"Free as in Freedom," the new major Jami release

Jami, the cloudless communication platform, reached a major milestone in its evolution by releasing its latest version, "Free as in Freedom," with several new features.

Jami is a GNU package considered a priority project by the Free Software Foundation, whose role is to promote open-source software and users' freedoms. Among the multiple communication applications on the market, Jami differentiates itself as a cloudless platform that doesn't require servers to operate.

All communications on Jami are completely peer-to-peer and end-to-end encrypted, therefore providing a more secure and private way to talk, chat and share files without any middleman.

"Jami is a game changer for the communication app market. Its cloudless architecture provides unmatched levels of privacy and virtually eliminates infrastructure costs, allowing us to provide it for free without restriction and without monetizing end users' data or attention." Cyrille Béraud, President of Savoir-faire Linux Inc.

The new version, "Free as in Freedom," was chosen to reflect the core values of Savoir-faire Linux in developing free and open-source software.

The new features available in "Free as in Freedom"

Dark theme

Available on desktop (GNU/Linux and macOS) and mobile (Android), Jami can now be used in a dark mode.

Conferences

This is probably the hottest new feature available in "Free as in Freedom." It is now possible to make audio and video group calls on Jami, still without relying on any middleman. The conference is hosted by the device of the person who initiates it. It mixes the audio and video feed from all participants and sends it back to them so everyone can see and hear each other.

Audio and video messages

Jami now includes the recording and sending of audio and video messages between users. This feature is convenient to send quick messages without typing.

4K communications

Video calls can now be done in Ultra HD resolution. This feature is only available if the device has a 4K camera and is useful if the other person has a 4K screen. It guarantees a high-quality video and better immersion, even if both participants are thousands of kilometres away.

Screen sharing and media streaming

During a video call, users can change the source of their video feed, allowing them to share the entire screen or only a section. Jami also offers the possibility to choose a media file as a source, which will stream its content to participants in a call.

What's next for Jami?

Towards a unified communication system for organizations

Jami aims to become the solution of choice for organizations in need of a communication tool, and this release is a major step towards this goal. The key missing element is a way for IT departments to integrate Jami with the rest of their infrastructure and manage user accounts on a central dashboard.

This is why we are currently working on JAMS (Jami Account Management Server), for which a beta version will be released in January 2020.

The foundations for a cloudless ecosystem

The team also plans to open its platform to third-party developers, allowing them to leverage the cloudless architecture and create their own Jami extensions. An object recognition extension has already been created to demonstrate the capabilities of the platform, but the number of use-cases is endless. For example, end users will be able to play games with their friends, manage IoT devices, send virtual currencies, control remote desktop computers, and much more. To make this a reality, the Jami team is working on the creation of an SDK (Software Development Kit), proper documentation, and an online store for extension distribution.

Meanwhile, developers interested in creating the first set of extensions can already get in touch with the Jami team.

For more information

Jami: https://jami.net/

Jami extensions: https://jami.net/extensions/

JAMS (Jami Account Management Server): https://jami.biz/

Jami documentation: https://docs.jami.net/

Mastodon: https://mstdn.io/@Jami

Videos: https://docs.jami.net/videos/

Contribute: https://jami.net/contribute/

Forum: https://forum.jami.net/