PulseAudio: Control and Command
State of Desktop Integration in GNOME & KDE
Where are we?

- Used by default on most distributions
- KDE distros lagged behind GNOME in adoption
- Lots of driver issues now fixed
- Several features now integrated, more coming
- Vibrant development community
- But could always do with more help!
What is missing?

- Better expose the features
- Easier selection of different configurations
- More information about sound devices
  - Tell the user when a (new) device is added
  - Let the user know if they cannot control volume
  - Let the user know when they cannot access h/w
- In short........ UI!
A look at the “competition”
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• Now lets look at GNOME and KDE

• “Competition” - delete as appropriate!
A look at the “competition”
A look at the “competition”
What is different?

• GNOME hides things away – KDE exposes it
• GNOME only shows connected devices
• GNOME integrates (minimal) sound theme edit
• GNOME doesn't remember history

• Bigger question: What does each actually WANT?
Sound Menu + Media Keys

- Different implementations:
  - Ubuntu: Pulse + MPRIS
  - GNOME: Pulse
  - KDE: KMix + MPRIS

- General idea is (IMO) very good and clean
- Need standardization on how features are exposed
Where are we headed?

• Looking to integrate:
  • Better device configuration
  • Make more metadata available to UI layers
  • Simpler device selection
    • Move the 'device manager' priority lists into core
    • Make existing APIs manip priority lists for Bk/Co
    • Show all “ports”/”connectors”
  • GNOME UIs can move to top when selected
  • KDE can show full list and allow manual reorder
Where are we headed?

- Better exposing of options:
  - Introduction of module-loader to replace gconf
  - Allows easy creation of native UIs for configuring
    - Loopback modules (a la “Listen to this device”)
    - Remap Sinks
    - Combine Sinks
  - Publish UI guidelines covering volume levels, passthrough notification, OSD etc.
How will we get there?

- We need help!!!
- We will need to move/renovate wiki on FDO
- Could do with better documentation of features
- Could do with better documentation .
- We want to help you too! Please consult/inform us
- Need more people to work on the UI (esp. in KDE)
- http://pulseaudio.org #pulseaudio
- http://lists.freedesktop.org/mailman/listinfo/pulseaudio-discuss