Run a conference with pgeu-system

Johan Thelin // fosdem // February 2022
Agenda

- Introduction and background
- A look at conference
- Additional parts
- The foss-north setup
- Summary
- Q&A
Introduction and Background
Bio

- Johan Thelin
- **Koderize** and **Eperoto**
- Arranges **foss-north**
- Conference and Pod
- Qt, Linux, Automotive, Licensing, Start-ups
Q&A Supporter

- Magnus Hagander
- PostgreSQL Core Team
- PostgreSQL Europe president
- PostgreSQL developer/committer
- Lead developer of pgeu-system
- Paid dayjob: consultant at Redpill Linpro focused on PostgreSQL
foss-north

• Conference focused on FOSS
• Annually since 2016
• Gothenburg
• Of course you should visit!
pgeu-system

• Conference system built for the European Postgresql Conference
• Has been generalized and is now used for more conferences and organizations
• Started by Magnus Hagander
Why foss-north uses it

• We came from a bit of a hack
  – Google Forms for Call for Papers
  – Eventbrite for tickets
  – Manual invoicing of sponsors

• pgeu-system provides automation and structure
More Users

• All PostgreSQL Europe conferences
  – Pgconfeu
  – Nordic PGDay
  – PGDay Paris
  – PGConf.DE

• PGDay – an add-on day to physical FOSDEM

• All PostgreSQL US conferences
  – Postgres Open
  – PGConf.NYC
  – PGDay San Francisco

• PGCon – the global development conference in Ottawa

• BSDCON

• foss-north
A Look at a Conference
A Conference

Speakers

Volunteers

Visitors

Sponsors
A Conference

- Meta-data
  - Dates, names, links, mail templates, etc

- Communications
  - Emails to groups of users
  - News, tweets, etc

- Admin
  - Scheduling, CfP, sponsor logos, etc
Edit new conference

Conference name: fosdem demo

URL name: fosdem-demo

Series: ........

Start date: 02 / 05 / 2022

End date: 02 / 06 / 2022

Location: Brussels

Time zone: Europe/Stockholm

Contact address: info@foss-north.se

Sponsor address: info@foss-north.se

Notification address: info@foss-north.se

Conference URL: https://test.foss-north.se/fosdem-demo/

Administrators: Johan Thelin (ejoh@foss-north.se)

Jinja directory:

Full path to new style jinja repository root

VAT rate for registrations: 25 % (Sverige) (25%)

VAT rate for sponsorships: 25 % (Sverige) (25%)

Invoice payment options: stripe, Unmanaged bank transfer

Save  Cancel
# Edit new conference

**Conference name:** fossdem demo  
**URL name:** fossdem-demo  
**Series:**  

**Start date:** 02/05/2022  
**End date:** 02/06/2022  
**Location:** Brussels  
**Time zone:** Europe/Stockholm  

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**Sponsor address:** info@foss-north.se  
**Notification address:** info@foss-north.se  
**Conference URL:** https://test.foss-north.se/fossdem-demo/  

**Administrators:** Johan Thelin (johan.thelin@gmail.com)  
**Jinja directory:**  

**VAT and Payment Options**  
**VAT rate for registrations:** 25 % (Sweden) (29%)  
**VAT rate for sponsorships:** 25 % (Sweden) (29%)  
**Invoice payment options:**  
- stripe  
- Unmanaged bank transfer
More Configuration

- Waitlist behaviour
- Notification behaviour
- Email templates
- Website promo texts
- Registration options
  - T-shirts, photo consent, twitter names, share email with sponsors, etc
- More user roles
  - Testers, talk voters, staff, volunteers, check-in processors
The Conference Stages

- Registration
- Call for Papers
- Call for Sponsors
- Schedule
- Checking
- Conference Feedback
- Session Feedback

Each of these can be open or closed
Welcome to foss-north

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We know that there are some ...

Read more...
Speaker Flow

- Call for Paper
- Register speaker profile and sessions
- Vote on talks
- Schedule talks
- Confirmation
- Show time!
Call for Paper

- Configure the CfP
- Open it and promote the link

Call for papers

Skill levels:

Use tags:

Call for papers intro:

Do you want to share something about free and open source software, development methodologies, or other relevant topics? If so, we would love to hear about it! You can submit your papers until February 13, and the final program will be announced in the end of February.

Our sessions slots are 60 and 30 minutes, with 45 and 20 minutes presentation time respectively, and the remaining time for Q&A and switching speakers. Please indicate which length you want in your submission notes and using tags.

We cover the travel expenses of our speakers upon request. Please indicate if you are interested in this in your submission notes and using tags.

The event will be fully virtual and pre-recorded, with a live Q&A at the end of each session.
Speaker Registration

- pgeu-system relies on external user identities via oauth
- foss-north currently use github and google
- This is not ideal – we are looking at setting up our own system in parallel
# Voting on Talks

- Talk voter users can comment and vote on talks
- Then the decision is set
  - Accepted, reserve, not accepted

## Vote for sessions - foss-north 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seq</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Submitted</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
<th>Pending</th>
<th>Pending reserve</th>
<th>Withdrawn</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Scheduling

• Build a schedule
  – Setup tracks, rooms and slots
  – Put sessions into slots and tracks

• foss-north skips this for historical reasons
Reports

• Speakers
  – Unconfirmed, unregisters, not checked in

• Sessions
  – Without room / track

Reports

- Attendee reports
- Unregistered staff
- Confirmed attendees per day
- Attendees not checked in
- Unconfirmed speakers
- Sessions with no room
- Speakers not checked in
- Session status statistics
- Rooms with overlapping sessions
- Unregistered speakers
- Attendee countries
- Sessions with no track
A Conference

Speakers

Volunteers

 Visitors

Sponsors
Visitor Flow

• Buy tickets
• Check in at the event

• Also
  - Promotion codes
  - Waitlists
  - Optional packages
Tickets

• Registration types and registration classes is used to offer various tickets

### Registration types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration type</th>
<th>Registration class</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Sortkey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference Ticket</td>
<td>Attendee</td>
<td>400.00</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Conference Ticket</td>
<td>Student</td>
<td>160.00</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Options

- We provided an additional (heavily discounted) training day in 2019
- Added to the ticket price

Conference additional options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Maximum number of uses</th>
<th>Autocancel invoices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managing the risk and growth of using Open Source Software</td>
<td>4600.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training: Android Automotive Internals and Security</td>
<td>4600.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training: Fast track to OpenEmbedded and Yocto Project</td>
<td>4600.00</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Promotion Codes

• Possible to create promotion codes with discount offers

• foss-north use this for sponsor attendees (booth staff) as well as sponsor specific discounts for shared promotion
Refunding

• foss-north offer 100% refunds until our cost is incurred
  – We even pick-up the transfer costs

• pgeu-system supports more complex refunding rules
Reports

- Confirmed visitors per day
- Not checked in visitors

- More generic database export to various formats
  - foss-north uses this for our custom badges
Payments

• We will look more at accounting later...
• Each visitor gets an invoice with a due date
• We can track paid and unpaid invoices in reports
• Can be paid "manually" or via payment providers
  – Adyen, Stripe, PayPay, Braintree, Trustly, TransferWise
A Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>Sponsors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Volunteer Flow

• For conference organizers
• I’ve never used this feature :-)

• Configure slots, assign volunteers, create volunteer schedules
• Can specify min/max per slot and let the volunteers pick slots themselves
A Conference

- Speakers
- Volunteers
- Visitors
- Sponsors
Sponsor Flow

• Another feature foss-north does not use
• We deal with each sponsor manually

• The pgeu-system lets you specify standard sponsorship contracts
• The sponsors can buy the slots them selves
• Unique packages can be managed, e.g. lanyards, lunches, etc
• Support for reports around the sponsors and packages
Additional Parts
There is more...

- News
  - Global news
  - News per event
  
- Accounting and Invoicing
Accounting and Invoicing

• Lets you run the book keeping inside pgeu-system

• Uses the cash method
  - Invoices appear in the books once paid
**Account Structure**

- Lets you setup an account structure for your local rule set
- foss-north uses a BAS kontoplan for Sweden

### Account structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tillgångar</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kassa och bank</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Paypal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Snipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Bankgiro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eget kapital och skulder</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moms och särskilda punktskatter</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2611</td>
<td>Utgående moms på försäljning inom Sverige, 25 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rörelseins inkomsterintäkter</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Huvudintäkter</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3001</td>
<td>Försäljning inom Sverige, 25 % moms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3002</td>
<td>Försäljning inom Sverige, 12 % moms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Invoices

- You can create, view and track invoices
- Invoices are created automatically for visitors and sponsors
- You can manually create invoices too
- Invoices can manually be marked as paid, or automatically through an integrated payment service
Invoices

- Custom invoice template
- Creates and emails a pdf to the recipient
- Includes payment link for online payments
The Books

- Out pops a transaction list
- Instant, automatic, book keeping
The foss-north Setup
Overview

- foss-north came from a bit of a hack
- We use the system for
  - Call for Papers
  - Visitors
  - Invoicing
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Your submissions

You have not made any submissions yet.

New submission

Click here to make a new submission to foss-north 2022.

If you have submitted to other conferences managed by FOSS North Conferences in the past, you can also copy and paste your submission.

Remove submission

To remove a submission, please contact info@foss-north.se.

Speaker profile

Your shared FOSS North Conferences speaker profile will be used for all submissions.
Future Steps

- Upgrade to the latest version
- Provide our own id server with oauth
- Get through COVID 19 and back to physical events :-}
Summary
Resources

• https://foss-north.se/

• https://github.com/pgeu/pgeu-system

• https://lists.postgresql.org/ pgeu-system
Thank you!

Q&A