

# signed autoupdates for your zoo of embedded devices done right

Bastian Bittorf

February 22, 2017



# signed autoupdates for embedded devices

- ▶ we discuss the concept, not the implementation
- ▶ we show possible workflows
- ▶ focus on OpenWrt/LEDE
  - ▶ can work for all your IoT/IoE devices
  - ▶ where updates are firmware-images
- ▶ secure, scalable, affordable, practicable

## example: our test- and community-network

- ▶ 95 devices
  - ▶ e.g. wireless routers, NAS boxes, servers
  - ▶ everything runs OpenWrt or LEDE
- ▶ 35 different hardware models with 10 different architectures
  - ▶ e.g. TP-LINK TL-WDR4900 v1
  - ▶ e.g. Linksys WRT54G/GS/GL
  - ▶ e.g. Linksys WRT1900AC v1
- ▶ 20 different usecases
  - ▶ e.g. NAS, webcam, VPN, USBprinter,
  - ▶ e.g. DSLR-camera, WWAN, USB-audio. . .
- ▶ 3 different update-modi (stable, beta, testing)
  - ▶ sums up to: **171 different images**

## problem: not much horsepower

- ▶ only a few admins
- ▶ who feels responsible for what target?
- ▶ who thrusts which admin?
- ▶ release early, release often?
- ▶ we need to protect ourselves!

# typical release management

- ▶ stable
- ▶ beta
- ▶ testing (*aka* “avantgarde”)
- ▶ nightly

# what is needed

- ▶ image + tarballs
- ▶ easy/simple check if there is a new version
- ▶ balance your individual threatlevel
- ▶ for powerusers
  - ▶ override-all aka “download and install NOW”
- ▶ for mama
  - ▶ configurable good-enough thrustlevel
  - ▶ how many signatures needed for ultimate thrust

# needed infrastructure

- ▶ a build machine (or many)
  - ▶ crosscompiler/wrapper/
- ▶ a webserver for the images
- ▶ usign aka signify (OpenBSD)
- ▶ automated testing
- ▶ human testers



# a manual walktrough

imagine, you are a router and you need fresh meat

- ▶ you know your... *network*
- ▶ you know your... *hardware-model*
- ▶ you know your... *update-mode*
- ▶ you know your... *usecase*

`http://server/networks/berlin/firmware/TP-LINK TL-WR1043ND  
v2/testing/.usecase_hash/info.json`

```
{  
  "foo": "bar",  
}
```

...not ready yet!