

Error: The Highly Unreliable Times

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Computer Rescue 1-208-750-5628

From The Editor Justin Breithaupt

Well It would seem that from my sources that we can safely say that Microsoft will probably loose 63% of it's developing companies by 2008. It might not happen by 2008 but shortly after. Anyway as soon as we hit 50% there will be an irreversible trend towards Linux that will create a monopoly. Microsoft will then be as small of a foot print in the consumer world as it is already in the Business world. From my sources I have found that less than 10% of Servers and big businesses use Microsoft products. Microsoft has made several mistakes that have cost them dearly on their new XBOX 360. They interfere with Wall Mart's Microsoft Server. Microsoft said they didn't think that the Xbox 360 would likely affect most other retail stores and I would have to agree since most retail stores don't use Microsoft software on their check out counters and servers. 600 Wall Mart Stores had to shut down the XBOX 360. Now thats just the surface. The XBOX 360 will scratch your CDs and DVDs if you move the machine while it is on. The XBOX 360 cost Microsoft more than people were paying for it in the beginning so they expected to loose money but not 1.13 Billion dollars. Microsoft has enough money to stay in business for 7 years after Linux takes over the market. If Macintosh is still alive then Microsoft will make money from it since they own Macintosh stock. There are a lot of cell phones that are now running Linux and have been for quite some time. The TiVo runs Linux. So my question is will Microsoft start selling Open Source software instead of Windows? I think it's their only option. I think they need to buy Linspire out and combine their software with it and sell a commercial version of Microsoft Windows that is based on Linspire. If they do this it would only make sense for them to try and make it as hard as possible their software to be compatible with other Linux systems. This way they would still have control over their software. The problem here is that their entire company would have to be open source to the world under the GPLv3. If Linspire remains separate from Microsoft after this mess they could not survive either. Linspire under the GPLv3 would be so open that no one would need to buy Linspire any more. One major flaw with commercial Linux distributions like Linspire and Linux-XP is that they don't have very

good hardware support. It won't be too long though before everyone who made Microsoft drivers for Windows makes them work on Linux either by converting them or by using something similar to the NDISWRAPPER. (a program that allows Windows Drivers to work on Linux). As for these new commercial programs that allow all Microsoft, Mac, and Linux software to run on all Operating Systems I am not sure if they will succeed. Commercial Open Source companies in the past have shown that they can keep a new Linux program for sale for at least 3 months. After that someone usually develops a free version. I'm not sure why we haven't come up with a version of Linux that turns any computer into a game console, just like how Linux MCE turns any computer into a Media Center PC. I think we need a similar version of Linux that only runs the stuff necessary for video games to run and then allows you to put in a CD or run downloaded games on your PC. Then you can reboot into a full blown Linux desktop to do computer work. Good Idea? Let me know what you think. [Submit your stuff here: http://highlyunreliabletimes.myfastforum.org/](http://highlyunreliabletimes.myfastforum.org/)

NEWS SECTION

[Survey: Windows loses ground with developersLinux gaining share as the number of developers targeting Windows falls 12 percent, Evans Data says](#)

[Microsoft invites Firefox development team to Redmond](#)

So is this how Microsoft made IE 7?

[MAZDA Announces Cool Linux Computers In Their Cars!](#)

[MAZDA decided to put a cool Linux computer in their cars that allow users to have a lot of features. Here are a few mentioned on this site.](#)

[Turn-by-Turn GPS Navigation!!!](#)

- Listen to music
- Watch videos/movies
- Control audio with steering wheel control. Since the audio is fed into the HU with a P.I.E adapter, the steering wheel is my "master" volume control.
- View Pictures in a slide show
- Sniff wireless networks and plot them with GPS.
- Download and view local Weather info, including 3 day forecast and doplar radar
- Browse the web with Firefox
- Connect to my cell phone with bluetooth, and connect to Verizon's EVDO network
- Stream DirecTV from my house. <- This is my FAVORITE - Basically I am using ssh keys and scripts to connect to my [MythTV](#) box at home, change to the channel I want, start vlc, which does on the fly transcoding of the signal, then connects to it from my

CarPC. The result is a list of channels in my videos menu, I select the channel I want, and it all happens auto-magically.

- Remote start my car, and connect to it from inside my house. I can SSH in, and transfer files without even getting off my couch :) Note: I am not starting the car with my CarPC, I am using the remote start on my keychain. The point is that I have remote access without getting up!

Microsoft Says It Is Not Bound by GPLv3

Microsoft basically is trying to say here that their agreement with Novell, Xandros, and Linspire does not allow them to use GPLv3 products. The problem with this idea is that you can't upgrade to the newest Linux Kernel if you don't accept the GPLv3. A lot of new Open Source software will have the GPLv3 applied to it also. So either these companies will have to stay with Microsoft and sink with them or they will have to break the agreement and get away from Microsoft.

2008: Year of the Linux Desktop

PC Magazine (which I consider to be the most truthful magazine that writes about computers and software) says "When [Evans Data released its survey on Tuesday](#) showing a sharp shift toward Linux (and away from Windows) among developers in North America, the Linux world went wild. Wistful pengiun heads heralded the coming Open Source Age. But the real measure of OS success is in the number of users, not the number of developers. After all, most of the world's PCs end up in the hands of ordinary people who have no interest in coding. Fortunately for open-source addicts, there are several signs that the coming year could bring a sea-change among end users, making 2008 the year of the Linux desktop." The article is continued at their site.

Linux robots descend on Atlanta

According to this there will be a lot of Linux Robots in Atlanta competing. Sounds Fun!

5 reasons why you should use VirtualBox, instead of VirtualPC or VMware

I'm not sure I totally agree with this guy because he is a Ubuntu Lover and Vmware typically does not work well with Debian. I don't like debian because of many restrictions like this. Anyway VirtualBox seems to be the answer to Ubuntu users.

Microsoft to Incur Xbox Cost of Up to \$1.15 Billion (Update3)

So Microsoft can't turn on an Xbox 360 in a Wall Mart without bringing down the whole Windows Server network, so the Xbox 360 will destroy your disks if you move it while it is on, So the Xbox 360 is useless, so Microsoft has lost \$1.15 Billion, is that any reason why they should stop selling the Xbox 360?

/dev/hello_world: A Simple Introduction to Device Drivers under Linux

Since the misty days of yore, the first step in learning a new programming language has

been writing a program that [prints](#) "Hello, world!" (See the [Hello World Collection](#) for a list of more than 300 "Hello, world!" examples.) In this article, we will use the same approach to learn how to write simple Linux kernel modules and device drivers. We will learn how to print "Hello, world!" from a kernel module three different ways: `printk()`, a `/proc` file, and a device in `/dev`.

[Do more with Nautilus](#)

Linux users: Ramp up the Nautilus file manager menu with three simple packages which add several features. Resize and rotate images, run apps as administrator, and jump to locations in the terminal -- all from the Nautilus right-click menu. The OS Novice weblog runs through the whole process. These packages complement the [previously mentioned Nautilus Scripts](#) quite nicely. Ubuntu users can get grab these packages with the following installation command: **`sudo apt-get install nautilus-gksu nautilus-image-converter nautilus-open-terminal`**

[Awesome CompizFusion Plugin: Cube Atlantis](#)



[Writing a Linux driver for Harmony remotes](#)

For the last few months I've been on-and-off trying to write a Linux driver for my Logitech Harmony 880. Thanks to a few friends with windows boxes, I was able to get some USBsnoop data - enough to be able to dissect about half of the communications that happen with the device.

Once I got stuck, I submitted various tickets with Harmony (070322-000677 and 070520-000057)

asking for hardware specs. The first time I was lucky enough to get my email forwarded to a developer (not on the Harmony team) who made an attempt to get ahold of someone on the Harmony team, but wasn't successful. Click above for more.

[Linux Rolls On. Dell is continuing to sell Linux to other countries](#)

Know some of you saw this in [last week's post](#), but I wanted to be clear that Dell does have plans to offer Linux to more consumers in additional locations outside the United States. More details to come later this summer. We will also offer Ubuntu to small business customers in the future. As soon as we have more details to share, I'll blog about both topics here.

[Microsoft Tries to Spit Out the GPLv3 Hook](#)

Microsoft wants everyone to understand that GPLv3 has nothing to do with the company, its Linux partnerships or anything else Redmond-based.

In other words, Microsoft is doing its best not be caught on the hook of GPLv3. Ah, Microsoft

you'd love to be able to do that, wouldn't you?

Awesome Ubuntu/Linux Apps you might not know about

After spending some time on the official [Ubuntu Forums](#) I came across this awesome [thread](#) which let users post applications they thought were notable but were rarely mentioned. The only problem was it was 40+ pages of content. So in turn I decided to make a post with these applications that anyone can read in just one page or post. Enjoy

Get out of the Revolving M\$ Door - Alternative to Exchange

I will make no bones about my disdain for Microsoft. I think their business ethics are an oxymoron. I think they make mediocre products by and large, and their focus is keeping you in the revolving door of addiction to their products, not making a quality product at a fair price.

Linux developers considering move to Eclipse

When you're talking Linux development tools, chances are you're talking about decades-old programming editors like vi and EMACS. These are fine for an older generation of programmers, but today's developers, weaned on Microsoft Visual Studio want integrated development environments.

At the recent Linux Foundation Collaboration Summit, it was decided to start making Eclipse, the open-source development platform, the Visual Studio for Linux.

Several issues have led to this decision. The first is simply that developers want an IDE. Several IDEs were discussed at a [Linux Foundation breakout session](#) led by Marc Miller, AMD's open-source ambassador, and Robert Schweikert, programmer and [LSB \(Linux Standard Base\)](#) developer.

Ebuyer.com runs on a Commodore 64

Online retailing can be a rough sport. The competition is rabid, customer loyalty is fickle, and IT expenses can go through the roof.

That's why *The Register* can appreciate an e-tailer with a unique business model.

A hawk-eyed *El Reg* reader points out that UK online retailer Ebuyer.com appears to be cutting costs by running its site on servers dating back to the late Cretaceous period - roughly speaking. According to internet monitoring company Netcraft, the e-tailer has bypassed run-of-the-mill legacy servers for some serious *heirlooms*.

MediaDefender denies entrapment accusations with fake torrent site

Antipiracy agency MediaDefender strongly denies recent claims that it set up an entrapment scheme in order to catch so-called pirates downloading illegal movies and software.

Hack an elevator, go straight to your floor.

[Amarok 2 Jingle contest](#)

[Default Password List](#)

[10 minutes to run every Windows app on your Ubuntu desktop](#)

Eh I don't like Debian or Ubuntu mainly because of restrictions but in this case there may be one advantage. If you like it use it. Just don't do something that will get you in trouble like steal a copy of Microsoft Windows Vista or XP.

COMPUTER SERVICES SECTION

[Your Add Here](#)

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Imagine if you could install new software for free without upgrading your computer. Imagine if your computer:

- Was no longer affected by viruses and still could browse the web and accept your e-mail you currently get through Outlook Express or Internet Explorer.
- Did what you told it to do without freezing or stopping just like your other appliances in your home.
- Could open, edit, and save Word, Excel, Power Point, Access, and HTML documents without paying for extra software.
- Played and copied any DVDs, CDs, and all your multimedia files from all the computers in your house!
- Had 6500 free software packages available that you could download legally any time you wanted to and came with a free built in Spam filter.

Stop imagining and start believing. If you buy a new computer from us now we will throw in a 1 year hardware guarantee for free as long as you let us install the computer with a surge protector of our choice, and have us clean the dust out every 6 months. Quality service and your satisfaction are the only things that matter to us. Computers should be as easy to use as a toaster. Why wait? Prevent viruses now!

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MICROSOFT CONSPIRACY SECTION (Is it true? You decide for yourself.)

Conspiracy Theory: Microsoft's .Net IS Borland's Product

Is it possible that the whole .NET framework is Borland's idea?

Dateline : 12/2002.

It really smells bad! How come Borland needs more than 2 years to release its response to MS's VS.NET?

The [news](#) is that Borland will ship a software development RAD suite that will compete with Microsoft's Visual Studio .NET. Code-named Galileo, the new suite should see the light of the day early next year (2003) and will offer Delphi developers a new version of Delphi and other for the moment unannounced programming languages.

Conspiracy Theorists Unite!

Before I jump into flame territory, let me say, for the record, that I believe Microsoft is interested in upholding the value of intellectual property (IP). It's not hard to understand why: Redmond loses lots of money in pirated software.

That said, I don't believe, for an instant, that Microsoft licensed Unix source and patents from the SCO Group because it wants to be in the right on the IP issue, or because it feared being sued by SCO for code it includes in its Services for Unix product.

(SCO recently sued IBM for \$1 billion over alleged IP violations, a move my eWeek colleague Jason Brooks characterized recently as clueless, disingenuous, or both. Hear, hear!)

The Microsoft Conspiracy

Some ninety percent of all antitrust lawsuits are litigated by the private antitrust bar, which is to say, they involve one company suing one of its rivals, as opposed to the government bringing the suit. As a rule, whenever one company sues a rival it is because the rival is charging lower prices or providing superior products and services. Antitrust lawsuits are meant to throw a monkey wrench into the smoothly-functioning gears of the competitive process, and are therefore inherently anticompetitive.

[Put Your Nose In The Corner: The Apple/Microsoft Conspiracy Theory](#)

[The Apple, AMD, Cisco & Microsoft Conspiracy to Kill the Cable Set-Top Box](#)

I recall the arguments when Cable TV was first getting started which concluded no one would ever be stupid enough to pay for something they can get for free. Well there are clearly a good chunk of us who are terminally stupid because cable was a success although I think many of us probably wish it hadn't been.

With Cable you are typically locked in to what the cable company wants to use for [hardware](#) and the programming the cable company wants to provide. Most of the hardware truly sucks and generally, if you want to see a DVR done badly, all you have to do is get your Cable or Satellite Company to send you one.

There are a number of companies coming out with alternatives and Apple is likely to set the pace, largely because they can do more than spell "marketing" but all of the initial offerings are flawed suggesting generation 2, or 3 will be when you'll want to check them out.

[Microsoft Caught in Sinister Copyediting Conspiracy!](#)

[Vultures, Microsoft Murder Games and Gore](#)

[Increase](#) [Decrease](#)

Vultures, Microsoft Murder Games and Gore

April 25 (EIRNS)-- We recently reported the case of 18-year-old suspected car thief Devin Moore, who shot three policemen to death. He was a player of the video game "Grand Theft Auto" in which the player shoots, burns and decapitates policemen.

[Security technologies could backfire against consumers](#)

By [Robert Lemos](#)

Staff Writer, CNET News.com

November 7, 2002, 4:00 a.m. PT

SAN FRANCISCO--At the USENIX Security Conference held here recently, Microsoft developers touted the company's upcoming Palladium architecture as technology that would enhance privacy, stymie piracy and increase a corporation's [control over its computers.](#)

Others, however, see a more nefarious role for the security software.

[Trusted Computing \(As is in the XBOX and XBOX 360\)](#)

CONFIRMED! Click on the link above to see Trusted Computing and what it is. THERE IS a Trusted Computing Chip in the XBOX and XBOX 360 as well as many other devices. My Cell Phone probably has one and wants me to only be able to get videos Via VCAST on Verizon (you can't view your own videos or play your own music on your phone),

however in Linux I am able to convert the media into the format used by my cell phone and therefore fool my phone into playing the music and video. Software like Windows Vista can also enforce Trusted Computing on your computer. So by not having Vista on your computer you can avoid most Trusted Computing. Some web sites such as ABC.com and NASCAR.com don't let you play video unless you are using Windows or Mac because they don't "trust" people using Free Software or they just don't care about us.

From the editor: [What DRM is](#) and how to get past it.

My father went into all the stores he could find to try to find a combo DVD player, VHS recorder to record NASCAR races to watch later at home. What he found was that none of the units for sale had cable inputs on the back to record from. This is a sign of [DRM](#). What is [DRM](#)? Well accurately it's called Data Rights Management but it is more popularly called Data Restrictions Management. Your TiVo will delete your videos after 10 days. The point is big media does not want you watching their stuff unless you pay for the DVD. So even though it's legal to record TV broadcasts it's no longer possible unless you can find older equipment. The funny part is that you can't record most TV on a cable VHS recorder because the broadcasts are encrypted with a code that tells your VCR not to record or if it does record it makes the colors do funny things. There is a way around this. An item called a Video Signal Clarifier will clean all that extra junk out of the cable. They cost about \$20.00. Now I know we have to get HDTV or else the government will shut off our TVs but you might want to ask yourself why? If you have to use HDTV equipment there are a bunch of new possibilities. Data can be sent and received from an HDTV and used to do pretty much whatever they decide it can do. You can turn off and turn on an HDTV from your Media Center PC that just sends a signal to your TV over the HDTV cable. Someone I know has a Plasma screen TV and it turns on and off at night some times. What is it doing? Sending and receiving information? We don't know. Now here is another scary thought. Macintosh found a way to video from behind the monitor! Yes thats right big brother could be connected to your TV or computer Monitor right now watching you. Have they done it yet? I don't know.

What about Apple and Microsoft? Well they use [DRM](#) too. [DRM](#) makes it so if you stick your CD in too many computers and copy the media on to them it won't play any more. DVDs don't play on Windows Vista with Windows Media Player 11 unless you buy extra codecs afterwards so Microsoft can make money there too. Now Technically according to Stallman it's illegal to talk about how to Play DVDs without paying Microsoft for special codecs. I'm not going to tell you how but I will tell you that if you Install Linux and get some ********* from the package manager and open a DVD player like Mplayer, Totem, Xine, Kmpayer, VLC, or Kaffine you should get it to play. Now why it's illegal to play your own DVDs on your computer is beyond me. Something else I can tell you is not how to copy DVDs for a backup because telling you might be illegal but I will tell you how to copy data from any data CD or DVD to your computer and back to another data DVD or CD again. First you install Linux and then you use K3b to burn an image to your hard drive in .iso format. Then you simply right click on the .iso and tell K3b to burn it to a disk. Thats it.

So if you like Data Restrictions Management then please don't do anything listed here or you might see something on your computer that Microsoft does not want you to see without paying. [Please Click here and see what ZDNET says about DRM.](#)

Sun's OpenDocument filter for MS office is finished

- Heise Online (Posted by [Sander_Marechal](#) on Jul 8, 2007 1:09 PM)
- Story Type: [Press Release](#); Groups: [Microsoft](#), [Sun](#)

“Under the name Sun ODF Plug-in for Microsoft Office, Sun has released its import/export filter for the OpenDocument format (ODF), which the ISO has recognized as a standard, for versions 2000, XP, and 2003 of Microsoft's Office suite. The 30 MB installation package adds a document type to Word's file dialog so that users can access ODF files directly and use OpenDocument as a standard format. “

I don't like this idea because it means that now Microsoft Office can open anything Open Office makes except .PDF files of course. This means to me that SUN is on Microsoft's side.