

Press Release

Contact:

English - Steve Adams, sadams@linalis.com, 022 348 30 15, 079 475 42 22

French - Anthony Favre, afavre@linalis.com, 022 348 30 15, 078 603 46 66

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LinuxDays 2008 - Update

Major Organisations taking Open Source Seriously

After years of wondering whether Open Source can be taken seriously and used for mission critical processes, many major organisations are now reliant on this software evolution:

EGEE - « The Enabling Grids for E-science project brings together scientists and engineers from more than 240 institutions in 45 countries world-wide to provide a seamless Grid infrastructure for e-Science. EGEE is working with businesses in areas such as coordinated technical developments, market surveys and exploitation strategies for mutual benefit. The infrastructure has a critical reliance on Open Source Software. »

Swisscom - “Our hospitality and conference services, business centre solutions as well as guestroom high-speed Internet, mean that hotel guests can keep in touch and work productively when on the move. Open Source Software plays a major role in our service provisioning and was a key contributing factor to the growth of the company.”

Thales - “Operating worldwide, the Group serves the Aeronautics and Space, Defence and Safety markets, supported by a global offering of technologies and services. For more than 10 years Thales is very strongly involved in the world of the Open Source Software. The Open Architecture enables our strategy to deliver mature, stable, high availability solutions that are independent of underlying technology.”

Microsoft - “The Microsoft open source strategy is focused on helping customers and partners be successful in today's heterogeneous technology world. This includes increasing opportunities for business partners regardless of the underlying development model. In addition, it includes increasing opportunities for developers to learn and create by combining community-oriented open source with traditional commercial approaches to software development. Open source is neither an industry fad, nor a magic bullet. Rather, the development methods commonly encompassed by

the term open source have provided customers and developers with additional options among many in the technology ecosystem.”

HP - “Today is not the time to know “if” a company should or should not use Open Source software, but rather, when, how and which?”

The City of Munich - “The City of Munich continues to increase its use of Open Source software on the 14,000 administrative desktops. Challenges are the integration of a Debian GNU/Linux based client into a heterogenous IT-infrastructure, the availability of business applications and the migration to OpenOffice.org.”

The DIP - The Public Instruction Department of the state of Geneva has a number of projects based on Open Source software and it has agreed a strategy to migrate to Linux Desktops.

All of the above organisations are presenting their use of Open Source software at LinuxDays 2008.

LinuxDays 2008 Summary

The fourth edition of LinuxDays will be held Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd of May 2008 in the International Conference Center of Geneva (CIGC).

The exhibition is the meeting point for IT decision makers and influencers aiming to be up to date on the “Open Source Software world” in Switzerland. There is also interest for the general public, aimed at developments in the world of state education using Open Source Software in Suisse Romande.

The program

A 1.500m2 show room will allow various companies to present their know how to the public. Entrance to the show room and to all conferences is free of charge.

Several conferences will be held during two days with the following themes:

- Wednesday, May 21st: **Collaborative Working, Open Source case studies in the Enterprise, Telephony**
- Thursday, May 22nd: **Software Applications, Major players expectations of Open Source, Virtualisation and High availability, Open Source projects**

In addition there will be thematic sessions for the general public:

- Wednesday, May 21st: **Open Software within Education**
- Thursday, May 22nd: **Multimedia, video games**

These sessions will be facilitated by IT managers in these sectors, who will present their achievements and current projects regarding open source software.

Several **Install Party's** are being held and are open to the general public. Professionals will be available to help visitors install Linux on their computers. There

are also examination sessions being hosted for people wanting to gain certification with the Linux Professional Institute (LPI).

Some of the key presentations are being given by HP, Swisscom, Microsoft, Bull, The State of Geneva and the State of Munich. More information is available on the official website at www.linuxdays.ch, with details of the conference speakers and exhibitors.

Organisation & Sponsorship of the Event

Linalis SaRL is hosting the event. Linalis, a Geneva based company, has been providing training, systems integration, maintenance and support in the area of Linux and Open Source since 2002.

This year HP and Swisscom Hospitality Services are sponsoring the event - both key stakeholders in the area of Open Source Software.

For additional information, please contact:

LINALIS

6, Avenue Petit-Senn

1225 Chêne-Bourg

Mail : info@linuxdays.ch

Web : <http://www.linuxdays.ch>

Tel : +41 22 348 30 15

Fax : +41 22 348 30 16