentoo Channel Italia

GentooJP, Japan

Gentoo UK (?)



# *What others do*

- Ubuntu:  
„Ubuntu Community Manager“,  
organised regional groups („LoCo-  
teams“)
  - Mandriva:  
„Mandriva Community Manager“ (at  
least one in Germany)
  - Debian?
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# *Where do we want go?*

- Get local groups more organised, share ideas, knowledge, material, ...
- A group of Community Managers?
  
- Speak up!



*.... advertisement!*

