How you get new features faster

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Opencast's updated development process

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Before...

- Opencast has had scheduled releases since version 1.6
  - Worked far better than the previous feature-driven approach
  - Major releases only
- Minor updates happened on-demand
  - Usually more frequent at the beginning

- Major releases are feature releases
  - Features are more likely to break things
  - Features may require migrations
- Minor releases are bugfix releases
  - Whatever does not count as feature is allowed
  - Avoid larger changes if possible

Have **regular releases** so you know when to expect an update.

Major

The next big thing.

- Every half year
  - Around June 15
  - Around December 15

- May include big changes
  - Opencast behavior can change

- May include migrations
  - Database changes
  - Index rebuilds

Minor

Fix that damn bug.

- Stable (latest release)
  - Monthly updates

- Legacy (previous release)
  - On-demand updates

Support

Plan your updates.

- One year of support

- First half year
  - Stable
- Second half year
  - Legacy

Minor updates: Don't break things if possible.

Smooth updates

Don't sweat about minor updates.

- Minor updates should be easy
  - Don't break anything
- Behavior should not change
  - Defaults stay the same
- Old configuration should work
  - You can use a 9.0 configuration for 9.3

- New features are allowed
  - Metrics endpoint
  - Stand-alone video editor
  - ...

Be Pragmatic!

Exceptions may apply. Always.

- Security issues
- Denial of service
- Data loss

- Look at the release notes

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More flexible development.
Less waiting.

Development

Less waiting.

- Shorter release time
  - Feature freeze now one month before the major release

- Get features faster
  - No endless waiting if you missed the feature freeze for most features

done.