

The Haskell Platform: Status Report



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Haskell Platform

What it is

- Single, standardised Haskell distribution for every platform
- Blessed libraries and tools that work well together
- Haskell: Batteries Included
- Hackage: the good bits
- One click installers for Windows, Mac, Unix

<http://hackage.haskell.org/platform>



What we did in 2009

- Live: <http://hackage.haskell.org/platform>
- Major push at Utrecht Hackathon
- Live 2009.2.x series:
 - 2009.2.0: May 2009
 - 2009.2.0.1: Jun 2009
 - 2009.2.0.2: Aug 2009
- Next: 2009.4: coming soon



Results

- 190 thousand Windows Installer downloads
 - 75 thousand last month
- 10k downloads of Linux and Mac installers
- From 1.22 million Hackage downloads
 - 82 thousand last month
 - 1520+ libraries and tools
 - 400+ developers



Supported Platforms

- Mac OSX installer ✓
- Windows installer ✓
- Unix:
 - Fedora ✓
 - Arch ✓
 - Gentoo ✓
 - NixOS ✓
 - *Debian (almost)*
 - *Missing: **Ubuntu**, SUSE, SlackWare, CentOS, FreeBSD*



“jdkoeck Installing the haskell platform and leksah on your computer takes 5 minutes on Windows. Huge win :)”

“johnbender: <http://hackage.haskell.org/platform/> ← much love for the easy haskell + libs install. “

“tadr: Got gitit (git/haskell wiki) running on snow leopard with the help of macports (+universal) and the #haskell platform. Sweet ass.”

“dawkub: Installing the #Haskell Platform 2009.2.0 on my laptop—for great good!”

“anonymous: **Sweet! Now developers everywhere are just one double-click away from being bewildered by monads**”

“rilo: Finally! I was waiting for this because I didn't have a clue how to install packages using GHC for windows. “

“nibro: One download, one installer, and I'm ready to roll. A most pleasant experience I must say, and everything seems to work perfectly out of the box on my 64-bit Vista. Way to go, glorious Haskell community! “



OH YEAH!



Policy Stuff

- **Stability:** Minor releases are bug fix only
 - No API changes except at major releases
 - Follows Package Version Policy (PVP)
- 4 month release cycles for first year
- Steering committee established to guide policy

- Hackage urls now fit on one slide:
 - <http://hackage.haskell.org/package/pandoc>



Haskell Platform : Next Release

- 2009.4 series released: Late September
 - **Updates for all packages**
 - With GHC **6.10.4**
 - Won't be disruptive



Haskell Platform and GHC 6.12

- The new GHC 6.12 comes out soon
 - With no more “extralibs”
 - Compiler and libraries fully separate
 - The Haskell Platform will be the main way to get essential libraries
 - Haskell Platform planned to update once stable
- So: 3 month “beta testing” for GHC 6.12 series
- Then it is in the standard distribution
- Along with new blessed packages



What is a “blessed” package?

- Draft procedure for adding packages:
 - Write a proposal to add a package
 - Review takes place on libraries@ list
 - Seek consensus of reviewers
- Steering Committee guides process
- **YOU** make the decisions!

<http://trac.haskell.org/haskell-platform/wiki/AddingPackages>

Get Involved!

- Join the `libraries@` list and review packages
- Package up the Haskell Platform for Ubuntu...
- Use the Haskell Platform as your teaching base
- Propose packages for inclusion
- Let us know if you're using it commercially
- Write documentation for your favourite package
- Use and contribute to Hackage

