

Maintaining and releasing orphaned packages

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Orphaned Packages

- Number of orphaned packages is increasing
 - Maintainer is too busy to respond or has moved on
 - Packages are not released on latest ROS distro
- Examples
 - No usb camera driver for Kinetic until July, 2017, though Kinetic was released in May, 2016
 - 90 unreleased repositories for Kinetic and 366 for Lunar

ROS Resources: [Documentation](#) | [Support](#) | [Discussion Forum](#) | [Service Status](#) | [Q&A](#)

ros-drivers / **usb_cam** Watch 26 Star 49

Code Issues 18 Pull requests 11 Projects 0 Insights

Release for kinetic #64

Closed christianrauch opened this issue on 22 Mar · 7 comments

ros-drivers / **libuvc_ros** Watch 12 Star 2

Code Issues 18 Pull requests 3 Projects 0 Insights

christianrauch commented

The current development ver (Ubuntu 16.04).

Can this package be released? This would also solve issues

Open RodBelaFarin opened this issue on 9 Oct 2016 · 5 comments

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RodbelaFarin commented on 9 Oct 2016

There is actually no usb cam driver as binary for Kinetic. Please add this package to Kinetic main repository or you can install via

ROS Discourse

Add usb_cam to ROS Kinetic main repository

Issue Management Kinetic kinetic

Watch 12 Star 2

There is no binary available for usb camera drivers for Kinetic, i /wiki.ros.org/usb_cam 99.

et opened on the repository four month ago and the maint is not finished right now.

ROS.org
Repos blocked by other repos Lunar

label="UNRELEASED"

all, released, unreleased, blocked, releasable, releasable and blocking, releasable and not blocking, metapackages

showing 366 of 572 total

Repository	Version	# blocking release	Blocking repos
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Solutions



- Ideal solution: Find a new maintainer!
 - Easier said than done...
- What happens when no one volunteers? Is that package not needed? Should it disappear?
 - Were USB camera drivers really not necessary in Kinetic?
- Our proposed practical solution:
 - "ROS Orphaned Package Maintainers"
 - A team of volunteers with "minimum" effort
- Role of unmaintained package maintainers
 - × Investigate incoming issues and pull requests
 - × Merge and tag new version in source repository
 - ✓ Release repository into ROS ecosystem (run bloom)

Activities

- Released several unmaintained packages
 - camera_umd, gscam, libuvc, libuvc_ros, usb_cam, executive_smach_visualization, shared_autonomy_manipulation
- Preparing a REP for a ROS Orphaned Package Maintainer initiative
- How to contribute
 - Join our team!
 - We are partially funded by NEDO (Japanese govt) until 2019
 - Any resources (funds, skill, time, motivation, ...) are welcome!