

LINUX WORLD NEWS



CHINESE CHARACTERS FREELY AVAILABLE – FOR WINDOWS

In April, the Home of Chinese Document Processing Lab at the Academia Sinica of Taiwan open sourced their Ancient and Traditional Chinese characters configuration database. The software is released under the GNU General Public License 3.0, and the fonts, which contain graphical information, are released under both the GNU Free Documentation License 1.2 and the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Taiwan.

Built in 1993, this database is a pioneer in the digitization of Ancient and Traditional Chinese characters. For

example, it has contributed greatly to the digitization of Buddhist literature. Version 2.51 contains 115,197 characters and uses Unicode to encode all information. Unfortunately, the software is in .exe format and currently runs only on Microsoft Windows 95/Me/98/2000/XP. <http://www.sinica.edu.tw/~cdp/> (Chinese introduction of the project) <http://www.sinica.edu.tw/~cdp/cdphanzi/> (Download, Chinese) <http://www.sinica.edu.tw/~cdp/cdphanzi/register.htm> (Instruction for download, Chinese)

OSS CONFERENCE TO EMBRACE ARTISTS

Austria's annual open source roadshow "Linuxwochen," which is scheduled to be held consecutively in the cities of Krems, Graz, Vienna, Eisenstadt, Klagenfurt, and Linz from April through June 2008, will culminate in the three-day-long "Linuxwochen Linz" event at the internationally renowned Kunstuniversität (University of Arts) Linz from June 27 through 29.

Unlike most other open source-related events, Linuxwochen Linz addresses IT experts, developers, managers, and specifically artists. The recently published call for papers ends May 31 and welcomes, in addition to the usual topics, contributions in the fields of open source in artistic and cultural work as well as talks covering creative techniques in correlation with open source. The latter category, dubbed *hackvalue*, "is not limited to software and programming – not even to computer use but it offers also the opportunity for humorous points of views."

Additionally, all attendants will have the opportunity to perform lightning talks that "introduce an absurd idea, a piece of code, project, beloved hardware, manifest, etc. within four minutes of speaking time."

<http://www.linuxwochen.at/> (German) http://www.linuxwochen.at/2008/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=27&Itemid=45 (German) <mailto:call08-linz@linuxwochen.at> <http://www.ufg.ac.at/>

ALL-RUSSIAN LINUX CONFERENCE

In mid-May, the Zuev Institute of Atmospheric Optics, as part of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Science in the city of Tomsk, hosted to the All-Russian research and hands-on conference "Free Software – Development and Deployment." The conference agenda featured talks by open source developers from Tomsk, Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Novosibirsk, and Kiev on topics such as Samba, the Linux Terminal Server Project, and Apache Harmony.

Part of the program was a round table on OSS in school. <http://freesoft-conf.tomsk.ru/> (Russian) <http://iao.ru/>



NORWAY EMBRACES OPEN SOURCE

A study conducted and published in April by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim shows that about one out of two Norwegian software companies integrates open source software with their products. In about one third of the 700 companies that took part in the survey, OSS and OSS-based services account for more than 40 percent of the individual company's sales volume.

<http://www.friprog.no/friprog/index.php?nor/Nyheter/Fri-programvare-er-milliardindustri> (Norwegian) http://research.idi.ntnu.no/oss/NTNU_friprog.pdf (Norwegian) <http://www.ntnu.no/english/>



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