LINUX WORLD NEWS

SWEDISH ARMY MIGRATES

If it is true that military forces are pace-setters when it comes to the deployment of new technologies in the civil sector, open source software soon will become a major factor in Sweden. Currently, about 200 computers with Red Hat Enterprise Linux installed serve the core IT infrastructure of Försvarsmakten, the Swedish armed forces, as a base for software developed in-house, and the demand for Linux within the military has been increasing.

As a result of this process, Försvarsmaktens logistik (FMLOG), the logistics department, signed a deal with Red Hat that will make Red Hat Enterprise Linux solutions available throughout the Swedish armed forces. After this deal, the military will start migrating from Windows NT to Linux across its core IT infrastructure.
http://www.mil.se/index.
php?c=news&id=35555

NORWEGIAN TELCO OFFERS OPEN SOURCE STIPEND

Telenor Research and Innovation, a daughter company of Norway's biggest telco and itself the country's largest ICT research institution, offers a scholarship worth NOK 40,000 (about US$ 6,500) for students at Norwegian colleges and universities working with open source software. One fourth of this sum will be given to the student's scientific mentor for defining the task within an existing or new open source project and for project guidance. March 9 was the closing date for applications; the final report will be due November 1, 2007.
http://www.ilabs.no/stipendv2007/

DIGITAL ART FOR BRITISH FAMILIES

The interoperability and extensibility of open source software tools make them a good choice for digital artists to create multi-form and cross-platform artwork. Folly, a Lancaster-based digital arts gallery, just brought a digital art exhibition named "Follyplay" to children and parents in Lanternhouse, UK. January 13, 2007, local families were invited to experience this hands-on show powered by Processing, an open source programming language and environment for images, animation, and sound.

Folly continues to run a series of monthly digital arts workshops with the Processing software for members of their digi_club online youth club. The next scheduled workshop is on April 11, 2007.
http://www.folly.co.uk/
http://www.processing.org/
http://www.digi.org.uk/

NEW VIETNAMESE LINUX DISTRO

Bandwidth is always an issue, so it's not surprising that Vietnam's favorite Linux distro in its recently released version 2.12 is just 244MB in size, with even smaller versions available. Hacao Linux is the work of 29-year-old IT manager Nguyen Quang Truong, better known as Hacao, who has single-handedly translated the entire user interface of the Puppy Linux Live distro – including its standard applications, OpenOffice 2.03, and StarDict – into Vietnamese. Hacao Linux can be run from a CD or a USB memory stick in about two minutes or installed to a hard disk in about five minutes.

Recently, 10,000 copies of the distribution were made available at software shops throughout the country. Hacao Linux currently has about 20,000 users. More will likely follow if Vietnam joins the World Trade Organization (WTO), in which case, stricter rules regarding the distribution of commercial products will be enforced. Hacao Linux has the big advantage of being free and can be used as a substitute for Windows pirate copies. It also runs Windows games and applications in the Wine emulator.
http://www.hacao.com/
http://www.hacao.net/
http://www.puppylinux.org/
http://www.puppyos.com/