

Packages - Freedom issue #2909

Do check fwupd

2020-10-11 01:11 AM - GNUtoo

Status: unconfirmed	% Done: 0%
Priority: bug	
Assignee:	
Category:	
Description	
Related issues:	
Related to Packages - Freedom issue #1035: [your-system-sanity]: Non-Free Sof... in progress	

History

#1 - 2020-10-11 01:23 AM - GNUtoo

We ship the fwupd package unmodified from the various archlinux GNU/Linux distributions.

On i686 it comes from community:

```
$ pacman -sS fwupd
community/fwupd 1.4.6-1.0 [installed]
  Simple daemon to allow session software to update firmware
community/gnome-firmware 3.36.0-2.0
  Manage firmware on devices supported by fwupd
```

fwupd is a daemon that is meant to update various firmwares¹ regardless of if they are free or not.

So it's a bit like a package manager for firmwares.

So if it has not been done already, it would be a good idea to check if its configuration is ok or not.

As at least one firmware (for the color hugs if I recall the name well) is free software and known to be available through this system, so it might be a good idea to check if free firmwares are completely ok and keep such firmwares if that's easy to do.

¹ Here firmware means code that is in various devices and not part of the operating system, so from SSD firmwares to even BIOS/UEFI.

#2 - 2020-10-11 01:30 AM - GNUtoo

I found some highly suspicious files:

```
$ pacman -Q -l fwupd | grep -i lvfs
fwupd /etc/fwupd/remotes.d/lvfs-testing.conf
fwupd /etc/fwupd/remotes.d/lvfs.conf
[...]
$ cat /etc/fwupd/remotes.d/lvfs.conf
[fwupd Remote]

# this remote provides metadata and firmware marked as 'stable' from the LVFS
Enabled=true
Title=Linux Vendor Firmware Service
Keyring=gnupg
MetadataURI=https://cdn.fwupd.org/downloads/firmware.xml.gz
ReportURI=https://fwupd.org/lvfs/firmware/report
OrderBefore=fwupd
```

<https://cdn.fwupd.org/downloads/firmware.xml.gz> seem to contain references to many nonfree firmwares.

#3 - 2020-10-11 09:44 AM - bill-auger

- Related to Freedom issue #1035: [your-system-sanity]: Non-Free Software From Third-party Package Managers added

#4 - 2020-10-11 09:55 AM - bill-auger

GNUtoo -

i notice that you do not fill in the descriptions for new tickets that you open; but instead add a secondary comment with the details later - the initial ticket form should have a text field for the description - i wonder is the interface broken for you maybe

this is also peculiar, because some people are not allowed to submit the ticket if the description field is empty - redmine normally rejects the post, with an error message: "description can not be empty" - i have not investigated that, but i assumed it was a global behavior

#5 - 2020-10-11 05:24 PM - GNUtoo

i notice that you do not fill in the descriptions for new tickets that you open; but instead add a secondary comment with the details later - the initial ticket form should have a text field for the description - i wonder is the interface broken for you maybe

The reason is simple:

- The first description cannot be edited later on
- I often make mistakes also because I've no preview without JavaScript¹.

¹ JavaScript isn't bad per-se but here it acts as arbitrary execution of code, can be viewed as as a security issue, depending on your threat model. It is a good practice to not tie the security of one's computer to the computer(s) serving serving the JavaScript code and all the infrastructure in between (SSL PKI).

#6 - 2020-10-11 11:02 PM - bill-auger

ok, understood - the description can be edited; but it does require javascript to expose the form

this is the HTML element definition:

```
<span id="issue_description_and_toolbar" style="display:none">
```

you could probably do some magic by injecting some CSS with some styling tool, to make the form always exposed

```
#issue_description_and_toolbar { display: block ; }
```

or with local javascript/greasemonkey:

```
document.getElementById('issue_description_and_toolbar').show()
```

a better solution would be to prevent redmine from hiding it for admins and the OP - im sure thats a simple change