

## New Year, Same Projects :)

Happy 2021 everyone! Just before the end of year shutdown, the CPE management team and our stakeholder group reps met to plan the work the CPE team needed to focus on for quarter one (Q1) of 2021. Our department within Red Hat also issued a directive that teams should only try to plan 'deliverable work' for about 75% of our time, given how unpredictable 2020 was! And as our team also runs infrastructure and release engineering efforts for both CentOS & Fedora, our infra & releng team always gets staffed every quarter. Unsurprisingly, that left us going into our planning call for Q1 of 2021 with a lot of constraints on our people and their time. So during our prioritization call, we all agreed to work on the below initiatives with #1 & #2 being staffed indefinitely in Q1 and the remaining projects being worked on once team members become available.

1. CentOS Stream
2. Noggin/AAA replacement
3. Fedora-Messaging Schemas
4. Flatpak indexer code merge
5. Debuginfo-d
6. Datanommer & Datagrepper V.2

**WHAT ARE PRIORITY SLIDERS?**

**What is it?**

- A tool that facilitates conversations about relative priorities and focuses upcoming activities
- A finite set of topics/dimensions/areas that can be relatively prioritised against each other
- A slider for each dimension where groups of people collaborative slide the relative importance to the right (more important) or left (less important)
- A practice that increases the autonomy of teams (see decision making below).

**Why use it?**

- Enables an alignment and consensus on areas of focus
- Provides clarifications across stakeholder groups of motivations and desires
- Can be used as a filtering mechanism for later prioritisation (of, for example, product backlog items)
- Can be used for decision-making.

**EXAMPLE PRIORITIES**

Here are some examples of priorities that could be considered. These are just a starting point, though - feel free to try other priorities to suit your team and project!

- Functional completeness
- Test completeness
- Product-market fit
- User experience
- Performance
- Stability
- Security
- Learning

**STEPS**

- 1 As a group add a sticky in the first column for each item that you want to prioritise on
- 2 For each item to prioritise, start to place yellow sticks against a number on the slider. Only one item can be prioritised with the same number
- 3 Discuss relative priorities as a team and adjust sticky placement until all items have a unique priority number.

**MATERIALS**

**EXAMPLE**

**PRIORITY SLIDERS FOR CPE Q1 2021**

1 - Highest  
6 - Lowest

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6
CentOS Stream	●					
Datanommer						●
debuginfod					●	
AAA / Noggin		●				
Flatpak				●		
Fedora Messaging			●			

This project priority list was reached through a technique developed by the Open Practice Library called Priority Sliders. It allowed for each stakeholder rep to share why they feel each initiative should be placed in a certain number on the priority scale. The idea is to run this

exercise a few times to reach a good consensus between everyone, but as our stakeholder groups work so closely with each other and our team throughout the quarter and actively join our calls, everyone reached alignment on the priority list time :)

So as CentOS Stream is our most important project alongside replacing the FAS account system for Fedora and migrating CentOS account system to this tooling too, they came out on top and that's what the CPE team will be working on for the months of January, February and March for 2021.

In this time for the Noggin project, we hope to deliver a fully functional and tested account authorization system to both Fedora and CentOS, with user data and applications the CPE team run and maintain already migrated over with minimal disruption to users. We also will have supporting documentation for application maintainers to consume when they are reconfiguring their applications to use the new API.

For CentOS Stream, we hope to continue to deliver a distro that supports development for the next minor RHEL release and add to and update our package set available in Stream for its users. We are also in parallel to this refining how contributions can be made in Stream that could be contenders in the next major release of RHEL too - so watch this space for some very exciting times ahead!

As usual we will have our Infra & Releng team working on issues and bugs as they come into us from both communities, and this team will be helping the CentOS Stream and Noggin Teams with any deployment and infrastructure tasks they have too.

If you want to reach out to our teams you can find them here:

CentOS Stream - IRC @ #centos-stream

Noggin/AAA - IRC @ #fedora-aaa

Infra & Releng - IRC @ (so many!)

CentOS

#centos-ci

#centos-devel

Fedora

#fedora-admin

#fedora-noc

#fedora-releng

#fedora-apps

Looking forward to working in and spending another quarter delivering services to two great communities again!

Over and Out,

Aoife