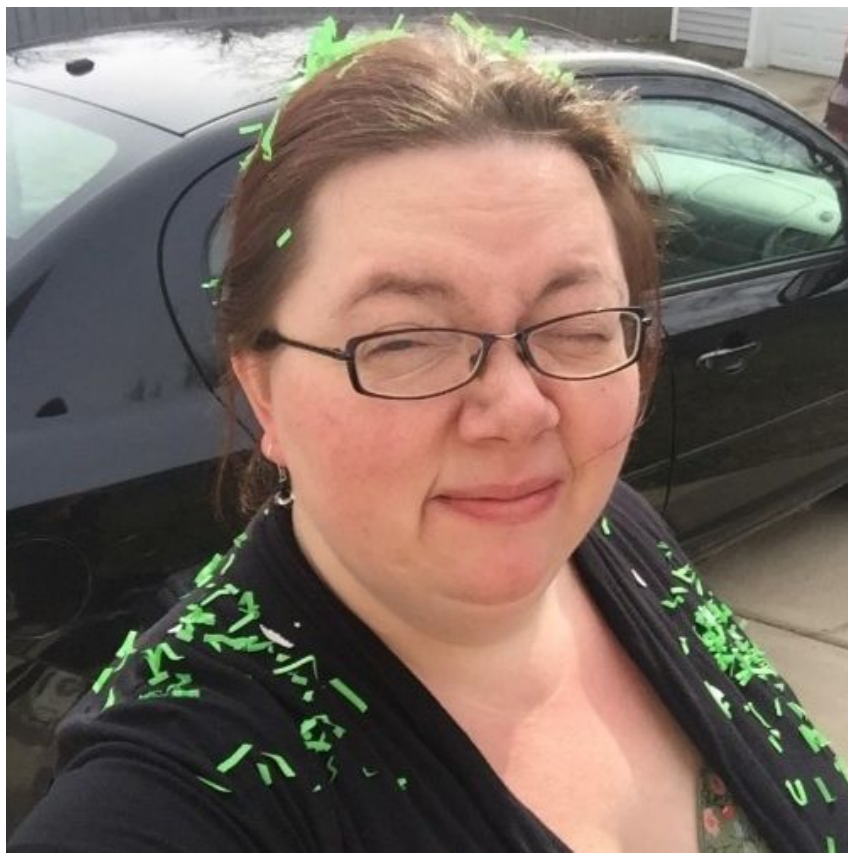


The State of AlmaLinux

benny Vasquez



hi, I'm benny

- Many years as a sysadmin
- Many years as a community builder
- Many years around open source
- Many years as a lover of Star Wars
- Many years as a lover of Sci-Fi

 social.linux.pizza/@benny

 [@bennyvasquez](https://twitter.com/bennyvasquez)

 benny@almalinux.org

The history

2004 - 2019



[CentOS-announce] Release for CentOS Linux 8 and CentOS Streams

Karanbir Singh

[kbsingh at centos.org](mailto:kbsingh@centos.org)

Tue Sep 24 16:38:36 UTC 2019

- Previous message: [\[CentOS-announce\] CESA-2019:2729 Critical CentOS 7 firefox Security Update](#)
- Next message: [\[CentOS-announce\] CEBA-2019:2871 CentOS 7 tzdata BugFix Update](#)
- **Messages sorted by:** [\[date \]](#) [\[thread \]](#) [\[subject \]](#) [\[author \]](#)

We would like to announce the general availability of CentOS Linux 8 and the new CentOS Stream, on all architectures.

CentOS Linux 8

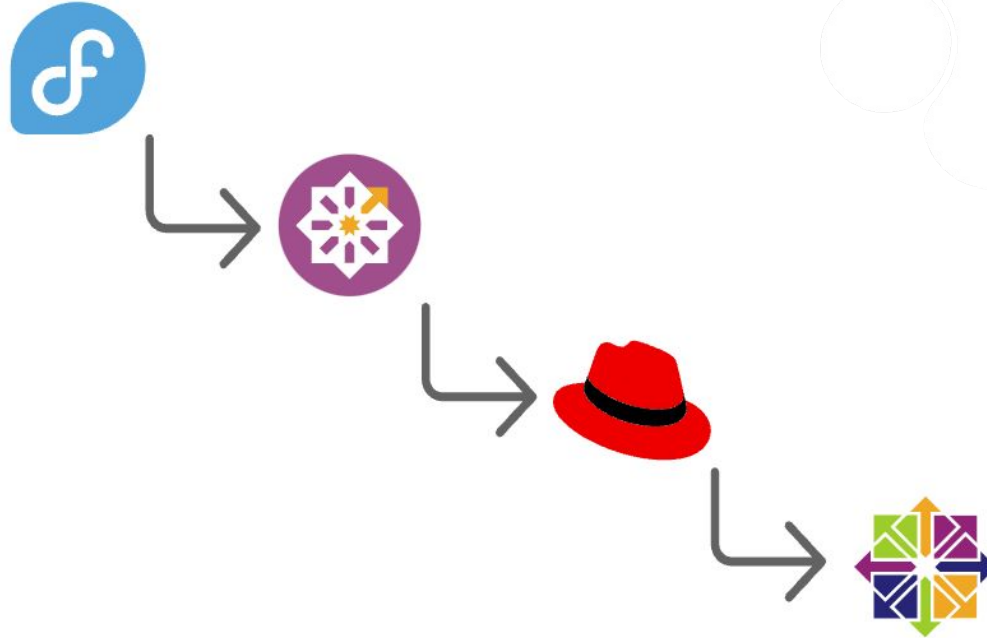
This is the first release for CentOS Linux 8 and its version marked as 8.0-1905, derived from sources published by Red Hat, delivered via git.centos.org

First, please read through the release notes at :
<http://wiki.centos.org/Manuals/ReleaseNotes/CentOSLinux8> - these notes contain important information about the release and details about some of the content inside the release from the CentOS QA team. These notes are updated constantly to include issues and incorporate feedback from the users and should be the first port of call for anyone looking to use CentOS Linux 8.

CentOS Stream

When the CentOS Project announced it was joining forces with Red Hat in January 2014, we put an emphasis on how the new relationship would “(drive) forward development and adoption of next-generation open source

2019 - 2020



CentOS Project shifts focus to CentOS Stream

📅 Tuesday, 8, December 2020 ✍️ Rich Bowen 📁 Uncategorized 💬 717 Comments

The future of the CentOS Project is CentOS Stream, and over the next year we'll be shifting focus from CentOS Linux, the rebuild of Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL), to CentOS Stream, which tracks just *ahead* of a current RHEL release. CentOS Linux 8, as a rebuild of RHEL 8, will end at the end of 2021. CentOS Stream continues after that date, serving as the upstream (development) branch of Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

Meanwhile, we understand many of you are deeply invested in CentOS Linux 7, and we'll continue to produce that version through the remainder of the [RHEL 7 life cycle](#).

CentOS Stream will also be the centerpiece of a major shift in collaboration among the CentOS Special Interest Groups (SIGs). This ensures SIGs are developing and testing against what becomes the next version of RHEL. This also

[Home](#) / [Blog](#)

/ [CentOS Project shifts focus to CentOS Stream](#)

Recent Posts

- [CentOS Hyperscale SIG Quarterly Report for 2023Q2](#)
- [CentOS ISA SIG Performance Investigation](#)
- [CentOS Board Meeting Recap, August 2023](#)
- [CPE Quarterly Update Q2 2023](#)
- [Open To All](#)

[Archives](#)



Jan 14, 2021 5:09:43 AM

AlmaLinux is born!!



Igor Seletskiy

Igor Seletskiy is a renowned expert in the web hosting and cybersecurity industry, with over two decades of experience. As the CEO and founder of CloudLinux, he has been instrumental in developing cutting-edge security solutions for shared hosting providers. Igor is also the driving force behind Imunify360, a comprehensive, automated security suite designed to protect Linux web servers. His expertise and innovative approach make him a trusted voice in the field, offering valuable insights on the critical role of web hosts in ensuring WordPress website security.

[Open-source](#)



AlmaLinux Is Born!

Powerful And Free CentOS Alternative

Alma means "soul" in many Latin languages, including Spanish and Italian. The word comes from the Latin word *almus*, which means "nourishing, kind".

A soulful community

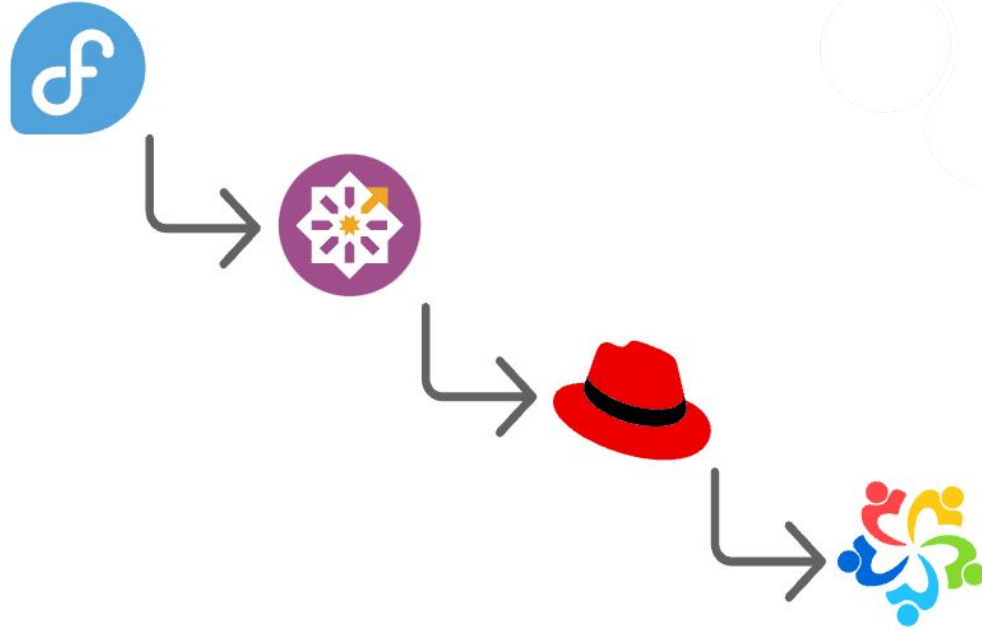
No tech community is as soulful and as passionate as the Linux community. It is a caring, collaborative, nourishing community that turned the efforts of an individual into software that powers the world.

The story of Linux starts with the personal story of Linus Torvalds who, in 1991, announced that he was developing a free UNIX-like kernel for x86 machines – a kernel he called Linux. A kernel for the community.

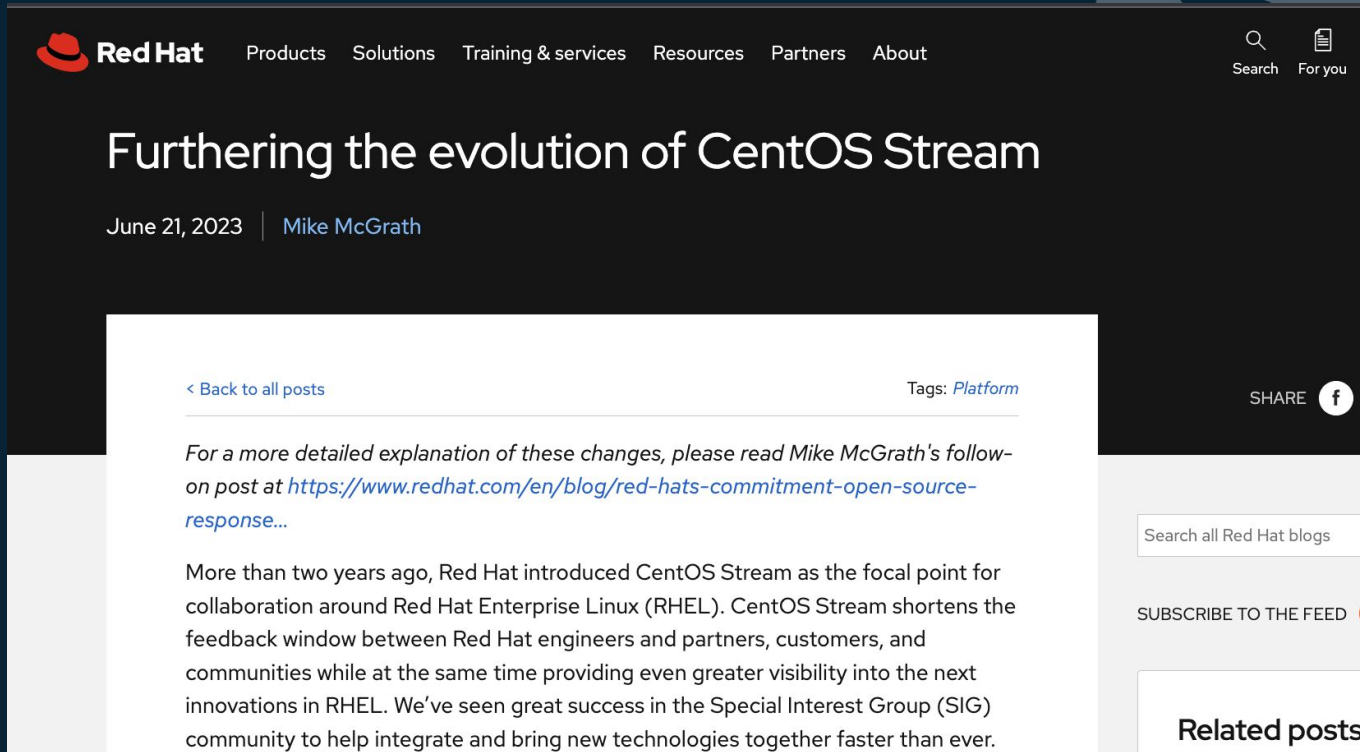
Developers quickly saw the potential of a free, open-source UNIX kernel. Step by step, members of an incredibly passionate developer community grew Linux into a powerful, flexible kernel that underpins countless popular operating systems – from



Mar 2021 - Jun 2023



June '23: no more sources




The screenshot shows a Red Hat blog post. The header includes the Red Hat logo and navigation links: Products, Solutions, Training & services, Resources, Partners, and About. There are also search and user profile icons. The main heading is 'Furthering the evolution of CentOS Stream', dated June 21, 2023, by Mike McGrath. The article content includes a link back to all posts, a tag for 'Platform', and a paragraph explaining the evolution of CentOS Stream. A 'SHARE' button with a Facebook icon is visible. On the right side, there is a search bar for all Red Hat blogs, a 'SUBSCRIBE TO THE FEED' button, and a 'Related posts' section.

Red Hat Products Solutions Training & services Resources Partners About Search For you

Furthering the evolution of CentOS Stream

June 21, 2023 | Mike McGrath

[< Back to all posts](#) Tags: *Platform* SHARE 

For a more detailed explanation of these changes, please read Mike McGrath's follow-on post at <https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/red-hats-commitment-open-source-response...>

More than two years ago, Red Hat introduced CentOS Stream as the focal point for collaboration around Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL). CentOS Stream shortens the feedback window between Red Hat engineers and partners, customers, and communities while at the same time providing even greater visibility into the next innovations in RHEL. We've seen great success in the Special Interest Group (SIG) community to help integrate and bring new technologies together faster than ever.

Search all Red Hat blogs

SUBSCRIBE TO THE FEED

Related posts

Pre-CentOS Stream (2004 - 2019)



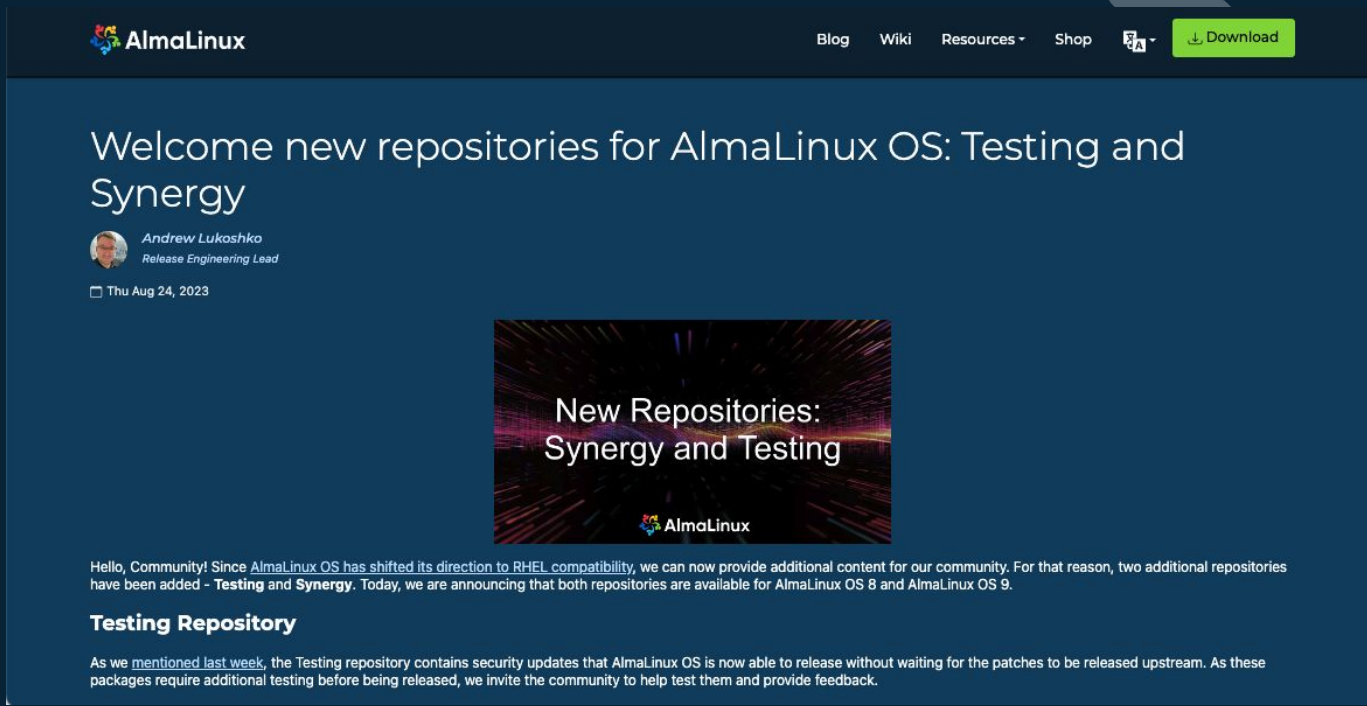
After June 2023



original by @carlwgeorge@fosstodon.org; adapted for AlmaLinux


RHEL compatibility = freedom for AlmaLinux

Additional repos for additional software




The screenshot shows the AlmaLinux website header with navigation links: Blog, Wiki, Resources, Shop, and a Download button. The main content area features a dark blue background with the following text:

Welcome new repositories for AlmaLinux OS: Testing and Synergy

 *Andrew Lukoshko*
Release Engineering Lead

Thu Aug 24, 2023



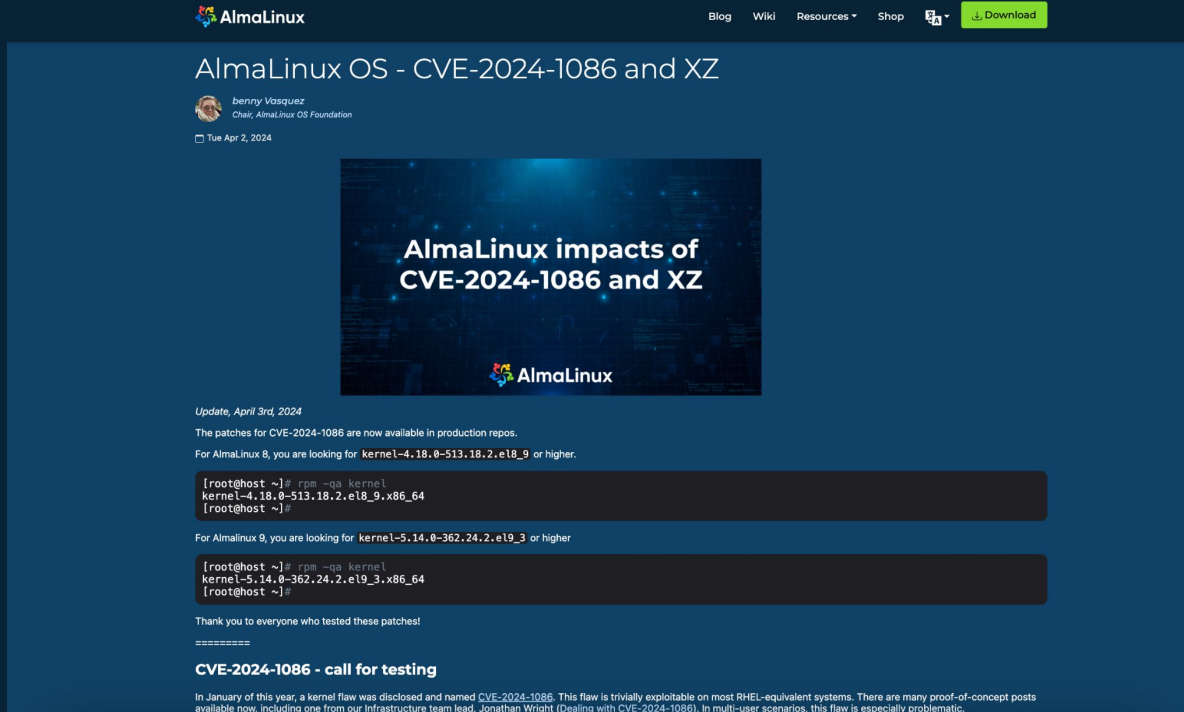
Hello, Community! Since AlmaLinux OS has shifted its direction to RHEL compatibility, we can now provide additional content for our community. For that reason, two additional repositories have been added - **Testing** and **Synergy**. Today, we are announcing that both repositories are available for AlmaLinux OS 8 and AlmaLinux OS 9.

Testing Repository

As we mentioned last week, the Testing repository contains security updates that AlmaLinux OS is now able to release without waiting for the patches to be released upstream. As these packages require additional testing before being released, we invite the community to help test them and provide feedback.


RHEL compatibility = freedom for AlmaLinux

Patching critical flaws outside of upstream




The screenshot shows a blog post on the AlmaLinux website. The page has a dark blue background with white text. At the top, the AlmaLinux logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Blog', 'Wiki', 'Resources', 'Shop', and a 'Download' button are on the right. The main heading is 'AlmaLinux OS - CVE-2024-1086 and XZ'. Below the heading, the author is identified as 'benny Vasquez, Chair, AlmaLinux OS Foundation', with a date of 'Tue Apr 2, 2024'. A central image features the text 'AlmaLinux impacts of CVE-2024-1086 and XZ' over a dark background with glowing blue particles and the AlmaLinux logo at the bottom. The text of the post includes an update date of 'April 3rd, 2024', a statement that patches are available in production repos, and instructions for users of AlmaLinux 8 and 9, including terminal commands to check kernel versions. A 'call for testing' section is also present, along with a disclaimer at the bottom.


AlmaLinux

Blog Wiki Resources Shop  Download

AlmaLinux OS - CVE-2024-1086 and XZ

 **benny Vasquez**
Chair, AlmaLinux OS Foundation

Tue Apr 2, 2024



AlmaLinux

Update, April 3rd, 2024

The patches for CVE-2024-1086 are now available in production repos.

For AlmaLinux 8, you are looking for `kernel-4.18.0-513.18.2.el8_9` or higher.

```
[root@host ~]# rpm -qa kernel
kernel-4.18.0-513.18.2.el8_9.x86_64
[root@host ~]#
```

For AlmaLinux 9, you are looking for `kernel-5.14.0-362.24.2.el9_3` or higher

```
[root@host ~]# rpm -qa kernel
kernel-5.14.0-362.24.2.el9_3.x86_64
[root@host ~]#
```

Thank you to everyone who tested these patches!

=====

CVE-2024-1086 - call for testing

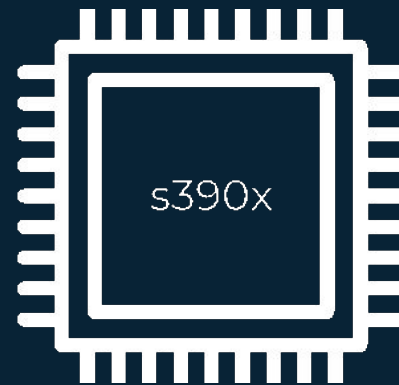
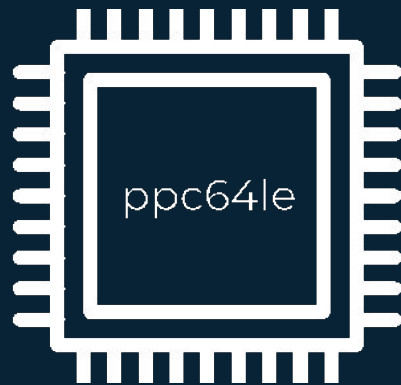
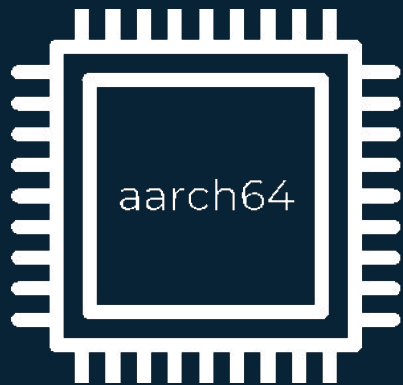
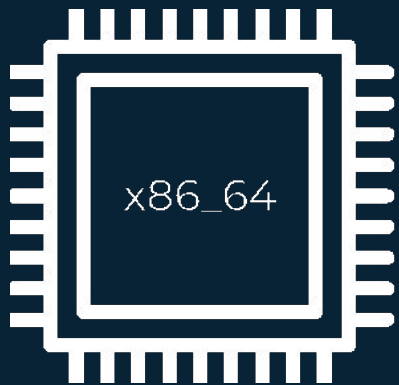
In January of this year, a kernel flaw was disclosed and named [CVE-2024-1086](#). This flaw is trivially exploitable on most RHEL-equivalent systems. There are many proof-of-concept posts available now, including one from our infrastructure team lead, Jonathan Wright ([Dealing with CVE-2024-1086](#)). In multi-user scenarios, this flaw is especially problematic.

RHEL compatibility = freedom for AlmaLinux

Renewing support for upstream deprecated hardware

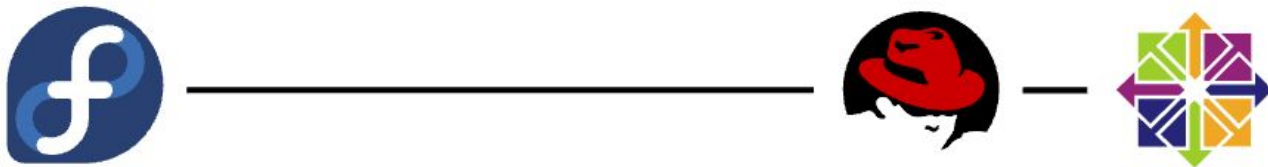
- **aacraid** - Dell PERC2, 2/Si, 3/Si, 3/Di, Adaptec Advanced Raid Products, HP NetRAID-4M, IBM ServeRAID & ICP SCSI
- **be2iscsi** - Emulex OneConnectOpen-iSCSI for BladeEngine 2 and 3 adapters
- **hpsa** - HP Smart Array Controller
- **lpfc** - Emulex LightPulse Fibre Channel SCSI
- **megaraid_sas** - Broadcom MegaRAID SAS
- **mpt3sas** - LSI MPT Fusion SAS 3.0
- **mptsas** - Fusion MPT SAS Host
- **qla2xxx** - QLogic Fibre Channel HBA
- **qla4xxx** - QLogic iSCSI HBA

Supported Architectures

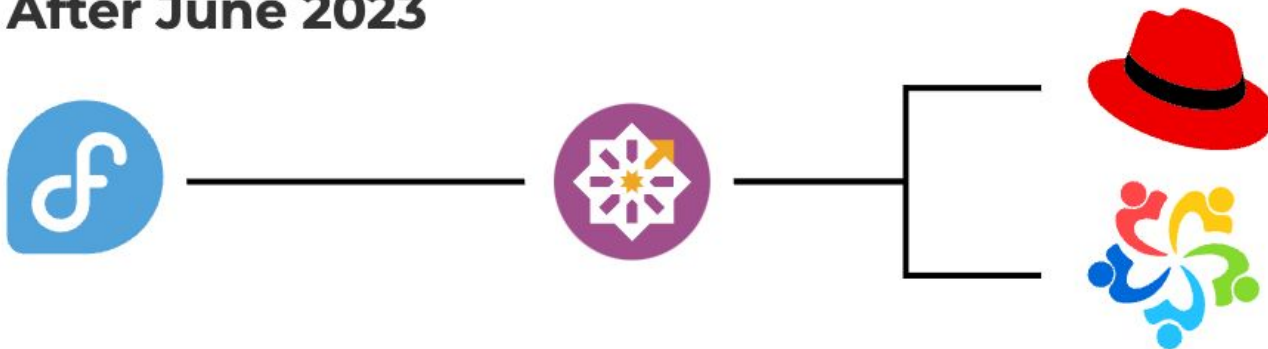


Where we build from

Pre-CentOS Stream (2004 - 2019)



After June 2023



original by @carlwgeorge@fosstodon.org; adapted for AlmaLinux

Where we build from



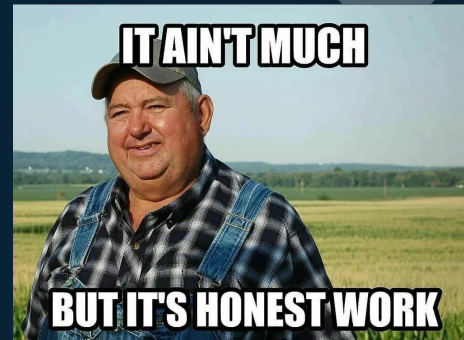
Red Hat Universal Base Image (UBI)

<https://cdn-ubi.redhat.com/content/public/ubi/dist/>



- Exact RHEL sources and binaries
- 100% legal, no Red Hat Subscription required
- EOL after 10 years
- Updates every day
- Includes base system, Python, Perl, PHP, NodeJS, Java, Dotnet, ...
- Limited set of sources available:
 - 1511 packages for RHEL8 (~41%)
 - 951 packages for RHEL9 (~39%)

Our decision: use every package available



Where we build from



CentOS Stream



- Upstream for RHEL and allows to get new package versions earlier
- 100% legal
- Available as src.rpm
<https://kojihub.stream.centos.org/>
- Available as git repo
<https://gitlab.com/redhat/centos-stream>
- Not all sources are the same as RHEL, may miss patches or include extra ones
- CVE updates usually delayed
- Not all packages available (example: Java 21)
- EOL after 5 years versus 10 years for RHEL, so no updates after 8.10 release

Our decision: use where applicable 

Where we build from



RHEL clones



- No Red Hat Subscription required
- May contain exact RHEL sources
- Exact RHEL sources are not guaranteed
- Not clear where they get sources
- Delayed updates

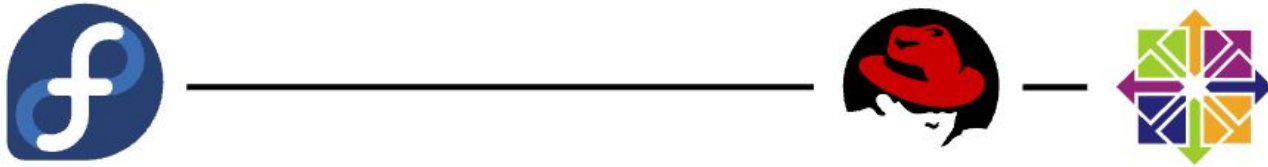
Our decision: use carefully 

(example: **squid** CVE-2023-46846 and CVE-2023-46847 patches from Oracle Linux)

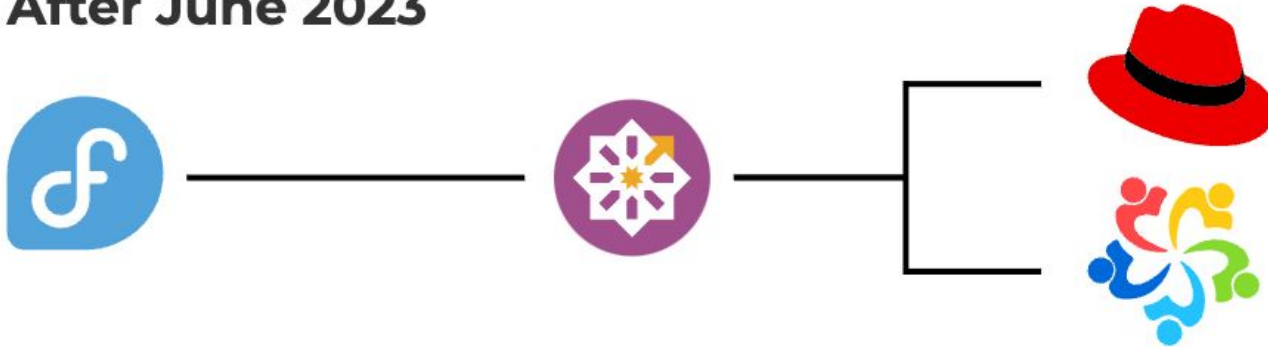
What happens when CentOS Stream goes EOL?

What happens when CentOS Stream goes EOL?

Pre-CentOS Stream (2004 - 2019)



After June 2023



original by @carlwgeorge@fosstodon.org; adapted for AlmaLinux

The governance

The governance: the foundation

Contribute ▾

Development ▾

Documentation ▾

Installation ▾

Migration ▾

The Foundation ▾

AlmaLinux OS Foundation

We strive to be transparent

First board elections

The plans for the board

Assets and build environment

Minutes of AlmaLinux OS Foundation Board Meetings

Membership Committee

Election 2022

Election 2023

Google Summer of Code

Help and Support

AlmaLinux OS Foundation

The AlmaLinux OS Foundation is 501(c)(6) non-profit organization. It owns all assets related to AlmaLinux OS. It is governed by a set of [Bylaws](#) .

We strive to be transparent

The goals of a Community-owned operating system needs to include transparency in all things. If you ever have a question, request, or need that isn't being satisfied through the available channels, you may always reach out to any member of the board for assistance. As of January 10th, 2023 the board has adopted a [Code of Ethics](#) .

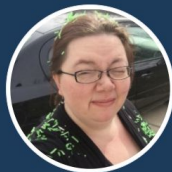
As of December 17, 2023, the foundation has a 9 board directors.

- [benny Vasquez](#) - benny is the current Chair of the board of AlmaLinux OS Foundation
- [Jack Aboutboul](#) - Jack is a current Director and Community Leader at AlmaLinux
- [Simon Phipps](#) - Simon is a current Director at AlmaLinux and former president of the Open Source Initiative
- [Jesse Asklund](#) - Jesse is a current Director at AlmaLinux and the CXO at WebPros
- [Daniel Pearson](#) - Daniel is a current Director at AlmaLinux and is the CEO of KnownHost, LLC (promoted from COO during the election window), a current AlmaLinux Gold Sponsor, serves on the AlmaLinux OS Foundation membership committee.
- [Moshe Bar](#) - Moshe is a current Director at AlmaLinux and is the CEO of CodeNotary, Inc., an AlmaLinux Gold Sponsor
- [Alex Iribarren](#) - Alex is a current Director at AlmaLinux, and a penguin herder at CERN
- [Jun Yoshida](#) - Jun is a current Director at AlmaLinux, and is the driving force behind MIRACLE LINUX

Non-voting invited experts to the board

The governance: the board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



benny Vasquez

Chair, Board of Directors
AlmaLinux OS Foundation



Jack Aboutboul

AlmaLinux OS Community Manager
Microsoft, Inc



Jesse Asklund

Global head of Customer Experience
WebPros



Simon Phipps

open source advocate and a former
president of the Open Source Initiative



Moshe Bar

CEO
Codenotary Inc.



Daniel Pearson

CEO
KnownHost



Jun Yoshida

Corporate Officer
Cybertrust Japan




Alex Iribarren

Penguin Wrangler and Cloud Watcher
CERN

<https://almalinux.org/members/>

The governance: the SIGs

 AlmaLinux Wiki

Home [↗](#) Chat [↗](#) Mailing Lists [↗](#) Bugs [↗](#) GitHub [↗](#)

About

Contribute ▾

- Help AlmaLinux OS
- Documentation
- Mirrors
- Special interest groups (SIGs)** ▾
 - Build System SIG
 - Cloud SIG
 - Core SIG
 - Infrastructure SIG
 - Live Media SIG
 - Marketing SIG
 - Migration SIG
 - The Process for Creating a New SIG* in the AlmaLinux Community

Development ▶

Documentation ▶

Special interest groups

Special interest groups (SIGs) are teams within the AlmaLinux OS community that are focused on specific topics. Each SIG has its own channel on our [Mattermost](#) chat server [chat.almalinux.org](#), but may communicate and work in different ways. Each SIG's details are found in the pages below.

The following SIGs are already established:

- [Build System](#) - The AlmaLinux OS build system developers and maintainers.
- [Core](#) - The AlmaLinux OS distribution developers and maintainers.
- [Cloud](#) - The AlmaLinux OS cloud and container images maintainers.
- [Infrastructure](#) - The AlmaLinux OS infrastructure team.
- [Live Media](#) - The AlmaLinux OS Live Media maintainers.
- [Migration](#) - The AlmaLinux OS Migration maintainers.
- [Marketing](#) - The AlmaLinux OS Marketing team.

Additional Resources

- [Process For Creating New SIG](#) - AlmaLinux OS Foundation SIG Lifecycle Guidelines.

The community

The first mirrors

interServer.net

Cloud
Propeller

Infrastructure You Can Rely On!

LITE
SERVER

CloudFly

iNET

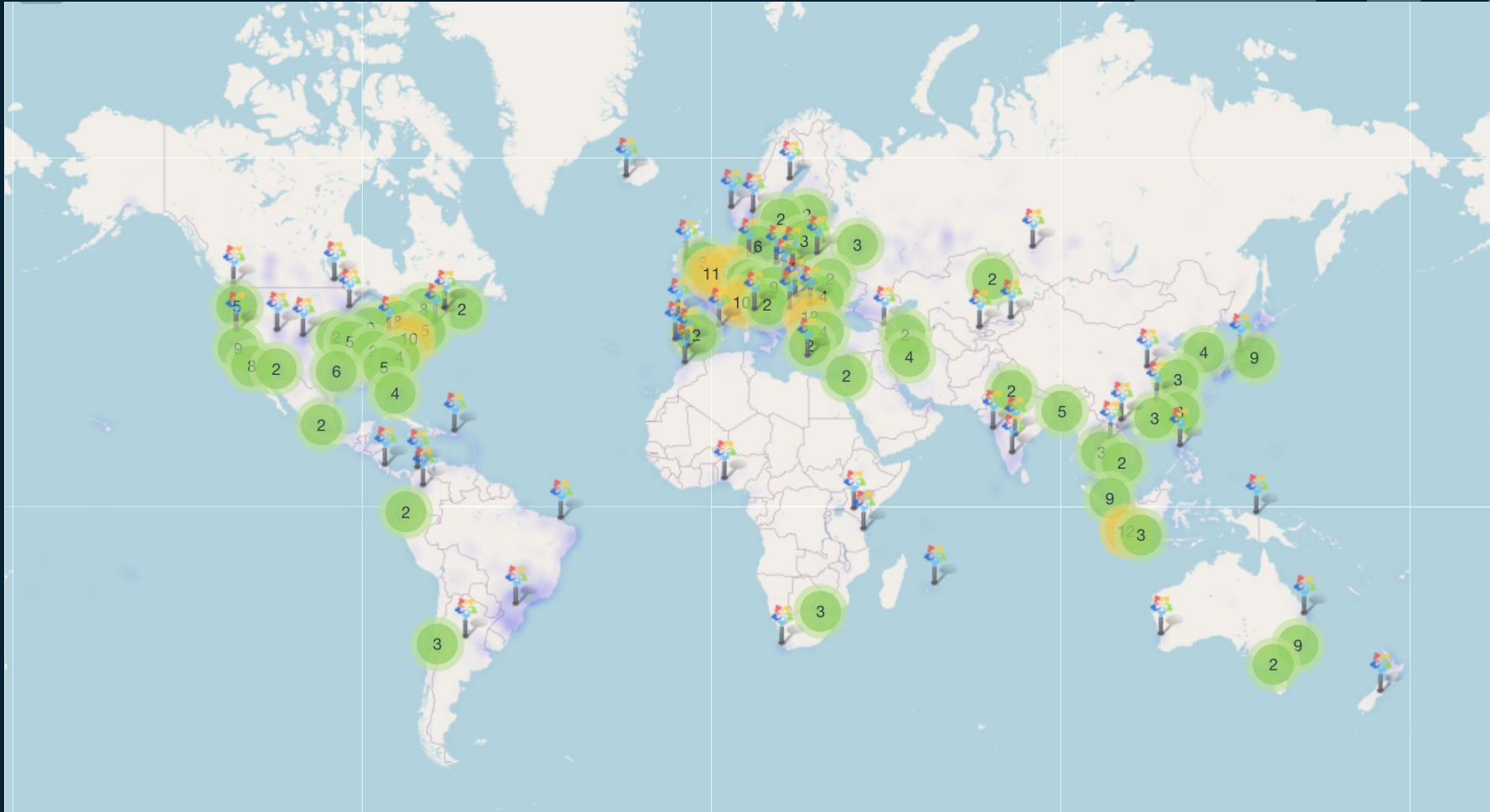
UK SERVERS

team.blue

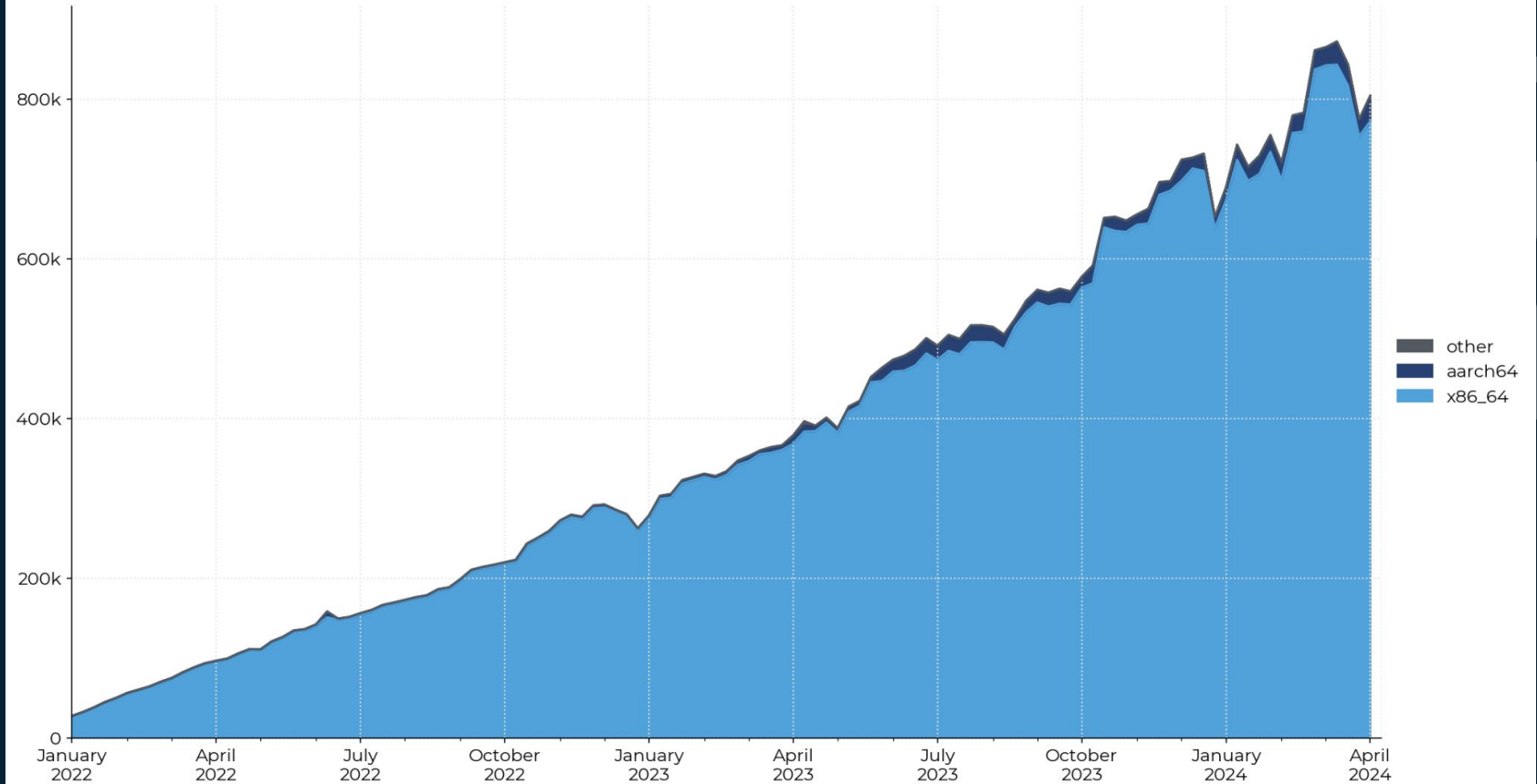
hybula

datakeepers

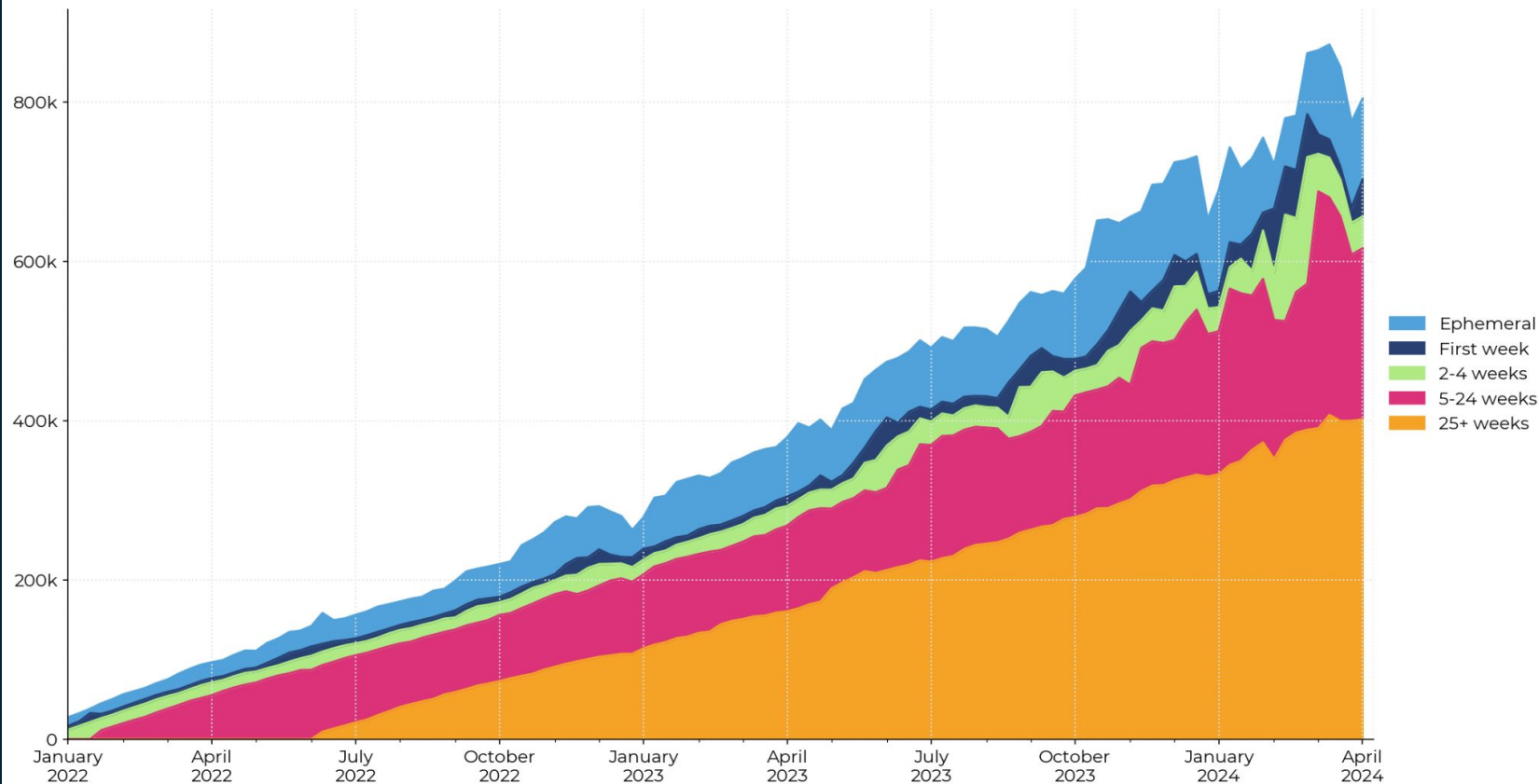
AltusHost




AlmaLinux Systems: CPU architecture weekly checkins








AlmaLinux Systems: age category weekly checkins







 **fransschreuder** · 20d ago


I work for a large project at CERN / ATLAS, where we use Alma 9 for everything now. So it is driver and software development, but also production.

 9   Reply  Share ...





 **gorestas** · 12d ago


micromegas or the pixel sensor?

 1   Reply  Share ...

 **fransschreuder** · 11d ago

FELIX, the readout system for both of them and basically the whole ATLAS detector





 1   Reply  Share ...


 **OtisSnerd** · 21d ago

I'm running a self-hosted personal website used to host family photos, a couple of which are from the late 1800s. I have over 19k scanned slides and prints, and many documents from my dad's WW2 records, plus stuff from the shipyard that he and I used to work for. I also have my in laws decades of slides, plus family friends of theirs (who belonged to the same church we did) and also more family photos from two cousins. This helps with doing family history in Ancestry.





I started this over 19 years ago, with NT4, Fedora 2?, then CentOS 4, 5, 7. I use jAlbum to build the interface, using Apache for the web server.

I rebuilt the server with all 'new' hardware (Intel version 8xxx family from FleaBay) just last year.

 6   Reply  Share ...

 **abotelho-cbn** · 21d ago

Thousands of VMs. A few dozen gateways/routers. Over a hundred hypervisor nodes.

 4   Reply  Share ...

 **Dizzybro** · 20d ago

Slowly migrating everything from CentOS7 to Alma9.

Once done it will be roughly 200-300 machines

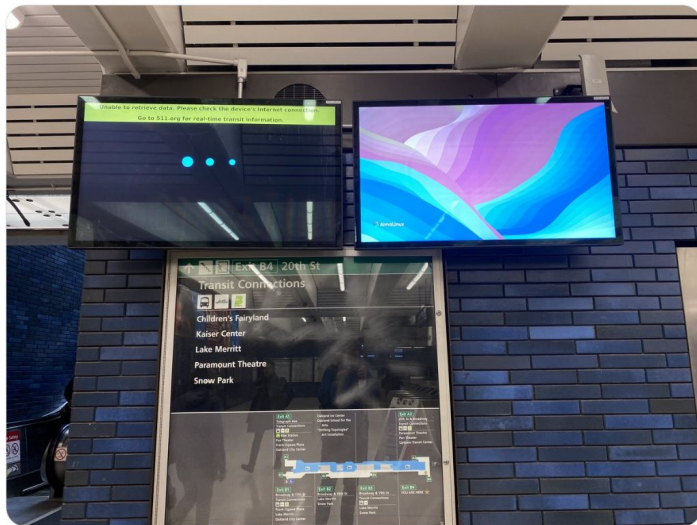
 5   Reply  Share ...



benarent

@benarent

BART runs on AlmaLinux



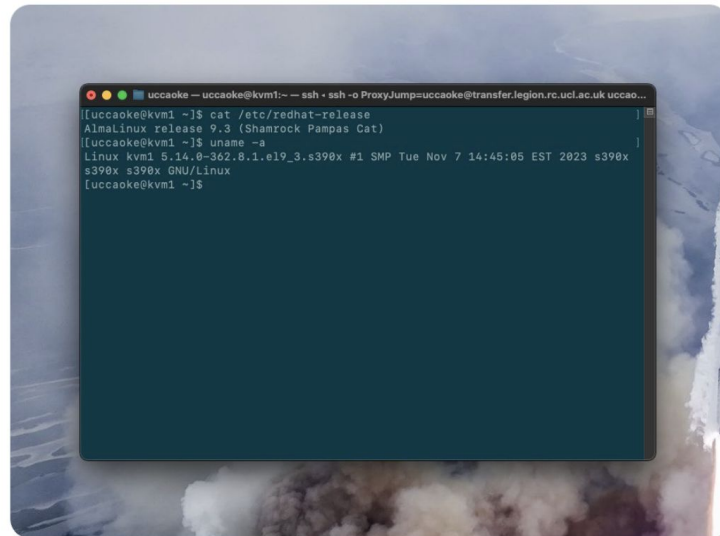
5:44 PM · Mar 1, 2024 · 1,512 Views



Dr Owain Kenway

@owainkenway

Thanks to my amazing team and help from @IBM, we are now live - yes, we have @AlmaLinux 9.3 for #LinuxOne running on Vindicator:



11:26 AM · Mar 15, 2024 · 721 Views

The State of AlmaLinux

benny Vasquez
HEPiX Spring 2024

social.linux.pizza/@benny
@bennyvasquez
benny@almalinux.org

