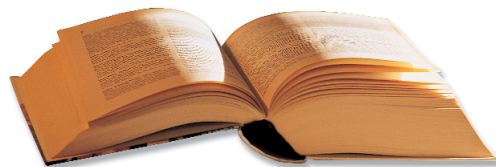


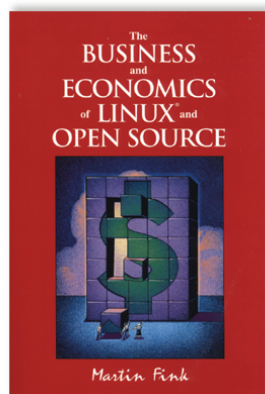
Book Reviews



The Business and Economics of Linux and Open Source

This is an excellent summary of the use of Linux and Open Source in business. As the Open Source movement matures, it is becoming more and more necessary for business managers to take it into account when developing their strategies. Yet many know little or nothing about Linux and Open Source software.

This book has been written to fill



that gap. It is from a businessman's point of view and covers the points that need to be considered by any company thinking of taking Linux on board. The most technical chapter deals with the Linux kernel, so that the reader has a clear idea of how Linux works. Later chapters cover the main packages available, distributions and how to implement Linux to make the best use of available resources.

Martin Fink is responsible for Hewlett Packard's Linux

development activities and so is ideally placed to give an overview of Linux in the global marketplace. The GNU public license is covered in a final appendix, and there is also a good list of references and resources for further information.

Many companies could benefit from moving over to Linux, but are frightened by the apparent complexities. This book lays everything out clearly and should be on every business manager's desk. ■

Martin Fink

300 pages

Prentice Hall, 0-13-047677-3

£23.99, US \$29.99, EUR 22.00

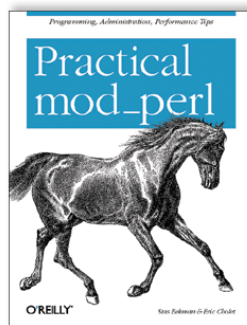
Practical mod_perl

This book is aimed at both Apache Web server administrators and programmers. Administrators need to be able to tweak the system to run most efficiently while programmers want to write the best code possible. This book helps achieve both of these aims.

The first two sections of the book have chapters on installation, configuration and improving performance. There is even a section on installing mod_perl under Windows. Later sections cover databases, troubleshooting and debugging.

The book has plenty of examples. Each chapter has a list of resources, and there are notes about problems.

One of the appendices contains a large collection of mod_perl recipes, so you can have a ready made meal rather than cooking up a solution from scratch. Other appendices include tuturi-



als on the Template toolkit and on AxKit, an XML application server. There is also a useful list of HTTP status codes. If you have anything to do with Apache Web servers, this would be a useful addition to your bookshelf. ■

Stas Bekman & Eric Cholet

924 pages

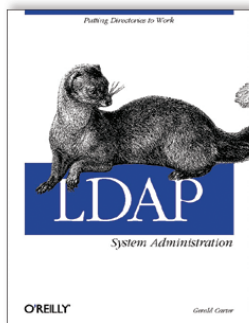
O'Reilly, 0-596-00227-0

£35.50, US \$49.95, EUR 45.54

LDAP system administration

LDAP (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol) is found in many of the main directory systems, but documentation has been lacking. This book sets out to redress that omission. The book is aimed at sys admins who would like to be able to consolidate their databases and to centralize configuration.

The first section covers the basics -



an overview of LDAP and a detailed look at OpenLDAP installation and configuration, with examples of setting up a directory service. The second section covers the implementation. Each chapter takes a problem and works through it with examples. The appendices hold a useful collection of standards and tools. There are clear notes where extra care is necessary. Topics include email configuration, use with Samba, DNS, printer management and scripting.

A section covers the use of LDAP with Microsoft Outlook Express. The majority of the book, however, assumes that you are using Linux or a Unix based system.

If your business uses a wide variety of databases and information systems, then you could benefit by implementing LDAP to reduce your total management needs, and this book is an excellent guide to its installation and use. ■

Gerald Carter

308 pages

O'Reilly, 0-56592-491-6

£28.50, US \$39.95, EUR 36.42