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MUUGlines

The Manitoba Unix User Group Newsletter

May 11, 1999: A Look at Solaris 7

Stephen Blight, from Sun, will be talking about some of the new technology that can be found in Sun's latest OS release, Solaris 7, which is available for both the SPARC and Intel x86 architectures.

June 8, 1999: IP Masquerading under Linux

Michael Doob, from the University of Manitoba's Math department, will be describing and demonstrating how to set up IP masquerading, part of the firewall support that's included in Linux. This can be used to allow multiple hosts on a private LAN to connect out to the Internet via a single gateway host using a cable modem, for example.

As always, we're open to suggestions for meeting programmes, not to mention presenters! Feel free to convince someone you know to give a talk at on of our meetings, and be sure to mention that it's very informal. We're not looking for professional public speakers here. Contact any of the board at board@muug.mb.ca or in person at our meeting if you have an idea!

We will also have a round-table discussion, in which anyone can raise questions regarding their experiences (or lack thereof) with all things Unix. We realize that it can be a little intimidating, but please be assured that no question is too easy (or "dumb")!

Please note our meeting location: IBM Canada's offices in the TD Centre, at the corner of Portage and Main. We gather in the lobby on the main floor - please try to be there by about 7:15 PM. Steve Moffat will then take us up to the meeting room just before the meeting starts at 7:30. Please don't be late, or you may not get in.

Parking is available either in the parkade behind the TD building, off Albert Street, or in the ground level lot just north of the TD building. Entrance to the lot is from Albert Street, behind the parkade. Either way, parking is a $1.25 flat rate for the evening. You must purchase your ticket from a dispenser, so make sure you've got exact change - a loonie and a quarter, or 5 quarters.

HP: 24x7 Worldwide Linux Support

Two-hour Response-time Commitment on Multivendor Platforms

Hewlett-Packard Company announced the availability of HP Linux support services, which provide customers with around-the-clock, worldwide support of Linux and HP Linux applications. HP's new support services include a maximum two-hour response-time commitment, and immediate response for critical calls, on multivendor Intel-based platforms. HP is mobilizing on all fronts to meet the anticipated strong demand for Linux systems, software and services.

"Customers within many markets, such as communications and e-commerce, depend on Linux to host business applications," said Mike Rigodanzo, general manager of HP's Software Services Division. "The major challenge for Linux in terms of mainstream acceptance is that enterprises want to deal with technologies from suppliers they can depend on for predictable levels of service and support. That's where HP comes in — we're providing complete support, including 24x7, phone-in and electronic support worldwide for Linux."

HP Linux support services are provided to HP's business partners and customers via HP's Electronic Support Centre and HP Response Centres. This support model provides customers the flexibility of the following support-service features:

- unlimited, toll-free, phone-in software assistance with two-hour response-time commitment and immediate response for critical calls;
- electronic software call submittal with a choice of response time frames;
- remote software support by highly trained HP support engineers;

- 24x7 electronic access, via HP's Electronic Support Centre, to a database of current product and support information from a variety of vendors; and
- Linux training for system administrators, such as Linux Installation Configuration and Administration class, available in HP's Education Centres worldwide or at customer sites.

HP's offering will support major Linux releases from companies such as Red Hat Software, Caldera Systems, Pacific HiTech and SuSE Holding AG, running on servers from HP and other vendors. HP has extended its support to HP applications that run on Linux, such as HP Firehunter. HP support also will be extended to cover future platforms based on the IA-64 architecture, additional HP and third-party Linux applications, Apache Web Server, and HP outsourcing services for Linux environments.

"SAP's initiative to deliver the leading enterprise application SAP R/3 on Linux has been well received by our customers," said Thomas Klein, director, corporate alliance at SAP AG. "HP's full support program for Linux ensures that our customers who select HP servers enjoy enterprise-level support and reliability for R/3 on Linux."

According to IDC Research, Linux is the fastest-growing server operating environment. In 1998, some 690,000 Linux operating environments were shipped, reflecting a 190 percent growth rate and 17 percent of all new server operating environments. HP is a sponsoring corporate member of Linux International, a non-profit organization consisting of industry influencers dedicated to the continuous open-source development of Linux.

HP Announces OpenMail Release 6.0

Hewlett-Packard Company announced the availability of OpenMail Release 6.0, the latest version of its UNIX(R) system business messaging and collaboration solution. OpenMail 6.0 delivers unique and upgraded functionality, e-services capabilities and ultra-low TCO (total cost of ownership).

As the only non-Microsoft(R) server that supports the rich collaboration functionality of Microsoft Outlook, HP's OpenMail 6.0 is a unique solution. OpenMail's Outlook integration was developed as part of HP's Microsoft alliance program.

In a recent independent survey of messaging administrators, OpenMail was rated best for reliability, scalability and overall system functionality. OpenMail also was rated highly for its technical support and service offerings. Release 6.0 improves on these benefits, making it an ideal messaging and collaboration solution for businesses and the premier UNIX system platform for delivering Microsoft Outlook functionality to the desktop.

"We're tremendously excited about OpenMail 6.0," said Bernard Guidon, HP vice president and general manager of HP's Communications Industry Business Unit. "I want customers and prospects to know that OpenMail 6.0's extensive array of new and upgraded features underscore OpenMail's leadership and further strengthen OpenMail's proven capabilities. Our 10 million OpenMail users are representative of the world's largest businesses; we expect they'll see Release 6.0 as a tremendous evolution of the OpenMail solution."

OpenMail 6.0 key upgrades include the following:

- improved support for Microsoft Outlook;
- enhanced high-end business scalability;
- native Internet and Web support;
- unrivaled legacy interoperability; and
- decreased IT department workload.

OpenMail 6.0's integration with Microsoft Outlook provides such advanced features as wide-area shared calendars, public folders and address-book integration. OpenMail 6.0 also includes support for delegation and improved remote/offline working.

Scalability always has been a market-leading strength for OpenMail. With its new Parallel Queuing Architecture (PQA), OpenMail 6.0 now can support as many as a million users on a single server, without splitting functionality onto separate machines.

OpenMail 6.0's Internet support is upgraded, natively offering a broad coverage of standards support, including scalable LDAPv3 directory access. OpenMail 6.0 also includes a new Web-based interface with leading performance, functionality and flexibility.

Improved interoperability with legacy desktop e-mail applications, such as cc:Mail and Microsoft Mail, eliminates the use of troublesome gateways. Interoperability with Microsoft Exchange and Lotus(R) Domino servers also is improved.

Borland announces Borland JBuilder 3

Borland, the software development tools division of Inprise Corporation, today announced Borland JBuilder 3, a major new version of its award-winning family of comprehensive visual development tools for creating platform independent Java business and database applications. JBuilder 3 provides comprehensive support for the Java 2 platform and allows individual and corporate developers to more easily create platform-independent business and database applications, distributed enterprise applications, and JavaBean components. JBuilder 3 is planned to be available on multiple platforms: first, on Microsoft Windows, which is planned to be available in May; second, on Solaris, which is planned to be available before the end of the calendar year; and third, on Linux, which is planned to be available following the Solaris platform release.

"JBuilder has been an outstanding success with our customers, the press, analysts, and the industry," said John Floisand, president of Borland. "In 1998, JBuilder acceptance grew dramatically and it won two major awards from Java Developers Journal and Javaworld, two of the leading Java publications. We have built on this success and have designed JBuilder 3 to be the premier solution for individual and corporate developers who need the most comprehensive set of tools for creating pure Java applications, applets, servlets, JavaBeans, and Enterprise JavaBeans."

"With the release of JBuilder 2 last year, Borland's revenues and market share for JBuilder grew at a faster rate than any other Java development tool, making Borland one of the leaders in the Java application development tools market place," said Sally Cusack, analyst and research manager at International Data Corporation. "With full support for the Java 2 platform, enhanced database development capabilities, and high quality tools for distributed application development and deployment, JBuilder 3 is well-positioned to continue its momentum."

JBuilder 3 is the latest version of Borland's award-winning rapid application development tool for creating Java, business, database and distributed applications. The product includes comprehensive support for the Java 2 platform so programmers can rapidly deliver reliable and scalable Java applications written entirely in the Java language; visual tools and reusable components for rapidly creating platform-independent applications, servlets, and applets; integrated and automated CORBA support for dramatically reducing the time and effort

required to develop and deploy robust, high- availability CORBA clients, servers, and servlets; and Wizards and Visual Designers for creating reusable JavaBeans and Enterprise JavaBeans. The product's open environment also supports JDK 1.1.x, JFC/Swing components, JavaBeans, Enterprise JavaBeans, CORBA, RMI, JDBC and all major corporate database servers.

JBuilder 3 is available in three versions-JBuilder 3 Enterprise, JBuilder 3 Professional, and JBuilder 3 Standard. A detailed matrix of features included in JBuilder 3 is located at www.borland.com/jbuilder. All of the features described below are included in JBuilder 3 Enterprise:

- Enhanced Java 2 development environment, with Java 2 hosted designers; JDK/Switching for compiling and debugging using multiple JDKs; 300+ JavaBean components, with source code; and visual tools for creating Java applications, applets, servlets, Enterprise JavaBeans, and distributed CORBA applications.
- Java 2, remote and multi-JDK debugging, providing the debugging flexibility needed by professional Java technology developers and remote debugging for debugging of complex distributed applications.
- Visual database development tools, including the Application Generator, Data Modeler, Java SQL Builder, and Java JDBC Explorer to rapidly create database applications for the Java 2 platform.
- Visual tools for CORBA development, including the Application Generator, Data Modeler, and ORB Explorer. JBuilder also includes integrated CORBA development using either VisiBroker 3.4 or OrbixWeb.
- Includes InterBase, Borland's embedded database

product.

- Open Tools API/JBuilder 3 Companion CD. The Open Tools API allows JBuilder 3 users to easily integrate third-party tools or wizards into the JBuilder IDE. The JBuilder 3 Companion CD contains full or lite versions of leading third party applications and tools that can be used in conjunction with JBuilder. Many of the tools on the Companion CD are integrated into the JBuilder environment using the Open Tools API.

"We are pleased that JBuilder 3, one of the leading Java development tools, provides developers with a comprehensive set of visual development tools for rapidly creating applications based on the Java 2 platform," said Jon Kannegaard, vice president and general manager of the Java platform at Sun Microsystems, Inc. "The Java 2 platform provides developers with the speed, security and functionality that makes it easier than ever to create interoperable, mission-critical enterprise applications."

American Power Conversion Support for Linux

American Power Conversion (APC) announced comprehensive power management support for Linux operating system users. APC's new suite of uninterruptible power supply (UPS) management products will enable Linux users to fully benefit from APC's award- winning power protection and management solutions.

"This announcement demonstrates APC's long-term commitment to providing Linux users with a Nonstop Networking(TM) environment through reliable power protection and management," said Kevin Brown, APC's software marketing manager. "APC is committed to providing industry-leading power management for all major operating systems, including Linux, giving users the ability to choose the APC solution that best fits their power protection and management needs."

"The reliable and innovative power protection and management products that APC offers is a critical component to any server environment," said Robert Hart, director of technical alliances at Red Hat Software, Inc. "Support from leading companies, such as APC, are a driving force in the use and acceptance of Linux for corporations worldwide."

APC is offering a four-part comprehensive software management strategy for Linux which includes:

- Basic power management shutdown software - This software gives Linux users basic shutdown for their operating systems to provide fundamental data integrity in the event of an extended power outage. APC will make the source code available for this software. This solution will be available second quarter of 1999;
- PowerChute(R) plus for Linux - APC's award-winning, robust UPS management software which provides complete UPS configuration, control and system shutdown in network environments will be available third quarter 1999;
- PowerChute network shutdown for Linux - APC's PowerChute network shutdown software will provide Linux users with a cost-effective, network- based shutdown solution that reduces installation time and costs in centralized UPS environments. This product will be available in the second quarter 1999; and
- Enhanced shutdown support for Apache Web Server on Linux - APC's PowerChute shutdown utility for Apache Web Server gives Web administrators the ability to ensure safe, proper application shutdown in the event of an extended power failure. This solution will be available second quarter 1999. APC's UPS software support for Linux will be made available free of charge as a download from APC's Web site. For more information about APC's comprehensive selection of power protection and management solutions, visit www.apcc.com or call 800-877-4080.

MUUG Contact Information

To contact the MUUG board for membership information or anything else, send e-mail to board@muug.mb.ca. We have a Web presence as well, at http://www.muug.mb.ca/, where you can find all kinds of information, including details of upcoming and past meetings and presentations and references related to them. We're always interested in article submissions. Submit your articles and ideas to editor@muug.mb.ca. Note that we can't publish articles directly taken from other periodicals as that would be a violation of copyright laws if we did it without permission.