2011 Major Issues with Linux Printing

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- ## **Printing Dialog**
  - ➢ GNOME printing dialog was still asking for the print command, no printer list, no options, no CUPS support
  - ➢ After my feature request on the GNOME list and a flamewar started by Linus Torvalds GTK comes out with a CUPS-supporting dialog in GTK 2.10.x (by the way, 2.10.x made it into the LSB this year).
  - ➢ On the OpenPrinting Summit hosted by Lanier (heute Ricoh) in Atlanta OpenUsability started to design the Common Printing Dialog
    - ▪ Dialog with Usability in mind
    - ▪ Same dialog for all applications and all desktops (KDE, GNOME, Firefox, OpenOffice.org, …)
    - ▪ Featrure completeness to support everything which CUPS supports
    - ▪ Also supports application-specific options
  - ➢ Problems of today:
    - ▪ MANPOWER!
    - ▪ No volunteers, we need to pay developers
    - ▪ No sponsors to pay developers and usability research/design

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Starting OpenPrinting Summits in 2006

- **PDF Printing Workflow**
  - Replacing PostScript as print job format by PDF
    - One can always tell pages apart
    - Transparency and other new graphical objects
    - More compact files
  - Filters written by Koji Otani, Tobias Hoffman, Till Kamppeter, …
  - Implemented for the first time in Ubuntu Jaunty Jackalope (8.10, Oc\t 2008) and at the same time in Debian.
  - Lots of bug fixes (and PDF interpreter improvements) afterwards
  - Not yet adopted by Red Hat and SUSE (Red Hat will probably adopt in in Fedora 16).
  - Problems of today
    - PDF interpreter performance for certain files
    - Filters are contributed by many persons who (and whose employers) are copyright owners. This requires contributor agreements with Apple and/or hosting of CUPS extensions for Linux on OpenPrinting.

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- **Color Management**
  - ➢ To get same color output quality as commercial OS

- **Performance**
  - ➢ Filters, renderers, and drivers are often too slow, especially on complex input files.

- **QA**
  - ➢ New versions of programs, especiall of applications have often regressions concerning printing, and the printing functionality does not get enough tested, for example f-spot crashes when clicking on "Print".

- **MANPOWER!**
  - ➢ Difficult to find volunteers, even GSoC students. Important coding tasks do not get done: JTAPI, CPD, SANE in LSB, ...

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