

fire

Project to modernize the X.org X11 server seems to actively court controversy

 Liam Proven Tue 10 Jun 2025 // 17:00 UTC

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er and improve both

The [XLibre Xserver](#) is a fork of the X.org X server, started by [Enrico Weigelt](#) - probably the most active

The new project aims to develop and improve the X.org display server, as an alternative to the newer and more fashionable Wayland display protocol.

this was not his first appearance in the pages of *The Register* – back in 2021, [Linus Torvalds rebuked him](#)

FOSS desk has witnessed some remarkable levels of anti-X11 sentiment from Wayland proponents since the announcement... especially given that the subject under discussion is something as superficially trivial

We are confident this won't bother Weigelt a bit. In fact, the README file for X11Libre positively invites it, as it contains this:

It's explicitly free of any "DEI" [diversity, equity, and inclusion] or similar discriminatory policies.

That statement, though, has received praise and approval in some places.

The same README states that the fork is a result of systematic attempts to suppress further development and improvement of the default FOSS X11 server:

That fork was necessary since toxic elements within Xorg projects, moles from Big Tech, are boycotting any substantial work on Xorg, in order to destroy the project to eliminate [sic] competition

Right after first journalists began covering the planned fork Xlibre, on June 6th 2025, Redhat [sic] employees started a purge on the Xlibre founder's gitlab account on freedesktop.org: deleted the git repo, tickets, merge requests, etc. and so fired the shot that the whole world heard [sic]

Weigelt amplified these claims in an [email to the xorg-devel mailing list](#). As far as we are able to see, the statement that his GitLab accounts have been deleted is true – for instance, [this merge request](#) says: "The source project of this merge request has been removed." His Freedesktop GitLab account now just

His direct code contributions have faced pushback before as well. For instance, some of the comments on this change

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cause autism; they can

The following table shows the results of the regression analysis for the dependent variable "Number of children in the household" (Table 1). The results show that the model explains 14% of the variance in the number of children in the household. The independent variables are: Age, Sex, Education, Income, and Marital Status. The results show that Age, Sex, and Education are significant predictors of the number of children in the household. Income and Marital Status are not significant predictors.

than Wayland, which has a markedly poor track record here. As we have said recently, accessibility


controllable by stodgy old-fashioned keyboard-centric user interfaces are ones like MATE and Xfce –


which also means that it is the less-cool, older-style desktops that are more accessible. The environments driving Wayland adoption, such as GNOME and KDE Plasma, are still relatively weak in this area.

wireland and the environments that natively support it boast some snazzy features such as [adaptive sync](#) and [variable refresh rate support](#) and [High Dynamic Range displays](#), which we are sure are wonderful if you're a keen-eyed gamer in your 20s or 30s. This author is not, and despite 20:20 vision with glasses, is

shunned by recent versions of GNOME and KDE.

As we have said before, we suspect this disconnect between younger, keener developers who don't know or care about late, and older developers who strongly want to remove X11 – to junk what they perceive as a relic, which is very much



<p>The X.org X11 server was updated, and it happened again.</p> <p>Update to add comments</p> <p>* Since the publication of the article, I have been "relatively new contributor" to the X.org project.</p>	<p>The Register asks for your consent to use your personal data to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development  Store and/or access information on a device 	<p>Perhaps it's time to move on from the "relatively new contributor" status. Perhaps it's time to move on from the "relatively new contributor" status.</p> <p>That Enrico was a "relatively new contributor" to the X.org project.</p>
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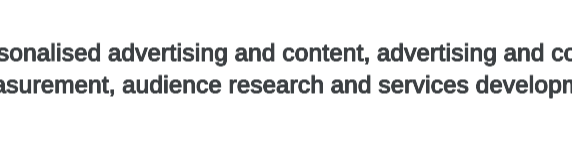
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