Krita Podcasting plug-in
By Dennis Pennekamp

Getting popular
Getting expressive creative people to use Koffice is a good early step in making Koffice more popular. Creative persons can help make Koffice look cool and may do so simply because they want it to look cool. I really don't if this is applicable but may also give some developers something to do while waiting for libs to be ported and stuff.

Unserviced niche
Creating podcasts for radio shows, video shows, photos slideshows are easily made with Apple software, paying members even find that uploading and serving the files is done with the click of a button in the creation software. But Apple does not supply a visual art package like Krita or Karbon.

Cartoonist are eager to spread their entertainment and Koffice could supply a free and complete solution. It would grab some expressive creative people with a must have feature-set and start to spread the Koffice word in the creative world. I would average this niche group as polite, poor, being followers (not leaders) regarding technical innovation and with a high community spirit. Not that interesting for commercial exploitation. In other words an ideal target group if we can create an easy to use solution. So a comic podcasting plug-in is the first thing I suggest.

Comics on iPods
As the iPod screens are the size of a single frame of a newspaper funny most funnies and other comics will need to be optimised in composition to get an easy to read series of frames. Dialog ballons with long texts need to be split up into two smaller successive balloons which the reader clicks or plays through to keep the cartoon itself becoming obscured by big balloons. There are 3 screen sizes for the color iPod the smallest, the Nano, cannot play videos yet it is very popular, it can play a PNG or jpeg slideshow.

How it could work
The plug-in would show the three screen sizes, perhaps in Kpresenter. Assuming the comic is print ready and has a high resolution, a live selection tool / layer would let you select the desired portion of the comic in Krita. It would be live as the selection tool updates the three iPod panes as often as possible. When satisfied click next or something.

Now if the background doesn't look good on one of the iPod panes we can adjust it indivually. When doing so we realise that the selection was a bit fake as we can move the background around and the entire original pictured is available. We can also zoom in and out to make the comic better fit the screen size of this iPod pane if some important details we not visible enough.

Then we hit a next slide button and notice that the background is still the same. We click Add dialog ballon layer and draw and write a fitting balloon. We click next slide and perhaps add another balloon to the same drawing.

Then we hit a new slide button and we can start selecting from the original drawing in Krita again.

Pretty quickly we end up with a complete slide show we can test.

Next we export the slide show as a podcast on the webspace provided by our basic internet provider, meaning we build a simple webpage and with the slideshows optimized for each of the 3 iPods as download and as 3 RSS feed items.

The next week we simply update by replacing the webpage with a new commic. Simple and effective. Tools to properly manage a comic website will soon appear after if other podcasting evolutions are a common trend.