

## Anhang C

### **Vorschlag an KDE, konsole-devel und kde-quality:**

Hi, my name is Luis. I would like to present too you my proposal, consisting of a new feature for the Konsole. This is a widget which allows the user to select the options for a given command per check-boxes. This widget is designed to interact with the command line. Thus when the user types one or more valid letters in the command line, the widget will be automatically updated. Likewise when a check-box has been checked in the widget, the command line is updated.

My proposal is to integrate such widget into the Konsole as an optional feature (it should only run at the users request). The motivation behind this is to improve the learn-ability and user-ability of the Konsole. I have implemented a prototype of this feature in order to demonstrate this concept.

You can find a more detailed explanation of my proposal at the following address:

<http://page.mi.fu-berlin.de/~quintela/konsole/>

and you maybe like to take a look of the source code there.

please tell me your opinion about this proposal

Luis

Von: "Konsole-Mantainer"

Datum: 8. August 2006 18:57:24

Betreff: Konsole usability enhancements.

*[privates email]*

I read your proposal on the konsole-devel mailing list for making a widget in Konsole which helps beginners understand UNIX commands.

I think however there are a couple of projects which are addressing the need to bring the power of UNIX tools to newcomers more comprehensively:

1) There is a Google Summer of Code 2006 project called "Workflow" which provides a user interface similiar to Apple's Automator program on Mac OS X, designed to bring some of the power of a console to users with a simple point-and-click interface.

2) There is an alternative shell to bash called "fish" (for "Friendly Interactive Shell")

Fish is quite slow at the moment, but it is definitely much more friendly to use than bash:

Fish also provides a very good "beginners guide" to the shell which is easy to access by typing "help".

I will try out the code when I get a chance.

### **Ende von KDE konsole-devel**

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Von: kde-quality-request@kde.org

Datum: 12. August 2006 12:00:58

Betreff: kde-quality Digest, Vol 31, Issue 2

1. A proposal for a new feature for the Konsole

(Luis Quintela Garcia)

2. Re: A proposal for a new feature for the Konsole (Angestellter)

Message: 2

Date: Fri, 11 Aug 2006 19:20:48

From: "Angestellter"

i think many of our users would really appreciate such an addition to their command line to make it

52 easier for them to learn the command line and figure out what options are available to them.  
53  
54 something that occurred to me: you may be able to expand the content in the commands.xml file by  
55 processing output for \$COMMAND -help  
56  
57 there will be cross-platform issues, of course, but that could be sorted out in a fairly straightforward  
58 manner (different command.xml files)  
59  
60 have you thought about releasing your application on kde-apps.org so others can use it? that way  
61 you can get more feedback and perhaps even code contributions =)  
62  
63 as for making it into konsole itself, you should ask the current maintainer about that... but i do think  
64 it's a good idea =)

65  
66 **Von:** kde-quality-request@kde.org  
67 **Datum:** 13. August 2006 12:00:50  
68 **Betreff:** kde-quality Digest, Vol 31, Issue 3

- 69  
70 1. Re: A proposal for a new feature for the Konsole(kde-Teilnehmer1)  
71 2. Re: A proposal for a new feature for the Konsole (Konsole-Mantainer)  
72 3. Re: A proposal for a new feature for the Konsole (kde-Teilnehmer2)

73  
74  
75 **Message: 1**  
76 **Date:** Sat, 12 Aug 2006 13:23:48  
77 **From:** kde-Teilnehmer1

78  
79 I'm reminded strongly of Segusoland (or some of its subsequent versions) which  
80 allowed users to select actions on a file based on its mimetype. I know that  
81 there has been research done on learning the UNIX command line with automated  
82 tools -- that might provide useful input as well.

83  
84 **Message: 2**  
85 **Date:** Sat, 12 Aug 2006 18:51:32  
86 **From:** "Konsole-Mantainer"

87  
88 I think Angestellter's idea of publishing the prototype on kdeapps.org and getting feedback is the  
89 best way to go. If it proves popular it could be added to Konsole in future with refinements or  
90 changes as required.  
91 An alternative possibility something based on this could be created  
92 using the Konsole KPart.

93  
94 **Message: 3**  
95 **Date:** Sat, 12 Aug 2006 23:58:21  
96 **From:** kde-Teilnehmer2

97  
98 I like your idea, and here some (ugly) ideas =)

- 99  
100 1. Show first the options more often used  
101 2. Show at bottom the options less often used by any used  
102 3. group them if they are related  
103 4. hide behind a button those options that are seldom used.  
104 5. limit the number of options for avoiding waste of real state  
105

106 <as for making it into konsole itself, you should ask the current maintainer about that... but i do  
107 think it's a good idea =>>  
108 I Agree, ? Have U have consider kuake and yakuake too ?

109

## 110 **Ende von KDE kde-quality**

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111

### 112 **Vorschlag an gnome-usability:**

113

114 Hi, my name is Luis. I would like to present too you my proposal, consisting of a new feature for  
115 the terminal. This is a widget which would allow the user to select the options for given command  
116 per check-boxes. This widget would be designed to interact with the command line. Thus when the  
117 user types one or more valid letters in the command line, the widget would be automatically  
118 updated. Likewise when a check-box has been checked in the widget, the command line would be  
119 updated.

120 My proposal is to integrate such widget into the terminal as optional feature (it should only run at  
121 the users request). The motivation behind this is to improve the learn-ability and usability of the  
122 terminal.

123 I made a web-side in order to explain this concept. You maybe like to take a look of them at the  
124 following address:

125 <http://page.mi.fu-berlin.de/~quintela/terminal/>

126

127 please tell me your opinion about this proposal

128

129 Luis

130

131 **Von:** usability-request@gnome.org

132 **Datum:** 10. August 2006 18:00:35 MESZ

133 **An:** [usability@gnome.org](mailto:usability@gnome.org)

134

135 1. Re: A Proposal for a new feature (gnome-Teilnehmer1)

136 2. Re: A Proposal for a new feature (gnome-Teilnehmer2)

137 3. Re: A Proposal for a new feature (gnome-Teilnehmer3)

138 4. Re: A Proposal for a new feature (gnome-Teilnehmer4)

139 5. Re: A Proposal for a new feature (gnome-Teilnehmer3)

140

### 141 **Message: 1**

142 **Date:** Wed, 9 Aug 2006 19:13:06

143 **From:** gnome-Teilnehmer1

144 **Subject:** Re: [Usability] A Proposal for a new feature

145 **To:** [usability@gnome.org](mailto:usability@gnome.org)

146

147 <I made a web-side in order to explain this concept. You maybe like to take a look of them at the  
148 following address:>

149

150 Those are not the tar options. '-v' means 'verbose', as in, "verbosely list files processed". '-f' means  
151 that the next argument will be a filename, and for tar to use that file, not stdin/stdout. '-x' means  
152 'extract', not 'decompress', and its dual, '-c', means 'create new archive', not 'compress'.

153

154 In fact, where did you get that list of options from?

155 <please tell me your opinion about this proposal>

156 I will agree, it sounds interesting. But it seems to me to be the equivalent of training wheels.

157

### 158 **Message: 2**

159 **Date:** Wed, 9 Aug 2006 20:08:29

160 From: [gnome-Teilnehmer2](#)

161 To: [gnome-Teilnehmer1](#)

162

163 One thing to consider is this: if you're typing at a terminal, ideally you would be able to select  
164 options using the keyboard as well (even if interactively as you propose). Taking your hands off to  
165 use the mouse disrupts this. "Tab-completion" for example does this really well. Even just  
166 displaying a few lines of help text at the bottom helping your remember what to type would be  
167 useful and it wouldn't interrupt the user's flow.

168 There is a shell (bash replacement) called zsh that goes nuts with tab completion, if someone has set  
169 up a configuration for a given program. For example, you can tab-complete hosts when running  
170 "ssh" etc.

171

172 **Message: 3**

173 Date: [Wed, 9 Aug 2006 20:36:54](#)

174 From: [gnome-Teilnehmer3](#)

175 Cc: [usability@gnome.org](mailto:usability@gnome.org)

176

177 <One thing to consider is this: if you're typing at a terminal>

178 ... you aren't really using the Gnome Desktop anymore.

179

180 However if we were serious about making the terminal more usable we should first encourage more  
181 distributions to enable spelling correction by default. (Mac OS X terminal has it by default and if  
182 you look long enough you can enable it on certain other shells too.)

183

184 **Message: 4**

185 Date: [Wed, 09 Aug 2006 21:25:33](#)

186 From: [gnome-Teilnehmer4](#)

187 To: [gnome-Teilnehmer3](#)

188

189 <... you aren't really using the Gnome Desktop anymore.>

190

191 That's funny. There's this app in the GNOME Desktop release, called "gnome-terminal". I would  
192 think that was part of the GNOME Desktop, no?

193 Trying to force people away from using the terminal, isn't going to make it go away, or make people  
194 stop using it. And I don't think that the proposal here, or to add spell checking, will make it more  
195 usable.

196 It's an application meant for a certain type of user. Just like Jokosher is meant for certain types of  
197 users. The goal of forcing people to not use the terminal, is not much of a goal. Why do you think  
198 Apple ships a terminal in OS X? Let's make it work better, but let's stop acting like it's not part of  
199 the Desktop, at the same time.

200

201 **Message: 5**

202 Date: [Wed, 9 Aug 2006 22:13:21](#)

203 From: [gnome-Teilnehmer3](#)

204 Cc: [usability@gnome.org](mailto:usability@gnome.org)

205

206 <That's funny. There's this app in the GNOME Desktop release, called "gnome-terminal". I would  
207 think that was part of the GNOME Desktop, no?>

208

209 <Trying to force people away from using the terminal>

210

211 You are jumping to conclusions, like as if you are deliberately looking for an argument.

212

213 <isn't going to make it go away, or make people stop using it. And I don't think that the proposal

214 here, or to add spell checking, will make it more usable>

215

216 It is not spell checking as the shell suggesting "finger" if you mistype it as "fingre", it isn't any  
217 more complicated than autocomplete. It isn't a new feature, and if you are already familiar with the  
218 terminal on Mac OS you may have noticed it. Specifically it helps users recover from accidental  
219 errors in the form of mistyped commands but I assumed it was a well known feature and describing  
220 it loosely as spell checking wouldn't be a problem.

221

222

223 <It's an application meant for a certain type of user>

224 Duh. Thank you captain obvious.

225

226 <Trying to force people away from using the terminal [and] It's an application meant for a certain  
227 type of user>

228

229 You have it backwards.

230

231 The goal is to make it so that ordinary users are not forced to use the terminal, and the similar tasks  
232 can be achieved using graphical tools.

233 By all means make it possible to also do things using the shell, so long as it can also be done using  
234 point and click tools, programs such as Mac OS Automator and the like.

235

236 Are you suggesting it should be a goal to introduce users to the command line and encourage them  
237 to use it more often?

238

239 The proposal might be a good idea for a project but if you really feel it is necessary to use the  
240 command line then there are a probably graphical tools which would benefit from improvements.  
241 In previous years users would have been advised to use various command line tools but nowadays  
242 the Gnome system tools and programs like File-Roller provide a graphical way to do things.

243

244 The original suggestion sounds a bit like Kaptain, a KDE utility which acts as a graphical front end  
245 to all kinds of command line utilities.

246

247 If you are determined to get more people to learn to use the terminal an interactive tutorial (similar  
248 to vilearn) would probably be a good idea, anything else risks hiding away too much of what you  
249 might want to teach people.

250

251 **Datum:** 13. August 2006 18:00:19

252 **Betreff:** Usability Digest, Vol 28, Issue 8

253 **Message:** 1

254 **Date:** Sat, 12 Aug 2006 21:35:25

255 **From:** gnome-Teilnehmer1

256 **To:** usability@gnome.org

257

258 Alright, now I'm intrigued. Where did you find a tar program that had those options?

259 Actually, I did some cursory searches, and couldn't find any archiving program that had options as  
260 described.