

Debian for Shy People

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1 We have an hour

- Plenty of time!
- And more!

2 Time plan

- Asheesh talks for 15ish minutes
- We all discuss for the rest

3 Why run this BoF?

- LibrePlanet women in free software caucus
- Erinn Clark said, It's not about "removing barriers to entry"
- I think of it more as making contributing more fun.
- ...
- No, that's not what I mean. It's just what I say to avoid sounding authoritative.
- Indians
- Shy people caucus

4 Alternative titles

- Debian Imposters
- Debian for Insecure People
- Life for Insecure People

5 Why do it at Debconf

- No one joins Debian to get rich
- No one joins Debian because it's cool

6 Authoritative Asheesh

- “Debplot”
- Starting things
- License minutiae on Slashdot
- Picking my fights...?
- Xbox-Linux

7 I don't talk about myself

- Resumes;
- CC
- Debian
- OpenHatch
- Stormy at OSCON

8 I don't ask for things

- 2009: Nelson Pavlosky asks me to start OpenHatch with him
- 2010: Mel at 2:15am
- 2010: Venkatesh pointed me to GSoC

9 Things I don't actually like

- Feeling indispensable
- Having people see me as authoritative

10 in which Asheesh complains about Indians

11 Oh, yeah, Debian

12 Mailing lists

- No RTFM...

13 IRC

- ...if you can manage to learn how to do it

14 Why bother?

“Even though not everyone may have a useful contribution, we need the contributions of people who actually can contribute usefully.”
Don Armstrong

15 A sad friend

“Whatever you’re going to say, I’m probably thinking.”

16 Thoughts about tools

- I have never been more scared by a robot.

17 I never read automated reminder emails

- But if we make them slightly random...

18 Thoughts about people

- Ask for specific contributions
- Imply that people are capable

19 Benefits for other types of people

- the under-informed

20 Discuss.