Apache on Linux: The Modules, the Server and the Project

Winning Team

The Linux and Apache team are capable of winning against all-comers. The size of the challenger does not matter. Team work and modular building give a responsive champion.

Most administrators will confirm that Linux is a stable and successful network professional. And the Netcraft survey clearly shows Apache's pervasiveness (see Figure 1). Linux guards Apache's back providing it with the peace of mind it needs to devote itself entirely to serving up web pages. Additional modules enhance Apache's functionality.

One reason for the staggering long-term consumer satisfaction with Apache is the web server's modular design which allows Apache to adapt to changing roles. Three of the five articles forming our cover feature are thus concerned with modules.

Finding and selecting the right Apache modules is a science in itself. There are ready-made solutions for many issues, although most webmasters may never have heard of them. We will be introducing a selection of useful tools on page 19 onwards, and taking an in-depth look at the modules Mod_rewrite, the "Swiss army knife" of URL manipulation

This month's issue of Linux Magazine features five articles on Apache. Running Apache under Linux makes for a knock-out combination. These discuss some modules, upgrading to Apache 2.0, and the Apache Software Foundation. BY ACHIM LEITNER, ULRICH WOLF

(page 22) and Mod_gzip – used for serving up compressed data from web pages (page 26).

The Old and the New

Version 2.0 sees Apache reaching new levels of modularity offering modules even for core functionality such as multi-threading. The article on page 29 provides you with further details on this and other new features.

Our special is rounded off by a report on the Apache Software Foundation (ASF), which provides a home for innumerable successful projects. Starting on page 32 Linux Magazine shows you why the ASF is so attractive for developers. ∎
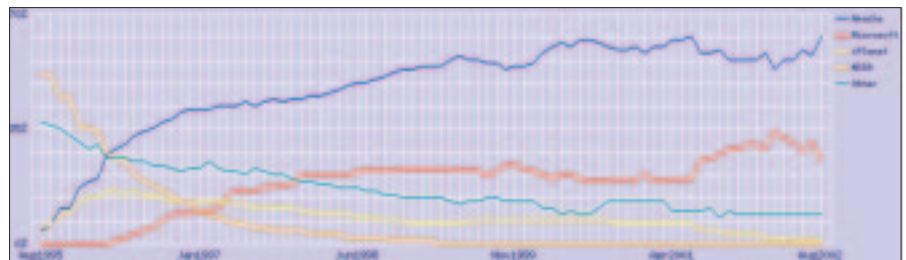

Figure 1: Since 1996 the majority of web servers all over the world have been Apaches with Microsoft's IIS well down in second place. (Source: Netcraft, www.netcraft.com/survey)