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CERN Appstore for BYOD devices

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The number of BYOD devices at CERN is growing and there is interest in moving from a centrally-managed model to a distributed model where users are responsible for their own devices. Following this strategy, new tools are needed to distribute and - in case of licensed software - also manage licences for applications provided by CERN. Available open source and commercial solutions were previously analyzed and none of them proved to be a good fit for CERN academic environment. Therefore, we started to develop a system that can integrate existing open source solutions and provide desired functionality for multiple platforms, both mobile and desktop.

The functionality of the tool has been growing since the project started. The list of supported platforms has been growing and very recently the integration with Flatpak has been added in order to provide applications not just on Windows, but on Linux as well. The number of features provided is also growing and the UX is enhanced along the way.

This talk will describe the architecture and design decisions made to develop a platform-independent, modern, maintainable and extensible system for future software distribution at CERN.

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