Michael Smith: GStreamer

- Aims:

  - Provide a 'standard' multimedia framework for free software multimedia applications

  - Mindful of legal issues surrounding multimedia

- Features:

  - Playback support for almost all formats

  - Permits proprietary plugins (most useful for formats not otherwise supportable)

  - Flexible and powerful: not just playback!

GStreamer: Challenges

- Not enough end-user applications (other than players)

- "dynamic pipelines" difficult to use

- Flaky/difficult underlying APIs for hardware access (e.g. v4l, alsa)

- Release engineering resources lacking

- API compatibility: 1.0?

GStreamer: Dependencies

- Libraries in use:
  - Core relies only on GLib, libc
  - Many plugins have external dependencies
  - FFmpeg is a big one for supporting many formats
- Projects that depend on us:
  - Many GNOME applications (e.g. Totem)
  - Flumotion. PiTiVi. Elisa.
  - Many others!

GStreamer: Next Steps

- New releases coming up soon

- New plugins: more format support.

- New API: make development easier, more flexible, more capable.

FOMS 2008