Business News

OMV with Linux on a Success Course

OMV, the largest Austrian oil and gas corporation, is consolidating 27 SAP R/3 systems implemented on various platforms onto a single SAP landscape, utilizing mySAP on Linux IBM eServer zSeries. First results from the new IBM solution reveal significant performance enhancements for SAP applications, as well as, high availability and stability of all systems.

"We're absolutely convinced of the quality, availability and scalability of mySAP together with Linux on eServer zSeries. By contrast with other platforms, this solution offers us an opportunity to effectively manage our extensive and heterogeneous IT landscape", says Walter Rotter, IT Manager at OMV.

As an internationally active oil and natural gas corporation with a workforce of around 5,700 people, OMV has to rely on a secure and reliable SAP platform to be able to exploit its vast amounts of SAP data. A stable, single central SAP instance, with unprecedented capabilities to manages large volumes of data at highest availability levels, are the advantages IBM is able to offer its customers with this solution. Installation and a first test run were started within five days.

"The IBM zSeries solution is professional, efficient and a cost effective architecture that enables us to expand the system with ease any time we want. For example, when projects come up at short notice, or start off slowly, or exist only temporarily, the workload can be accommodated without the necessity of adding new hardware or buying more servers, which was the case in the past with SAP upgrades. Instead, with zSeries' unique resource sharing, we eliminated the need for the costly hardware we kept in reserve for peek demand", says Walter Rotter. ■

http://www.omv.com

Linux Cluster for Engine Development

MTU Aero Engines has decided to use a new Linux cluster for its large scale engine development. The Linux cluster consists of a total of 64 Dell PowerEdge 1550 standard rack servers with two 1.13 GHz Intel Pentium III processors each, and a total main memory of 144 GB SDRAM for the implementation of additional computing capacities when and as required.

SuSE Linux Enterprise Server 7 is used as the operating system for the cluster. The computers are networked using Fast Ethernet and 2 GBit/s Myrinet. The decision for the Linux cluster results from the MTU Aero Engines engineers' rapidly rising demands for computing power. At the same time, they expect the price-performance ratio to be as modest as possible.

Nowadays, simulation programs requiring a high level of computing are indispensable for the development of competitive products. Already at the design stage, complex algorithms, the aerodynamic, thermodynamic, and mechanical properties of components are predicted, enabling an early optimization of the geometry of the manufactured components.

As is the case with most modern mainframe systems, Linux clusters that strictly comply with standard architectures can be expanded virtually without limit should the current capacity prove inadequate. Server systems which are built with the standard components (CPU, bus architecture, operating system etc.,) guarantee the lowering of system costs, better cross node compatibility, as well as comparable availability, resulting in a lower total cost of ownership. MTU Aero Engines intends to expand the Linux cluster soon. ■

http://www.mtu.de/mtu

Caldera no more

Caldera International is changing its name to The SCO Group and changing its logo back to the stylized tree. Caldera bought SCO Unix in 2000 and after a somewhat drawn out process finally changed the corporate branding to Caldera.

Now the board has decided to change the name back to SCO in the hope of gaining some leverage from the name. The SCO (Santa Cruz Operation) was well know amongst UNIX vendors and customers and the new renaming aims to focus on that goodwill.

The products Caldera OpenServer and Unixware will now be known as SCO OpenServer and SCO Unixware along with the new SCO UnitedLinux which will be released at the end of the year in co-operation with SuSE, Connectiva and TurboLinux. TurboLinux itself has recently been bought by the Japanese Software Research Associates Inc, and aims to focus on the Asia market.

The Caldera Partner Programme will be rebranded as TeamSCO. ■

http://www.caldera.com/

Simplified support

Vcentrix has decided to use Simplified's Open voice and data services to provide its customers with a flexible Voice over IP (VoIP) billing solution. The combined Linux version of the Simplified Ventana suite of applications gives a range of tools for rating and routing configuration.

It can also handle reporting and customer relations management with a range of easy to use web based tool. As Vcentrix focuses on Internet Service Providers and VoIP based carriers for its clients, the open source solution gives greater visibility to their communications usage and costs. The Linux solution enables the HiveNet billing service to be scaleable as the businesses develop and expand in size. Currently the system supports all of Cisco systems and other hardware support is planned. ■
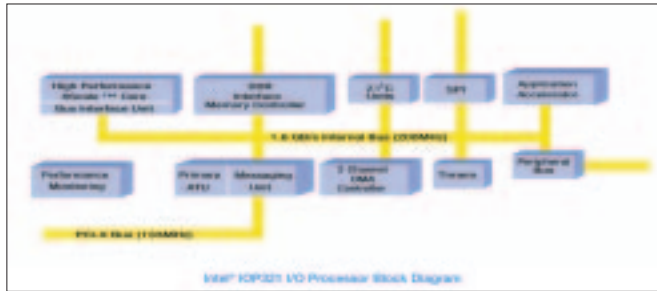
http://www.simplified.com

Support for Intel IOP321 I/O

MontaVista Software Inc., announced the MontaVista Linux Professional Edition 2.1 development environment for the Intel IOP321 I/O processor. The IOP321 processor, is based on Intel XScale technology.

The XScale microarchitecture is a powerful processor technology targeted for applications in Internet-connected appliances, as well as for network infrastructure devices and storage solutions. The new software includes cross development tools and native tool chains for local development, along with extensive real-time features. It now targets 24 processors and supports more than 70 commercial off-the-shelf and reference boards. Additional support for the Intel IXC1100 control plane processor has also be included, which is used for deep packet inspection on line cards and blades. ∎

http://www.mvista.com

Intel® IOP321 I/O Processor Block Diagram

Sendmail, Inc. and HP demonstrate demand for Linux

Sendmail, Inc, and HP announced a significant sales momentum for their combined Linux-based email solution running on HP ProLiant servers, further demonstrating the increase in the adoption of Linux for commercial applications in the enterprise.

Since the beginning of the companies' sales and marketing relationship in January 2002, Sendmail, Inc. and HP have signed several deals yielding sales in excess of $5 million, spanning three continents and several industries, including ISPs, financial services, universities, healthcare and government agencies.

The relationship between Sendmail, Inc. and the former Compaq began with the packaging of Sendmail's Mailstream Manager and Integrated Mail Suite with Compaq's ProLiant server and SuSE Linux enterprise server. Sendmail, Inc. signed a similar agreement with HP in February 2002.

Sendmail's relationship with the new HP company continues its focus on the development and marketing of tested and proven Linux-based enterprise solutions for email applications.

New customers of the Sendmail and HP solution include a wireless GSM-cell phone provider in Jordan – which has already launched a new service with the HP and Sendmail solution; the American University in Cairo; a Romanian service provider; BAX Global Logistics; Health-NET – a major healthcare provider; Shanghai National Bank; a large Chicago-based law firm; and a US government agency. ∎

http://www.sendmail.com

CA launches Linux solutions

Computer Associates International (CA) has launched a number of new solutions for mainframe and distributed Linux environments. For mainframe Linux environments, CA has released new versions of Unicenter Software Delivery and Unicenter Asset Management, as well as beta releases of Unicenter ServicePlus Service Desk and BrightStor Enterprise Backup.

For distributed Linux environments, CA has released a new version of eTrust Admin and several BrightStor options and agents. This brings CAs total Linux offering to more than 50 solutions.

CA has extended its Linux management tools with new solutions for distributed and mainframe deployments – customers can turn to one of the broadest management portfolios for the integration of resources.

"The ability to run a multitude of well-managed virtual servers on a mainframe makes zSeries the platform of choice for Linux at our company," said Bill Dickson, systems manager at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. "CA's integrated systems management and security solutions for VM and Linux provide exactly what we need to protect our mainframe Linux investments.

The CA solutions also integrate easily into our existing management infrastructure and enable our staff to fully leverage their current skill sets." CA has worked closely with the Linux community to ensure full compatibility of its solutions with all major distributions. In addition, CA is working with the new UnitedLinux initiative to ensure compliance within its new releases. ∎

http://ca.com

SourceForge to run on IBM DB2

Open Source Development Network, Inc., (OSDN) a subsidiary of VA Software, will port SourceForge.net – the largest open source development site on the Web – to run exclusively on IBM's DB2 database software and WebSphere Internet infrastructure software and tools for Linux.

SourceForge.net has more than 45,000 open source projects and over 460,000 online users. After an evaluation of open source and commercial databases, including Postgres, MySQL, Oracle, and DB2, OSDN selected DB2 to accommodate its planned future growth of SourceForge.net.

The SourceForge.net site has seen outstanding growth since its inception with 220% growth in traffic in the last year and thousands of users working on projects ranging from Python to Freenet. VA Software and IBM have also entered into a commercial relationship to jointly market and sell the next generation of SourceForge Enterprise Edition with full support for IBM DB2 database software, WebSphere Internet infrastructure and Tivoli management software, as well as eServer xSeries systems. ∎

http://www.osdn.com