TECH TOOLS

Community Edition of ownCloud Released

ownCloud Inc. has released a new free community edition of its open source file sync and share project, adding new features such as video streaming, mounting of third-party storage, and new content sharing.

According to the press release, the latest version of ownCloud features significantly faster uploading, downloading, and syncing of files. It offers greater and more granular administrative control and adds features such as sub-admins for groups, thereby providing the ability to assign a sub-administrator to a group to handle account management.

Additionally, the latest version features improved desktop syncing, which reduces server load and enhances the sync algorithm for a quicker, better sync with far less load on the server. The latest ownCloud also includes an app for automatic updates, along with a basic HTML5 presentation program. Other enhancements include: mounting of external storage, enhanced sharing, file versioning, and calendar improvements

ownCloud allows users to host their own services on their own hardware, use public hosting and storage products, or both. For more information, please visit the ownCloud website at: *http://www.owncloud.com*.

Phusion Releases Passenger Enterprise 4

Phusion has released Phusion Passenger Enterprise 4.0 beta 1. According to the website, this version includes improved scalability and concurrency, as well as dramatically improved internal architecture.

The project website states, "Phusion Passenger is an Apache and Nginx module for deploying Ruby and Python web applications. It has a strong focus on ease of use, stability and performance. Phusion Passenger is built on top of tried-and-true, battle-hardened Unix technologies, yet at the same time introduces innovations not found in most traditional Unix servers."

The changes in Phusion Passenger 4 include support for multiple Ruby versions, Python WSGI support, multithreading, improved zero-copy architecture, better error diagnostics, and support for JRuby and Rubinius. These features allow users to run multiple Ruby versions at the same time in the same Phusion Passenger instance. Additionally, Phusion Passenger's I/O handler has been completely rewritten and is now "evented," just like Nginx and Node.js.

Phusion Passenger 4 also introduces real-time response buffering. Unlike traditional response buffering, Phusion Passenger sends data to the client immediately, while still providing relief for the application from slow clients, the website said.

You can see the complete list of changes at: *http://blog. phusion.nl/2012/10/24/phusion-passenger-4-0-beta-1-is-here/*.

VMware Announces Micro Cloud Foundry Changes

VMware has announced a new version of Micro Cloud Foundry featuring enhanced support for Ruby and Java. Along with these changes, the project will be adopting a new process to maintain compatibility between Micro Cloud Foundry and CloudFoundry.com.

Changes to the latest version of Micro Cloud Foundry include support for standalone apps, improved support for Ruby, as well as the Rails 3.1 and 3.2 apps, the ability to run JRuby apps, and enhanced support for Java and Scala.

According to the website, "Micro Cloud Foundry is a complete version of the Cloud Foundry open PaaS, but it runs in a single virtual machine on a developer's computer. Micro Cloud Foundry exemplifies how a multi-cloud approach to PaaS can help developers easily develop and test their applications locally and deploy to any Cloud Foundry-based clouds with no code or configuration changes."

The announcement states that, to ensure compatibility between the projects, Micro Cloud Foundry must have the same functionality as CloudFoundry.com. Thus, going forward, Micro Cloud Foundry will feature more frequent releases; a version will be released whenever a change is pushed to CloudFoundry.com.

Additionally, over the next few months, all aspects of building, testing, and distributing Micro Cloud Foundry will be automated. And, to facilitate testing, a REST interface to Micro Cloud Foundry will be provided, along with a web interface replacing the terminal interaction.

For more details, please visit: *http://blog.cloudfoundry.com/ 2012/11/08/new-release-of-micro-cloud-foundry/*.