Red Hat started the Fedora Project in 2003 as a means of continuing their support for no-cost Linux. Since then, the company has continued to invest energy and resources into Fedora, using it as a test bed for new technologies that will one day make their way into the Red Hat Enterprise editions. Fedora Core 6 is the latest release in the popular Fedora series.

What’s Inside
Fedora Core 6 comes with Linux kernel 2.6.18 and X.org 7.1, as well as the Gnome 2.16 and KDE 3.5.4 desktops. You’ll also find improved support for AIGLX 3D desktop graphics, as well as new and improved graphic themes, such as a recent creation of the Fedora art project called DNA.

In addition to built-in AIGLX 3D graphic support, the latest Fedora comes with new tools such as the Dogtail graphical test and automation framework. You’ll also find the GnuCash 2.0 accounting application, as well as support for several new languages. A new tool called puplet provides notification when system updates are available. Fedora 6 also includes a re-written version of the system-config-printer utility.

Performance
Performance is a major focus of Fedora Core 6. Improvements to glibc provide faster dynamic linking. The Yum package manager and Nautilus file manager are also tuned for efficiency.

Many performance improvements are passed to Fedora with the arrival of Gnome 2.16 and KDE 3.5.4. Fedora Core 6 also provides enhancements for CUPS printing, a faster ext3 filesystem, and improvements to the AFS and NFS filesystems.

System Administration
The latest Fedora continues the recent work of improving and expanding the Xen virtualization system. This version of Fedora includes enhancements such as the virt-manager Xen graphical management interface.

The SELinux security tool bundled with Fedora 6 offers improved troubleshooting. Fedora Core 6 also provides better smart card support, and the new version of Anaconda included on this DVD offers access to additional software repositories.

Try It!
Fedora Core 6 offers an up-close glimpse into the evolving story of Red Hat. The latest Fedora delivers advanced virtualization, new desktop effects, and improved performance. We hope you enjoy this month’s Linux Magazine’s Fedora Core 6 DVD.

HELP & SUPPORT
For more information on installing and using this DVD, see the box titled “Additional Resources.” Other useful sources for technical assistance include the Fedora Forum http://www.fedoraforum.org/ and the Unofficial Fedora FAQ http://www.fedorafaq.org/.