

Whether it is as part of a corporate strategy unifying the working environment to take advantage of Open Source products, being able to work at home in your own SOHO or just as part of your home needs, we explore some of the possibilities of making your system use the full power of Linux.

Page 20 and following looks at what is possible with a Java application. Now on version 2, the ThinkFree office suite is written in pure Java. Since Java is available for a wide variety of operating systems this solution would allow you seamless cross over when necessary.

If you just want a lightning fast word processor that uses few resources then pages 24 and 25 are for you. TextMaker is small enough to run on some PDA's, yet it has customizable toolbars and keyboard shortcuts. It is compatible with Microsoft Word file formats.

Next we deal with how to making the most of your systems. To be more efficient in your word processing we cover how to make templates. These will save you time when you most need it and give your work that much required feel of professionalism.

Receiving data and information will, sooner than later, mean you will come

Success with Linux

Office Power

Whether you work in an office with a Linux environment or just write letters at home, you will need some sort of office application. Your options are broad with Linux and in this issue we will take a look at some of the choices that you might not have considered. **BY JOHN SOUTHERN**

across something sent in a proprietary file format. All is not lost as we show you how to convert such information to make use of this data.

Macro functions can take the struggle out of word processing. You can simplify actions and commands that would otherwise become a major chore. We guide you through the importing and editing of OpenOffice macro functions.

Finally we take a look at the latest Linux distributions that are targeted at providing you with an office environment. We examine their strengths and weaknesses, compare and contrast them so you can make an informed opinion.

For an effective office you need to be able to cope with whatever jobs arise and let you work on them with the least amount of hardship. Adding specific time saving extras for power users is important to some, while many will just have older hardware to work with, but still need to run effective systems without losing the functionality we all need.

In the next few pages we show that Linux has a diverse range of solutions for all of your office needs, so make your system more powerful. ■

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