Apache SpamAssassin report to Board for October 2019

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SpamAssassin is a mail filter to identify spam. The project provides a framework/engine and regular rule updates that reflect the changing nature of spam email seen in the wild. Updated rules are generated through a combination of hand crafted contributions and automated processing of spam and anonymized processed non-spam that are contributed by volunteers.

Status and health report:

The project activities, including running of our rule update infrastructure and our dev and user mailing lists, are continuing smoothly.

Our wiki was successfully migrated by Infra in July from the deprecated MoinMoin host to Confluence.

SpamAssassin 3.4.3 release candidate 4 was released August 31. We will need an rc5 for a minor change, but are hopeful that will be our final release for 3.4.x and letting us focus on 4.0.

Our GSOC 2019 student, Shreyansh Shrivastava, successfully completed the project in August. Thanks to Moaz Reyad and Wang Wei, representing Apache Singa, for joining in to provide guidance and mentoring with regards to statistical classification models. Shreyansh has been blogging about the experience: https://medium.com/@shreyansh25.shrivastava/gsoc19-work-submission-4699662d99f5

Among those representing ASF at WebPros Summit 2019 in September were SpamAssassin PMC members Sidney Markowitz and Kevin A. McGrail, who helped staff the ASF booth in "Open Source Alley" and presented some talks about SpamAssassin and Open Source.

Releases:

The last release was Apache SpamAssassin version 3.4.2 on 16 September 2018

We are close to releasing version 3.4.3 to address some issues that were deferred, in part so we could quickly release security fixes in 3.4.2. After we release 3.4.3 we expect to resume development in our main branch for 4.0.

Note that we maintain online rule updates that are continuously updated through a combination of developer contributions and automated processing via our mass-check facility.

Committer/PMC changes:

Most recent new committer:

Paul Stead (pds) 12 September 2018

Most recent new PMC members:

Giovanni Bechis (gbechis) 24 Sep 2018

Henrik Krohns (hege) 25 Sep 2018