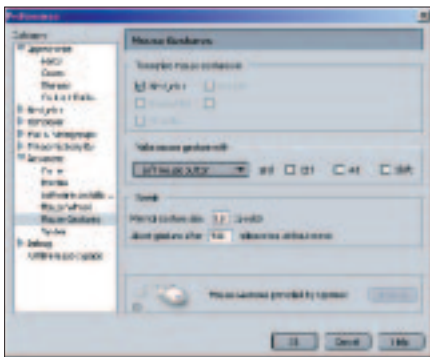# Software News

Mozilla leads the way

The Optimoz project is pushing the boundaries of mouse control again. This time with "mouse gestures". With this add-on you can use the mouse to control the rapid execution of common browser commands with mouse movements. An example is holding down the mouse button and then moving the mouse in a certain way to add the page as a book-mark. An example of this can now be downloaded from the *optimoz.mozdev. org* website.

The next step is piemenus. These can be thought of as mouse gestures with feedback. Here sectors of a circle act as different menu choice areas. A common use in within 'The Sims' game. This allows context sensitive menus. ■

http://optimoz.mozdev.org

Bakbone lend support to UnitedLinux

BakBone Software, who provide storage management software, announced support for UnitedLinux. It aims to give a wide range of Linux support with six platforms and forty application plugin modules for its NetVault product.

The secure backup and recovery software is used by ISVs and IHVs to give a flexible solution with modular architecture. It has added an Oracle 9i module to give support for customers using Oracle RMAN architecture. This allows for Hot backup: All backups can be performed while the database is online and applications are available to the end-user. The Oracle RMAN APM supports full, differential, incremental and consolidated backups with an easy to use Graphical User Interface. The Oracle9i RMAN APM costs $995. ■

http://www.bakbone.com

Flight Gear

Flight Gear the Linux flight simulator has released version 0.8.0. The new version requires SimGear 0.2.0. This follows on from the release of a new online tutorial called "A Circuit in FlightGear" which is available at www.flightgear.org. The FlightGear flight simulator project is an open-source, multi-platform, co-operative flight simulator development project.

Source code for the entire project is available and licensed under the GNU General Public License. The goal of the project is to create a sophisticated flight simulator framework for use in research or academic environments, for the development and pursuit of other interesting flight simulation ideas, and as an end-user application. ■

http://www.flightgear.org

KDE Ships KOffice 1.2

The KDE Project announced the availability of KOffice 1.2. David Faure, Koffice release co-ordinator and developer, noted that the release features "an incredible number of improvements".
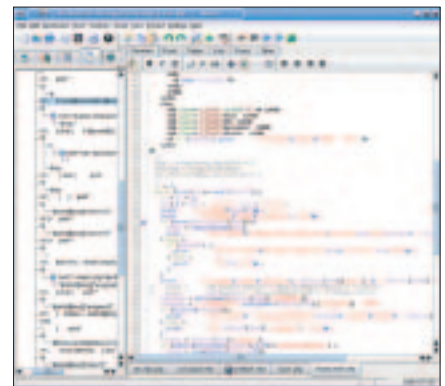
With a great new thesaurus, enhanced scriptability of suite components, WYSIWYG on-screen display, bi-di text, KWord mail-merge and footnotes, and KSpread database connectivity, enhanced printing and new sorting functionality, who's to argue?

And let's not overlook the constant improvements in the filters, though the HTML import took a step back to take full advantage of KHTML's powerful HTML parsing in the next release. Karbon14, the extremely promising vector-graphics program (with SVG support!), is not officially in this release but many of the packagers have packaged it as well. ■

http://www.koffice.org

Quanta Plus 3.0 PR2 Released

The Quanta Plus development team is currently churning out more code than at any time in its history. So to keep you in the loop, the Quanta Plus site has been

revamped. They have put up some new screenshots and implemented new site features such as a publicly accessible developer todo list. So what's new with Quanta? 3.0 PR2 has been released. You'll find auto-completion for HTML and tag attributes, PHP built-in function auto-completion, a revised document structure tree recurses PHP structures and embedded HTML, and more.

One exciting bit of work in progress is the ability to set different DTDs as well as offer tagging functionality in the form of pseudo DTDs to script languages. There are other fixes and enhancements and more on the way. ■
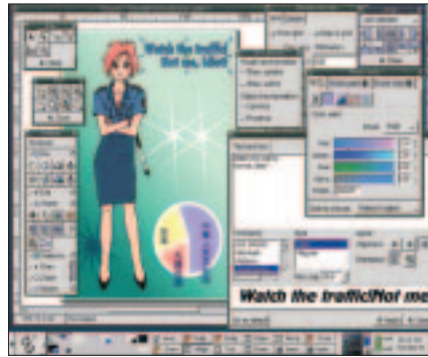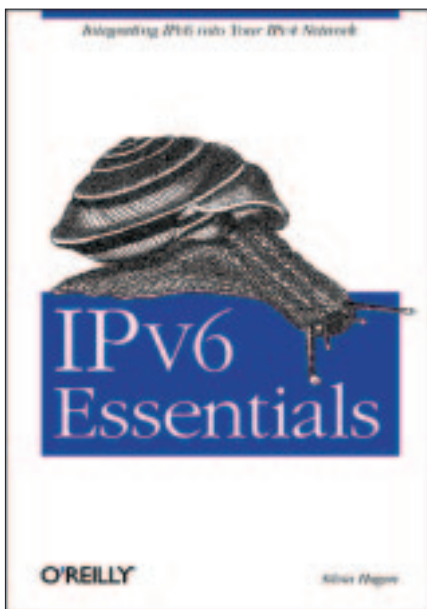
http://quanta.sourceforge.net

IPv6 Essentials

IPv6, the next generation Internet Protocol, has been in the works since the early 90s when the rapid growth of the Internet threatened to exhaust existing IP addresses. Drawing on 20 years' operational experience with the existing protocol (IPv4), the new protocol offers scalability, increased security features, real-time traffic support, and auto-configuration so that even a novice user can connect a machine to the Internet. What does this mean for IT workers? Having learned all the strengths and weaknesses of the old protocol, do they abandon that knowledge and start afresh with the new?

"IPv6 Essentials" provides a well-organized introduction to IPv6 for experienced network professionals, administrators, managers, and the executives. Hagen covers all the new features and functions in Ipv6, discussing everything readers will need to understand to get started, including how to configure IPv6 on hosts and routers, and which applications currently support Ipv6.

In Asia, many ISPs have to use IPv6 today because they do not have enough address space to cover the demand. In Europe and the US, the situation with address space is not as critical yet, but it will become so. IPv6 has many features that will be needed for current and emerging technologies like Mobile IP. ∎

http://www.oreilly.com

Sodipodi 0.25 released

Sodipodi is a vector based drawing program, similar to CorelDraw or Adobe Illustrator from the proprietary software world, and Sketch or KIllustrator from the free software world. A vertical writing mode is now supported. It is free software, distributed under the terms of Gnu General Public License, Version 2.

Sodipodi uses the W3C SVG as its native file format, being thus a very useful tool for web designers. It has a modern display engine, allowing fine antialiased display, alpha transparencies, vector fonts and so on. Sodipodi is written in C, using Gtk+ toolkit and some Gnome libraries. Both source and rpm versions have been released. ∎

http://sodipodi.sourceforge.net

Acronis supports Linux journaling filesystems

Acronis is known for its hard disk management, and multi-boot products. The company has added Ext3 and ReiserFS support to its new range of tools. The utilities include a disk imaging package called TrueImage. This is used to create exact copies of hard disks or partitions for either backup storage or upgrading hardware. For upgrading hard drives quickly the MigrateEasy utility can be used.

The final product is the OS Selector. This is a multi-boot utility that allows PC users to run multiple operating systems on a single computer, including all versions of Linux. The software also repartitions and reorganizes hard disks for seamless installation of new operating systems. It's the solution for PC users who want a safety net when trying Linux for the first time. ∎

http://www.acronis.com

Browse the code

Hyperscr has been updated to version 5.3.1. Hyperscr is a GPL released GUI program for browsing source code. It displays a list of widgets containing sorted source code tags. The new version takes advantage of regular expression searching and the ability to browse C++ code easier. ∎

http://www.jimbrooks.org/web/➤ hypersrc/hypersrc.html

GNOME Accessibility credited

The "GNOME Accessibility Architecture" has been singled out in this year's "Helen Keller Achievement Award in Technology", one of the annual "Helen Keller Awards" presented by the American Foundation for the Blind. These coveted awards recognize the "notable accomplishments of individuals who are role models or improve the quality of life for people who are blind or visually impaired."

According to a pre-press release, the GNOME Accessibility architecture demonstrates a commitment to accessible technology which "raises the bar for the computing industry" and "dramatically expands the options available" for technology consumers who are blind or visually impaired. ∎

http://www.afb.org

Mozilla 1.0.1 Released

Mozilla 1.0.1 is now available for download. This release is a bug fix and security follow-up to Mozilla 1.0. Mozilla 1.0 users that have not already upgraded to Mozilla 1.1 are strongly encouraged to upgrade to 1.0.1. ∎

http://www.mozilla.org