Business News

■ Musical Chairs

Novell has announced that Richard Seibt, the former CEO of Suse Linux and president of Novell's Suse Linux business unit, will assume operative responsibility for Novell-EMEA. Seibt, who "brings with him considerable experience in the IT industry and is well known in the Linux world", will be responsible for all day-to-day operations. He replaces Gerard Van Kemmel, who will now assume the role of chairman, Novell, EMEA.

Van Kemmel, who has successfully lead Novell EMEA for more than two years, will help to set Novell's strategy, "particularly in developing its relationships with government institutions, large system integrators and strategic clients".

Additionally, Markus Rex, Suse's former vice president in charge of research and development, is taking over as general manager of Novell's Suse division. Rex will be responsible for the development of all Suse Linux strategies from the server to the desktop.

At the same time it has been announced that about 15 employees of Ximian will move to the Suse unit with the rest of the group remaining with Novell's Resource Management Services Group.

http://www.suse.com/us/company/press/ press_releases/archive04/ novell_executives_emea.html

■ Rising Asianux

China's Red Flag Software Co. Ltd. and Japan's Miracle Linux Corporation have announced a strategic partnership for the Asian Linux market. Asia's two leading Linux vendors are planning to build a common open source platform for Asian companies and share their technologies by "combining Miracle's strength in server technology and Red Flag's advantage in desktop technology". The new Linux-based server operating environment will be called 'Asianux'.

Red Flag Software and Miracle Linux will collaborate at Oracle's China Development Center in Beijing. Oracle has been supporting both Red Flag Software and Miracle Linux since each was founded, in 2000, Miracle being a (54% owned) subsidiary of Oracle. Kevin Walsh, vice president of Internet technologies at Oracle and head of the Oracle China Development Center, has announced that "Oracle is fully committed to supporting the Linux operating

system. Our strategy has been to build strategic partnerships with leading Linux vendors to provide direct technical support of key Linux operating systems".

Red Flag's customer base includes the China Post and Xiaolanzhen Town.

Miracle Linux is evaluating the possibility of distributing Red Flag's desktop operating system in Japan.

Asianux will use a server operating environment that shares one common kernel, library and packages running with both distributions. This will help reduce the cost of certification for servers. It is also planned to provide joint technical support for customers in both countries, who are using either Miracle Linux or Red Flag products based on Asianux.

http://www.redflag-linux.com/eindex. html
http://www.miraclelinux.com/english/ press/2004/010701.html
http://www.oracle.com/

■ HP raking it in!

Hewlett-Packard has announced record-selling Linux-based revenue in excess of $2.5 billion for its fiscal year 2003 (ending on October 31, 2003). The company also announced revenue totalling $73.1 billion. "A banner year for Linux. Our Linux services and solutions business grew at 40 percent", says Martin Fink, vice president, Linux, HP.

According to IDC's "Quarterly Server Tracker", HP held the pole position in the expanding Linux server market in the third quarter of 2003. The accelerating Linux server revenues are due to "widespread acceptance of Linux servers for many Web-centric applications", says Jean S. Bozman, the president of IDC's global enterprise server solutions group.

HP has announced new reference architectures. On some, the software consists of proprietary applications such as Oracle Database/9iRAC and BEA WebLogic Server, while there is also a Free/Open Source offering making use of MySQL, JBoss, Apache and OpenLDAP as the applications. There will also be updates for notebooks and desktops.

http://www.hp.com/linux
http://www.idc.com/

■ Polished Polish

Our publisher, Munich-based Linux New Media AG has launched a new publication in Poland. The monthly magazine, also called 'Linux Magazine', is aimed at sysadmins, software developers and technical engineers.

After launching Linux Magazin Romania back in September last year, this is another step for Linux New Media in its international strategy to publish translated versions of the English Linux Magazine. Flushed with the success of their first issue, which sold out in the first two weeks, and the fact that 10% of the readership has taken out a subscription in the first month, it is set to become the Polish market leader, in no time at all.

http://www.linux-magazine.pl/
http://www.linux newmedia.com/