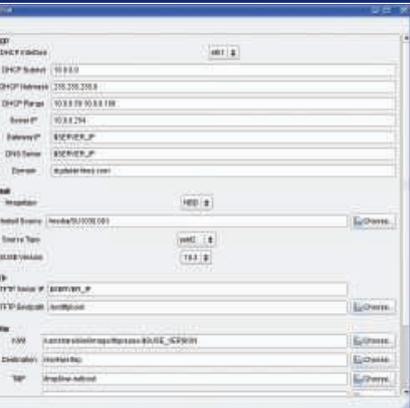


# LINUX WORLD NEWS



## LINUX TERMINAL SERVER PROJECT IN PORTLAND

The community of the Linux Terminal Server Project (LTSP), an add-on package for Linux that allows users to connect many low-powered thin client terminals to a Linux server, had a busy but productive summer. Replacing the traditional “LTSP By-The-Sea” (LTSP-BTS) gathering held each autumn since 2003, LTSP contributors met this year in

Portland, Oregon, USA, July 24-28, where the local Free Geek Community Technology Center played host to an LTSP Hack Fest.

Participants worked hard on the still freshly warm LTSP version 5, integrating it more tightly with Linux distributions in order to make life easier for potential users. The LTSP documentation from the Edubuntu handbook became part of the project’s official documentation, which is available in 11 languages.

LTSP was also part of Google’s Summer of Code 2008 project mentored by openSUSE in which a GUI for managing `lts.conf`, the client configuration file, was developed. This removes the need to rebuild the image (with `ltsupdate-image`) after modifications.

<http://www.ltsp.org/>

<http://freegeek.org/>

<http://developer.novell.com/wiki/index.php/Easy-LTSP>

<http://wiki.ltsp.org/twiki/bin/view/Ltsp/HackFest2008>

## PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IN CANADA SUED

In mid-July, the non-profit Montreal-based free software lobbying group FACIL filed a motion before the Quebec Superior Court in which it questioned the provincial government’s purchasing methods for software used within public administrations. Between February and June 2008, the government entertained purchases of Microsoft software worth more than US\$ 10 million without inviting competing bids by local companies, using a loophole in Quebec’s provincial law that allows buying directly from proprietary suppliers provided no other options are available.

FACIL is asking the court to sanction this behavior and to make competitive requests for proposal mandatory.

<http://facil.qc.ca/en/media/20080828-facil-contests-the-quebec-government-purchasing-methods-for-software>

## OPEN TOPICS FAVORED

For the eleventh year in a row, female students of information science and related subjects and women working in ICT met at Bremen University in Germany for the Informatica Feminale summer school August 25–September 5. Because of recently rescheduled construction work at the building housing Bremen University’s School of Mathematics and Information Science, this year’s official announcement and registration period came extremely late, only one month before the event.

Despite this very short warning, Informatica Feminale founder Veronika Oechtering, her team, and the lecturers showed no signs of being ill prepared. Most lecturers had been Infor-

matica Feminale students in the past.

Because of the late announcement, only the most popular topics made it into the program schedule: security and cryptography with PGP/GnuPG, OpenSSL, Apache and Java, Linux-related topics, shell programming, geocaching, rapid prototyping using Python, and career advisory workshops and management training.

For the first time, an open source colloquium was held, featuring OpenStreetMap, CakePHP and Joomla, the monitoring tool Munin, and Embedded Linux.

<http://www.if.uni-bremen.de/>

(German)

<http://www.informatica-feminale.de/>  
(German)

## THE PHILIPPINES CELEBRATE SOFTWARE FREEDOM

September 20, this year’s “Software Freedom Day” (SFD) will again be celebrated around the globe. By the beginning of September, 384 international teams had already registered.

In the Philippines, the country’s Computer Professional Union has been coordi-

nating SFD Philippines since 2004. This year, it proclaimed the entire month of September Software Freedom Month and set out for a “FOSS tour” through universities and the House of Representatives. The tour’s theme was: “Discovering Software Freedom. Know a world where software sharing is a freedom. NO pirates exist.”

The SFD Philippines will be celebrated in a more general fashion by user groups, NGOs and other advocacy groups, Inter-

net cafes, and other small businesses, with simultaneous events from Luzon to Mindanao. At these gatherings, Linux distributions and a CD containing free software for Windows systems will be provided to attendees. People who are interested but not physically present can follow the events via live streaming.

<http://www.cp-union.com/sf-month2008>

<http://www.sfdphil.org/>

<http://softwarefreedomday.org/>

