LINUX WORLD NEWS

NORWEGIAN LINUX-MAGASINET DISCONTINUED

Per Inge Østmoen

Norwegian Linux and *BSD users no longer have the option of a printed bi-monthly magazine in their native language. When its founder, editor-in-chief and head of the tiny publishing house Fasit Forlag AS, Svein-Eirik Tosterud, sold it to Lizacom (a manufacturer of Linux-based PCs and servers) in Fall 2007, it became obvious that the new owner was mainly interested in the brand and the domain. They admitted to a lack of experience in publishing and journalism.

Lizacom plans to relaunch Linux-Magasinet as a Nordic online publication in four languages, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and English. The site will be provided free of charge.

Linux-Magasinet was founded in 2000 but struggled economically in its market niche. Its last printed issue was published September 11, 2007.

INDIA'S LINUX WOMEN STEP UP

FOSS.IN 2006 received broad attention due to its female keynote speaker, India's own kernel hacker Suparna Bhattacharya. Highlights for open source-dedicated women at FOSS.IN included a talk by Runa Bhattacharjee, the maintainer for the Bengali India locale for Fedora and co-maintainer for Mozilla. The conference also offered a BOF to promote the Indian LinuxChix chapter.
http://linuxchix.org.in/
http://foss.in/

LinuxChix India Chapter
BoF Session @ Foss.in
Date: 6th December 2007
linuxchix.org.in

OPEN SOURCE GATHERING IN TAIWAN

The Taiwanese Conference for Open Source Coders, Users, and Promoters (COSCUP) was held November 3-4, 2007 in Taipei and included unprecedented efforts from local Linux user groups across the country. Presentations included OpenMoko, the One Laptop per Child (OLPC) project, and the Linux-based ASUS Eee PC subnotebook. Various Chinese character input methods such as gcin, OpenVanilla, and Chewing received a lot of attention because they demonstrated technical improvement. Innovations in this field stand out as examples of local contribution to the global free software community. These efforts are particularly important in the area of internationalization and localization. For example, the OpenVanilla project has inspired Burmese developers to create their own input system, and developers of the Chewing project have traveled to various indigenous villages to create input methods for Taiwanese aboriginals. Additionally, the Taiwanese Mozilla community announced plans for a local branch of the Mozilla Foundation.
http://coscup.org/2007/index_e.html
http://www.openmoko.org/
http://laptop.org/
http://www.asus.com/products.aspx?l1=24
http://openvanilla.org/

OPEN SOURCE IN RUSSIAN SCHOOLS

In late November, the government of the Russian Federation announced the result of a public bidding concerning an open source software package to be deployed in 50 percent of all urban and 20 percent of all rural schools in three pilot regions. The package will appear in the republic of Tartarstan, the region of Perm, and the province of Tomsk. The contract went to RBK Center, a daughter company of the Armada group. The contract specifies installation, training, and documentation within 2008.

If this pilot project proves successful, open source software will be used in all Russian schools by 2009.
http://armadaitgroup.com/