LINUX WORLD NEWS

NORWEGIAN LINUX CONSULTANTS EXPAND

Oslo-based Linpro AS, with almost 60 employees Norway's biggest Open Source service provider, celebrated its 10th anniversary October 11, 2005 with a very special gift. January 1, 2006 the company acquired the majority of shares in LinuxLabs AS, a smaller service and consultancy company founded five years ago which is also located in Norway's capital city.

The new Linpro subsidiary specializes in home-grown Norwegian Open Source products, more specifically the Debian-based educational distribution "Skole-linux" and the "eZ publish" CMS, and will serve smaller customers whereas the mother company with its service, development, and teaching portfolio covering the desktop, security, project management, network, databases, Java, Perl, PHP, C and C++, system administration, and web applications, will concentrate on key accounts including companies ranging from Norway's biggest telco, Telenor, to electronics superstore chain Elkjøp.

http://www.linuxlabs.no (Norwegian)
http://www.linpro.no (Norwegian)
http://ez.no
http://skolelinux.org

SWEDISH FUND RAISING FOR FIREFOX STOPPED

The goal was to draw media attention. Open a website, claim it consisted of one million pixels, sell them for one US dollar each to advertisers, donate the money to your favorite web browser project, and promise to start using the text-based Lynx web browser in case you failed to sell all the pixels in 2006.

The Help-Firefox.com website generated US$13,800 in ad revenues the day it was launched, January 12, 2006 – accompanied by a smattering of protests from Firefox lobbyists saying the project should not rely on this kind of fund raising activity, and insisting the site be closed down immediately.

Initiator Sam Nurmi, founder of Sweden's largest web-hosting company Loopia, withdrew the marketing gag, announcing instead that all sponsors had been refunded, and that Loopia itself had donated US$ 13,800 to the Mozilla Foundation.

http://helpfirefox.com (Swedish)
http://www.loopia.se

FREE SOFTWARE CHINESE INPUT WORKSHOP

For Taipeh's open source community 2005 ended with a countdown party (see Issue #64) – which in turn marked the end of the 2nd free software Chinese input (FSCI) workshop. Contributors to all actively developed input methods including gcin, xcin, iiimf (for the Taiwan language engine TWLE), SCIM (libchewing), and newly developed OpenVanilla met to show the bleeding edge of development.

The latter is especially attractive due to features that cin/gcin/SCIM are missing, such as SQLite-based input. One of its subprojects, Arne Goetje and Andrew Lee's alternative input module for Open-Vanilla, can be used on Windows, Linux, *BSD, MAC, etc. to type Taiwan style Minnan language (also known as Taiwanese).

*http://freedesktop.org/wiki/Software_*
2fCJKUnifonts_2fMinnan_5flM

PROGRAMMING IN CHINESE

The Chinese Python Project (中蟒計劃 or 中文) is an attempt to program in Chinese. The team of B2D GNU/Linux, a customized Debian project from Taiwan, has included this package in order to teach programming to primary and high school students.
The resulting programs look like the test script shown on the right.

http://www.chinesepython.org/home.
html (Chinese)
http://b2d.tnc.edu.tw (Chinese)

```
#!/usr/bin/cpython
回答 = 讀入('你認為中文程式語言有存在價嗎 ？(有/沒有)')

如 回答 == '有':
    寫 '好吧, 讓我們一起努力!'
不然 回答 == '沒有':
    寫 '好吧,中文並沒有作為程式語言的價.'
否則:
    寫 '請認真考慮後再回答.'
```