

Adobe Acrobat Reader under Linux

Frank Schlünzen, Yves Kemp
Linux User Meeting, 31.10.2013

Current status

- > Adobe Acrobat Reader 9 is the latest version for Linux
- > ... and it is unsafe
- > RHEL actively removes it from installation
- > Zeuthen site (among others) follow this
- > No new Adobe Acrobat Reader in sight
- > Need for alternatives



Alternatives to Adobe Acrobat Reader

- > Linux PDF readers ... e.g. Evince, GPdf, Okular, KPDF, Xpdf, ...
 - Probably none is full replacement for Acrobat Reader - Especially forms are problematic
 - SL6 (and more SL5) feature rather old versions
- > Chrome Brower includes PDF reader
 - SL6 too old for recent Chrome browser
 - Support for yet another browser @DESY
- > WINE and Acrobat Reader 10/11
 - Unclear “roadmap” & Huge support load
- > Windows Terminal Server and Acrobat Reader 11
 - Only works when online – no alternative for laptops
 - Needs password for access
 - Increase of licensing costs
- > Virtual Machine with Windows and Acrobat Reader 11
 - Huge management overhead
 - Increase of licensing costs



Summary

- > No really appealing alternatives to Adobe Acrobat Reader on Linux
- > Users of recent Ubuntu desktops seem to have slightly better options

