LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great Minds Think Alike

I appreciate the topics that you have written about but think you may have skipped a potential information gold mine. I am a CNE and work in a large government office that consists of a central office and several remote sites that are linked by T-1 lines. We put off upgrading to NetWare 5 until after the new year and until there was at least one revision to NetWare 5.

Now that we have begun the new year and NetWare 5.1 has been released, we are gearing up for the migration. As a result, I am interested in information about the migration from NetWare 4 to NetWare 5. I am also interested in protocol migration from IPX to pure IP. I would like to read case studies, considerations, and examples of migration methods as well as pitfalls that other organizations have fallen into.

You may have already covered these issues, but with the year-2000 issues of last year, many IS departments may have postponed major network restructures as we did.

Anthony A. Steed

We are happy to report that this issue contains the kind of case study you describe. Check out “IPX to IP: A Case Study” on p. 28. You can also read “Switching From IPX to IP” in the October 1999 issue of NetWare Connection (pp. 6–14).

Linux Deserves Respect

I recently received the January 2000 NetWare Connection, and to my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my surprise that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37). To my delight I saw that this issue has an article about Linux (“Does Linux Mean Business?” pp. 24–37).

Linux does not support clustering.” This is a mistake—there are many Linux clusters. NASA has been using Linux clusters since early versions of slackware and has even developed release editions of RedHat A5 for clustering. In addition, many major colleges have Beowulf Linux clusters (http://www.beowulf.org), and lately even businesses and home users have been putting Linux clusters together.

You also cite a lack of corporate applications. However, Computer Associates Inc. currently has a beta version of ARCserve IT for Linux, and Pervasive Technologies has SQL.2000 server software for several distributions of Linux.

I’m one of the biggest pro-Novell people at work. I hope NDS for Linux will finally bring Linux to the corporate server room and to the desktop.

Thanks,
Keth V. Kienke

Believe it or not, we are Linux fans and supporters, and we sincerely hope Linux continues to gain popularity in the business market. Our intent was to be as positive and supportive of Linux as we could be without exaggerating its capabilities.

A according to the Linux experts we contacted concerning your letter, while it is true that NASA developed Beowulf clustering for its supercomputing center, Beowulf clusters do not address clustering in the same sense that the article addresses clustering. The reports and analyst comments cited in the article address business needs. Businesses not only need application load balancing—which Beowulf readily addresses—but also high-availability and fail-over features that are available through RedHat only to a limited degree. In general, businesses do not have the resources to develop Beowulf clusters that meet their specific needs—a practice that is widespread among the open-source community.

Thanks, too, for pointing out the availability of two well-known business applications that we did not include in the article: A R C s e r v e r T for Linux and SQL.2000. You can register to receive a beta copy of A R C s e r v e r T at http://www.cai.com/products/betas/arcserveIT_linux/archives/arcserveIT_linux.html. Trial downloads of Pervasive’s SQL.2000 and Tango application server for Linux are available at http://www.pervasive.com/products/download.

C heryl Walton, author

Correction

In the article “Backup Tape Drives” (NetWare Connection, Sept. 1999, pp. 50–51), you say that DDS-3 cartridges for the HP SureStore DAT 24x6 store up to 24 GB of uncompressed data and 48 GB of compressed data. In reality, DDS-3 cartridges store up to 12 GB of uncompressed data and 24 GB of compressed data.

M. Ichaarine