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# Fifteen years of KDE

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Created *17/12/2012 - 9:42pm*

Submitted by srlinuxx on Monday 17th of December 2012 09:42:08 PM Filed under [KDE](#) [1]

Fifteen years ago Matthias Ettrich started the KDE community. On 14th October 1996 he wrote his famous email to the de.comp.os.linux.misc group on Usenet. He called for other programmers to join him to create a free desktop environment for Linux targeted at end users. Many, many people joined. Thousands of developers wrote millions lines of code. We did 90 stable releases of our core set of applications alone, not counting all additional stuff and the thousands of 3rd party applications.

[So now, fifteen years later, we are done.](#) [2]

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[KDE](#)

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[2] <http://blog.cornelius-schumacher.de/2011/10/fifteen-years-of-kde.html>