Software News

Pocket Mandrake

Live-File-System CD-ROMs such as Knoppix or GNOPPIX are becoming increasingly popular. It's a great way to test new hardware or demonstrate Linux without the need to install a complete system first. Now it's possible to carry Mandrake in your pocket. Mandrake are cleverly bundeling a USB key to save settings and personal data.

The bootable CD-ROM is based on the latest Mandrake 9.2. It runs "on the fly", presenting you with KDE, various Internet tools (KMail, Konqueror, Gaim, etc.), OpenOffice.org 1.1 and several multimedia applications. A new feature, and something no other CD-ROM based distribution offers yet, is the ability to and thus access your data, listen to music, watch a film, etc. Since the CD-ROM is read only, saving your personal settings or data requires

eject the CD-ROM while still running,

allowing you to replace it with another,

a writable medium. Hence the Boxed Edition of MandrakeMove offers a USB key (128 or 256 Mb), which can also be used to encrypt data. This gives you everything you need to be a road-warrior, in a box.

MandrakeMove is available in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. To download MandrakeMove you have to join the Mandrake Linux Users Club. Alternatively, you can order the box via



Mandrake's online shop, MandrakeStore. MandrakeMove ships for US\$ 129 together with a 256 Mb USB key or US\$ 69.90 with a 128 Mb stick.

http://www.mandrakesoft.com/products/ mandrakemove/ http://www.mandrakelinux.com/en/ ftp.php3

Suse Full House

Suse announced the availability of the add-on "Suse Linux Wine Rack" for customers of SuSE Linux 9.0 Personal or Professional. The package includes CrossOver Office and CrossOver Plugin from Codeweavers, WineX from Transgaming and a 3-D arcade game called MarbleBlast.

The CrossOver utilities allow Linux users to install and run Windows applications such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint from the MS Office 97, 2000, and XP suites. It also supports installation of Visio 2000, Intuit Quicken, Apple Quick Time, Adobe Photoshop 7.0, IBM Lotus Notes and True Type Fonts. These are the applications the Installation Wizard already knows how to install.

Although other applications are not yet supported, you can still attempt to run the normal Windows installer, but it's not guaranteed to work. CrossOver Office runs the Windows applications using Wine (an implementation of the Windows API on Unix) and doesn't emulate a CPU, which makes the programs run more smoothly.

Included in the Wine Rack is the recently published version WineX 3.2, which allows you to play classic games like Half-Life, Counter Strike, Diablo 2, EverQuest, Warcraft III, Battlefield 1942, Starcraft, Civilization 3 and many more under Suse Linux.

CrossOver Plugin allows Windows browser plugins to be used in Linux browsers, such as Netscape, Konqueror, Mozilla, Galeon and Opera. It supports QuickTime, Shockwave Director, Windows Media Player 6.4 and Word, Excel and PowerPoint Viewers, among others. Suse Linux Wine Rack is available from the Suse online store and costs US\$ 39.95.

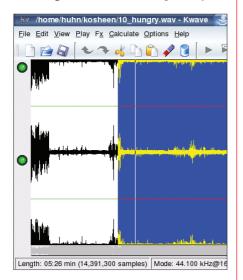
http://www.suse.de/us/company/press/ press_releases/archive03/winerack.html



Riding the Wave

Version 0.7.0 of Kwave, a sound editor designed for the KDE Desktop Environment, has been published. First released in 1998, the latest version includes new features such as a recording functionality (still alpha) and additional project files for KDevelop 3.

Kwave can edit various sorts of wav files including multi-channel files, while handling each channel separately. A



collection of plugins provides features such as fade in and out, volume control and various other audio effects. Most common audio formats are supported. Kwave is released under the GPL and can be downloaded from the project's homepage.

http://kwave.sourceforge.net/

Living in a Box

Release Candidate 2 of White Box Enterprise Linux 3.0 is now available. The distribution is based on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 3, but not produced, maintained, or supported by Red Hat. It is intended to "fill the gap between Fedora and RHEL".

The project's initial creation was sponsored by the Beauregard Parish Public Library in DeRidder, LA, USA, "out of self interest". Several servers and workstations running Red Hat Linux became problematic given Red Hat's new business model: "Our choices were a difficult migration to another distribution or paying RedHat an annual fee greater than the amortized value of our hardware". As a result, White Box Enterprise Linux now offers an unencumbered RPMbased Linux distribution.

Continued compatibility with Red Hat Linux is planned. This will allow easy upgrades and use of Red Hat's Errata srpms. White Box Enterprise Linux 3.0 includes Yum and up2date, but is still suffering from a few bugs concerning the GPG signature check.

ISO images are available for download on several FTP servers (see the download section on the project's homepage). Since it's a pre-release copy, the White Box Linux team states that you should "expect packaging problems and other odd bugs." Links to three mailing lists are given on the project's website.

Bork Bork Bork!

Version 2.3 of the GNU Talk Filters is available. If you ever wanted to talk like the Swedish Chef or in Cockney slang, here is your dialect babelfish. Some of these filters have been available for years, but this package collects them all in one place. Included are some commandline programs that convert ordinary English text into stereotyped or otherwise humorous dialect.

The GNU Talk Filters provide you with austro, b1ff, brooklyn, chef, cockney, drawl, dubya, fudd, funetak, jethro, jive,

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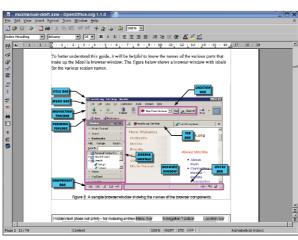
kraut, pansy, pirate, postmodern, redneck, valspeak, and warez conversion. The filters can be invoked as a commandline tool named after the conversion you require or embedded as a library into other programs. A patch for the Gaim Instant Messaging client is provided with the source. You can recompile Gaim and start talking nonsense instantly.

http://www2.dystance.net:8080/ software/talkfilters/

Getting under the Skin of Mozilla

The Mozilla team now offers a new manual for end-users. Based on Mozilla 1.5, the manual gives an overview of key components, such as Navigator (Web Browser), Mail and Newsgroups and the Address Book. The Composer and ChatZilla (Mozilla's builtin IRC client) are not covered.

The "Introduction to Mozilla – A Manual for First Time Users" is written by Kevin Quiggle and is meant to be a "brief introduction" and "not an exhaustive list of all of the capabilities of this software". It covers Mozilla's notable features such as tabbed browsing or the improved image management, i.e. blocking pop-ups,



looping control, and resizing images to fit the screen. Additionally, it intro-

> duces Mozilla's various keyboard shortcuts, allowing you to drive the program much more efficiently. Numerous screenshots are used to illustrate the manual's examples.

> The documentation is published under the Academic Free License as a Star Office 7 document, which of course can be viewed with the free Open-Office.org. It's available for download from the project's homepage.

http://mozmanual.mozdev.org/