



Contributing to XBMC During a Release Cycle

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The Software Engineering Practicum course taught by Dr. James Bowring focuses on the development of open source software. Our team chose to work with XBMC, and made itself known in the XBMC community by contributing to several bug reports and updating outdated and/or incorrect documentation. By actively contributing and participating in a vibrant open source community, we experienced a "trial-by-fire" insight into real-world software development.

Overview

XBMC, formerly known as Xbox Media Center, is an open source media player and entertainment hub that is available for Windows, Mac OSX, iOS, and Linux. XBMC supports most major audio and video formats “out of the box” and allows users to install add-ons to add new functions and/or features. XBMC has also just been accepted into the official Debian distribution.

Open Source Software

Open Source Software (OSS) is built on the talents and time donated by individuals. It is produced, distributed, and upgraded for free, and made freely available to the public. OSS is rapidly becoming more relevant in the software world, with projects like this one contributing to it’s effectiveness and popularity. We were honored to be a part of such a great initiative.

Contributions

Bug Fixes:

- Bug # 12641: Patch to update README.ubuntu with PPA information.
- Bug # 12653: Disconnecting controller leads to XBMC crash.
- Bug # 10489: External subtitle is not always the default one, and can't save the default audio settings anymore.

Wiki Contributions:

Over 10 pages of the XBMC wiki have been updated to match the latest build and release. Including but not limited to these wiki pages:

- Installation and compilation instructions
- Troubleshooting
- Menu selections and descriptions

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Ticket #12641: README-updatedPPA.patch

File README-updatedPPA.patch, 2.5 KB (added by JohnSN7, 3 weeks ago)
This contains the changes I made to the README.ubuntu file. It is the second version of the patch. I have fixed the indentations and removed the 3rd-party PPA. It now lists the command for the official stable version PPA.

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