Packages on Maemo/MeeGo

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Abstract

The package management system is one of the most important components in a GNU/Linux distribution. During the last years Maemo has been using the advanced packaging tool (APT) to provide capabilities to manage all the applications in the mobile platform. MeeGo is going to change the package management system to the RPM Package Manager. The importance of all these changes has strong relevance in the developer community. To know the difference between the packages systems, how they work and what capabilities differ from each other for the complete knowledge of developers interested in deploying applications on these platforms.

Apart from the application publishing in the repositories, the package systems involve a important life cycle that should be considered before starting deployment. Developers have different methods to create and maintain their packages. Different tools should be considered at the time that the guidelines of both package management system are applied to reach the quality expected from the end-user community.

Finally the package management system is not the only interest of the developers. For the end-user is very useful to know how it works and what are the best methods to have applications updated or what are the differences between repositories. Regardless of the package system being used in the GNU/Linux distribution the importance of it it's unquestionable and its management is need.