

# PostgreSQL 8.3

## A Story of Many Patches

### *Outline*

Per my e-mail to Atul, I beg the committee's indulgence. The change of theme for FOSS.in to focus on open source hackers has forced me to re-work my presentation, and I am not done yet, due to currently being on tour presenting in China, Japan and the US. I will have time to finish well before the conference (in fact, I expect to finish 75% on the airplane home).

So I'm sending in an outline so that you can see that I've taken the new focus to heart and am tailoring my presentation to the audience. The presentation is based on the following themes:

1. PostgreSQL 8.3 will come out the week before, or week after, FOSS.In.
2. The big headliner feature for version 8.3 was developed by an Indian who *might* co-present with me.
3. I want to show the audience that you don't have to live in the US to contribute to PostgreSQL. Hence, the emphasis on non-US hackers and first-time contributors.

Hopefully this outline meets with your satisfaction. For further corroboration of my ability to deliver an apt, interesting and educational talk, see my presentations for O'Reilly OSCON, FISL, JPUG, SCALE and LinuxWorld, some of which are at [www.powerpostgresql.com/docs](http://www.powerpostgresql.com/docs).

- 1 PostgreSQL 8.3 Released
  - 1.1 List of patches
  - 1.2 List of developers
    - 1.2.1 Highlight developers
      - 1.2.1.1 Pavan DeLoasee
      - 1.2.1.2 Pavel Stehule
      - 1.2.1.3 Peter Eisentraut
      - 1.2.1.4 Oleg Bartunov & Teodor Sigaev
  - 1.3 List of major features
    - 1.3.1 Highlight features to be talked about
- 2 PostgreSQL development cycle
  - 2.1 Annual cycle
    - 2.1.1 Development phases
    - 2.1.2 Commit fests
    - 2.1.3 Feature Freeze
    - 2.1.4 Beta
    - 2.1.5 Release
  - 2.2 Old cycle
- 3 SQL/XML Patch
  - 3.1 Demonstration of SQL/XML feature
  - 3.2 Precursors to SQL/XML
    - 3.2.1 Torchbox /contrib/XML2
    - 3.2.2 Pavel Stehule's SQL/XML prototype
    - 3.2.3 Peter Eisentraut's XML export
  - 3.3 Nickolay Samokhvalov's SQL/XML
    - 3.3.1 Bio
    - 3.3.2 Graduate work in XML
    - 3.3.3 Google Summer of Code

- 3.3.3.1 Project proposal
    - 3.3.4 ANSI SQL Specification
      - 3.3.4.1 Specification proposal to -hackers
      - 3.3.4.2 Revisions
    - 3.3.5 Patch submitted
      - 3.3.5.1 Fixed
      - 3.3.5.2 Applied
    - 3.3.6 8.3 released
  - 4 HOT Patch
    - 4.1 Statement of the problem
      - 4.1.1 Frequently updated tables
        - 4.1.1.1 MVCC architecture
        - 4.1.1.2 VACUUM/table bloat issues
    - 4.2 Pavan DeLoasee
      - 4.2.1 Bio
      - 4.2.2 Idea
        - 4.2.2.1 HOT relations
        - 4.2.2.2 Proposal at EDB council
        - 4.2.2.3 Multi-part proposal
      - 4.2.3 Specification proposal on -hackers
        - 4.2.3.1 Revisions
        - 4.2.3.2 Tuple chains, not relations
      - 4.2.4 Initial draft patch
        - 4.2.4.1 “Break it up” -- now 5 patches
        - 4.2.4.2 22 revisions of core HOT patch
      - 4.2.5 Feature freeze
        - 4.2.5.1 Procrastination
        - 4.2.5.2 Performance testing
        - 4.2.5.3 Patch applied
      - 4.2.6 Results
        - 4.2.6.1 Performance testing
        - 4.2.6.2 Demonstration
  - 5 Failed Patch: Skyline
    - 5.1 Proposal on Hackers
    - 5.2 Problems with the patch
      - 5.2.1 Not a standard
        - 5.2.1.1 Syntax issues
      - 5.2.2 Limited functionality
        - 5.2.2.1 Limited audience
      - 5.2.3 Code quality
        - 5.2.3.1 Comparison with accepted PostgreSQL code
    - 5.3 Project on pgFoundry
      - 5.3.1 Possible future
  - 6 How to get started contributing
    - 6.1 Where to find ideas
    - 6.2 Where to find resources
      - 6.2.1 Documentation
      - 6.2.2 Tutorials
      - 6.2.3 Mailing Lists & community
    - 6.3 Things to contribute other than code.
  - 7 Question & Answer