LINUX NEWS

Tommy Hilfiger Chooses IBM and Linux

The Tommy Hilfiger corporation has chosen IBM, eOneGroup and Linux for its new e-business infrastructure, as the company works to expand its presence among thousands of US specialty retailers, as well as its worldwide manufacturing facilities and employees.

Tommy Hilfiger selected technologies from IBM, including IBM eServer products running Red Hat Linux, DB2 Universal Database, Java and eOneGroup's suite of software products to create a new B2B portal (www.tommyb2b.com) that enables Tommy Hilfiger's specialty retailers and sales force to view, via the Web, selected core and seasonal clothing products such as jeans and other inventory items in real-time,

and place, track and ship orders. The new technologies have also allowed the development of a business-to-plant Web site that links Tommy Hilfiger's production facilities around the world, which is expected to speed design-to-product time and significantly decrease costs; and a virtual employee store that for the first time enables Tommy Hilfiger personnel to shop online around the clock.

The Web infrastructure, designed and built by IBM business partner eOneGroup, includes IBM eServer xSeries servers running Linux to handle Web-based transactions, integrated online with IBM eServer iSeries servers running Java that are tied to existing wholesale and warehouse management systems.
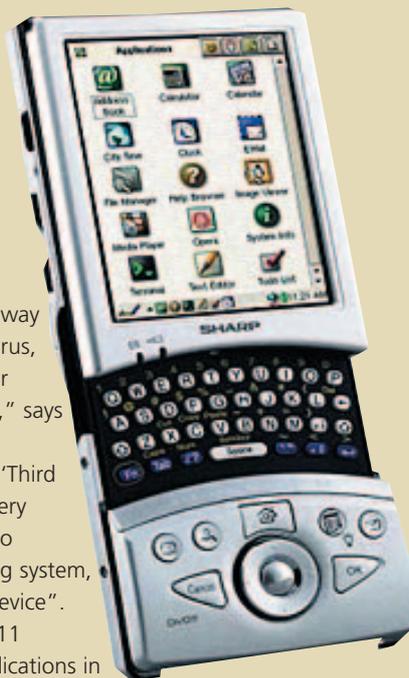
Trolltech launches developer contest

Trolltech is launching a worldwide developer contest to help generate applications for the Sharp Zaurus SL-5000D – the first PDA from a major power in consumer electronics to ship with embedded Linux.

"We thought this would be a great way to help introduce the world to the Zaurus, to embedded Linux, and to Qtopia, our newly-named application environment," says Haavard Nord, Trolltech's CEO. "These technologies give users the first viable 'Third Way' in PDA computing, and we are very happy to have been chosen by Sharp to provide the GUI framework, windowing system, and application environment for this device".

The contest, scheduled to run until 11 February 2002, will offer prizes to applications in five categories: games, entertainment/educational, business, system tools, and communications. The prizes include $10,000 cash, Sharp Zaurus SL-5000D PDAs, laptops, television and stereo equipment.

For more information, including the entry form, contest rules, and judging criteria, visit *http://contest.trolltech.com*.

Ensuring service with Caldera

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), the largest insurance company in India, has installed more than 6,000 Caldera UnixWare 7 servers to manage its records and operations across the country.

LIC uses UnixWare 7 to link over 2,000 branch offices throughout India and to serve approximately 11.6 million customers. UnixWare 7 links LIC's local area networks (LANs), metro area networks (MANs), wide area networks (WANs), interactive voice response system (IVRS), and other technologies. This enables every LIC branch office to act as a standalone entity with mutual access to all transactions, information and computer support for all policyholders.

"LIC's implementation of UnixWare 7 demonstrates the ability of Caldera products to handle a high load without shuddering," said Ken Bergenthal, Caldera's Managing Director for Asia Pacific. "It provides enterprise-class computing on Intel-based processors, delivering superior reliability, availability and performance 24/7, even in the most remote locations."

In addition, UnixWare 7 servers host the applications used to settle all claims of policy holders and agents' commissions. This increases productivity, helping to manage more than one million transactions per day.

SuSE fills the board

SuSE Linux has announced the appointment of a second Executive Board member and the completion of its management team. Gerhard Burtscher, an experienced IT manager, assumes the position of Chief Executive Officer and takes on the responsibility for the five newly created Business Units of SuSE.

After having assumed CEO tasks during the refocusing of the company, CEO Johannes Nussbickel returns to his original function as CFO, heading Finance and Administration.

Gerhard Burtscher has been active in the IT and telecommunications sector for more than 20 years. He began his career in the Marketing division of Nixdorf Computer AG and held executive positions at Texas Instruments, Digital Equipment, MIPS Technologies, Silicon Graphics, and Siemens-Nixdorf. The focal points of his activity were marketing, sales, and controlling. Since 1995, his main field of activity has been the establishment of European subsidiaries for international technology providers. During his career he gained extensive national and international experience as Managing Director and Business Unit Manager with these companies.

Korean Air Sendmails with IBM

Sendmail has appointed C'QUEST International Asia Ltd. as its distributor in South Korea. C'QUEST will offer Sendmail, Inc.'s email solutions to service providers and enterprises in South Korea.

The partnership of Sendmail, Inc. and C'QUEST has already resulted in a contract with Korean Air, the largest airline in Korea, who will implement Sendmail, Inc.'s solution for Linux on IBM's eServer z900.

"As the largest airline in Korea, we need a robust, highly reliable email system to manage our communication across different departments and divisions," said Mr. D.K. Shin, system technology team manager of Korean Air. "Sendmail solutions offer us a highly reliable, scalable and manageable email system at a much lower cost than before".

According to the performance tests conducted by Sendmail, Inc. and IBM, a single IBM z900 mainframe can support more than two million users, making it the largest single-server email system on Linux available in the industry.

MontaVista appoints new VP

MontaVista Software, Inc. has named Raymond Mak as its new Vice President of sales for Asia Pacific. Mak, who has more than 14 years of experience in managing IT business in Asia, will be responsible for MontaVista's sales and operations in the region.

Based in Hong Kong, Mak will expand MontaVista's current sales personnel in Asia Pacific and will work closely with the growing network of MontaVista distribution channels in the region. The Hong Kong base will complement the company's presence in Japan, where MontaVista already has an office in Tokyo, headed by Hitoshi Arima.
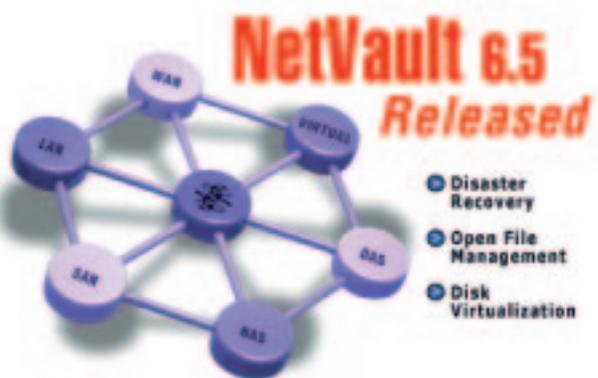
Mak most recently served as Vice President of Asia Pacific at Caldera, where he managed Unix and Linux server software sales through various channel partners. Prior to Caldera, he was a sales director at Apple Computer for nine years, primarily developing and managing sales channels in Hong Kong and Macau.

Bakbone give support to MySQL databases

BakBone Software has release a new NetVault Application Plugin Module (APM) for MySQL v4.0 databases. Available on Linux and Windows NT platforms, the MySQL APM provides NetVault customers with a high performance, reliable and easy to use hot back up and recovery solution for protecting corporate data.

"The new MySQL APM is the latest addition to NetVault's comprehensive line of add-on modules and is the first product on the market to provide fast, online backup of MySQL databases," said Cali Viviano, Product Manager of BakBone Software. "This release represents an extension of NetVault's ongoing commitment to provide application-specific support to the Linux community. NetVault offers hot application backup for more applications running on Linux that any other storage management software manufacturer".

The APM is a fully featured solution that includes superior device management and dynamic drive sharing capabilities for distributing data and maximising resource utilisation while increasing performance. Seamless precision integration with the native backup API allows NetVault to present a common, easy to use GUI for all file system and application specific operations.

LynuxWorks to license Apogee Aphelion IDE

Apogee's Aphelion Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is to be offered to LynuxWorks' customers deploying Java applications on the LynxOS real-time or BlueCat Linux operating systems. The IDE gives developers access to state-of-the-art Java technology and translates to time and cost savings for OEMs who want application portability and code re-use options, as they develop and manage product life cycles. VeriFone Inc., a worldwide leader in electronic payment solutions and a major provider of point-of-sale terminals, will become the first company to use LynxOS with the Aphelion IDE to develop its new line of Java-powered Sapphire site controllers.

Aphelion is a comprehensive IDE for developing high-performance embedded Java and Java/C/C++

applications with deployment on Sun's Connected Device Configuration (CDC) and Connected Limited Device Configuration (CLDC) Java2 Micro Edition (J2ME) Virtual Machines. Developed for embedded systems, Aphelion removes the obstacles hindering the use of Java for embedded systems such as: large run-time footprint, slow run-time execution, and non-deterministic behaviour of Java applications when running on Virtual Machines.

iTS-LiNUX distribute Guardian Digital

Guardian Digital, Inc. has announced a key partnership with Cheshire-based iTS-LiNUX. The terms of the partnership include exclusive rights to distribute Guardian Digital Internet server software.

EnGarde Secure Professional is a comprehensive software solution that provides all the tools necessary to build a complete online presence. It offers unsurpassed levels of security, ease of use, and the most sophisticated Open Source Web-based management system available, capable of supporting thousands of virtual Web sites, email and DNS domains.

SuSE 7.3 for the PowerPC

The latest edition of SuSE is the most comprehensive Linux version for Motorola PowerPC processors on the market today. SuSE Linux 7.3 PowerPC Edition comes with 8 CDs containing a state-of-the-art Linux operating system and more than 2,000 applications.

SuSE Linux 7.3 PowerPC Edition offers software for virtually any purpose, including image processing, security solutions, emulators, network and e-commerce tools. The improved KDE 2.2.1 desktop sets new standards for functionality, ergonomics, and user-friendliness.

Furthermore, in the KDE control centre new arrangements have been made to organise the numerous applications in sections such as archiving, graphics, publishing, and network. The virtual machine MOL 0.9.60 (Mac on Linux) was also improved substantially. It allows the use of a network-capable MacOS under Linux in window or full-screen mode. Highlights such as RealPlayer 8, Opera 5.0, Samba 2.2.1a, and GNOME 1.4.1 compliment the software equipment.

"SuSE's mission is to make Linux available for whatever system a user has," explains Jasmin Ul-Haque, Commercial Director of SuSE Linux UK Ltd. "Now, Mac users can have all the benefits of the latest developments in Linux and still run their native Macintosh system and applications. We want everyone to experience Linux".

da Vinci takes off

The software development company da Vinci, which was formed earlier this year to serve the growing demands for UK-based teams of software developers, has had a successful year resulting in a 25 per cent increase in development staff.

Having carried out several development projects since its inception, da Vinci is now officially launching itself to an industry that seems to be crying out for a company that can develop complete software solutions for all platforms within budget and on time. The team behind the company has extensive expertise of developing software for Macintosh, Linux and PC, with each engineer having an average of 12 years experience.

Earlier this month, da Vinci won a contract with iInventory for the next phase of development of their LANauditor software, due for release in the first quarter of 2002. LANauditor automates hardware and software asset tracking for networked and standalone computers. First launched in 1990, the product has a well established, worldwide user base.

Red Hat delivers for IBM

Red Hat is set to collaborate with IBM to deliver Open Source software solutions, services and support for the entire IBM eServer product line.

Red Hat support for IBM eServer platforms include:
- zSeries mainframes (64-bit kernel);
- iSeries integrated servers for small and medium business (32-bit kernel);
- pSeries UNIX servers (32-bit kernel); and
- xSeries Intel-based server (32 and 64-bit kernel).

For the IBM eServer product line, Red Hat will provide a base solution offering that includes the Red Hat Linux operating system, product support services and professional services, as well as an upgrade offering. Red Hat will also provide a wide array of service upgrades.

Adaptec support Linux RAID

Adaptec's RAID driver has been embedded in the Linux kernel, allowing future versions of Linux operating systems based on the kernel to support Adaptec's family of SCSI RAID and high-end ATA RAID PCI cards straight out of the box.

Adaptec's Ultra160 SCSI drivers are already embedded in the Linux kernel and the company plans to embed drivers for its leading Ultra320 products as well. According to research firm IDC, Worldwide shipments of servers with Linux operating systems are expected to grow from 620,000 in 2001 to 1.8 million in 2005, a rise in market share from 13 percent to 28 percent. In the past, Adaptec's RAID driver was maintained as a value-added feature by only certain Linux kernel distributors such as Mandrake and SuSE. Now that the driver is embedded in the mainstream kernel – kernel 2.4.10 – the new code, available at the Linux kernel FTP site, can be reviewed and maintained by virtually any kernel distributor.
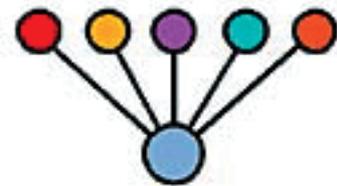
As part of that commitment, Adaptec will be providing source code for the OSM layer of the Linux drivers for Adaptec's fibre channel host adapters. The company also plans to continue to add to the list of products it supports under Linux and open-source BSD operating systems, including FreeBSD, NetBSD and OpenBSD

Caldera evolves new Volution

Caldera has begun previewing a pre-release version of Caldera Volution Manager 1.1 and will begin shipping the new version during the first quarter of 2002. Caldera is extending the Web-based systems management capabilities of Volution Manager to support the latest versions of all major distributions of Linux as well as Caldera's Unix products. In addition, Caldera is introducing several new systems management features in Volution Manager to help system administrators and solution providers save time, scale resources, and ease deployments in a cost effective manner.

Caldera Volution Manager is a secure, Web-based, systems management solution that reduces the cost of deploying and managing established versions of Linux and Caldera OpenServer, UnixWare and Open Unix. Volution Manager does so by enabling secure, remote management, monitoring and updating of multiple systems through a browser.

Redmond Linux in action

Redmond Linux

A new distribution has been launched, under the name of Redmond Linux. The Personal Edition is designed with ease of use in mind: Redmond Linux loads pre-configured for Internet access, home or small office productivity, financial management, multimedia, entertainment, and more.

The Network Browser icon helps bridge the gap between Microsoft and Linux networking by letting you access network resources by browsing to them in a similar manner to the way Microsoft's Network Neighborhood works. Each networked Redmond Linux machine becomes part of a Windows network.

Further information can be found at *http://www.redmondlinux.org/home.php*

SavaJe selects Espial Escape

SavaJe Technologies has licensed the Espial Escape browser for inclusion with its new SavaJe XE operating system. Launched earlier this month, SavaJe XE is optimised to run Java applications efficiently on embedded and handheld devices. By selecting Espial Escape as the default browser, SavaJe has ensured its customers have a fast, compatible, and above all secure browser for their enterprise applications; and that they experience faithful rendering of even the most complex Web pages.

SavaJe's customers will also benefit from the reduced memory footprint of Espial Escape – a key requirement since SavaJe XE is designed to power the resource-constrained ARM-based handheld devices that are proving extremely popular in today's enterprises.