Letters to the Editor

Online Recommendation

I have just discovered Novell Connection and the “Online Connection” column. “Online Connection” is informative, interesting, and entertaining. It serves as a great resource for finding specific information on the Internet. I have already recommended it to others. Good Job!

Cat Schmitt

GroupWise and Multiple Mailboxes

I found the Feb. 2001 article about GroupWise 6 (“GroupWise 6: A Reliable and Secure Mail Carrier,” pp. 6–20) very informative. My company is currently looking for software to handle e-mail communications tasks with our clients. We presently use Novell 4.11 for our 50 users. We also use an ISP to handle our e-mail messaging needs, including sending and receiving client e-mail messages with very large file attachments via the Internet Explorer built-in e-mail functions. Will GroupWise allow us to automatically download, upload, and redirect e-mail messages to each user from our existing mailbox?

Jeff Wolf

The GroupWise 6 client can pull e-mail messages via Post Office Protocol (POP) or Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) into the user’s GroupWise mailbox. This would require the user to configure a POP account within the client... about three minutes worth of work for each user. However, GroupWise does not provide a central way for a GroupWise agent to pull ISP mail and pull it down to each user's mailbox.

The good news is that with the GroupWise 6 client, you can maintain multiple mailboxes—for example, your GroupWise mailbox and any number of POP or IMAP accounts hosted by ISPs. I do this myself: I have accounts at myrealbox.com and yahoo.com that I use for non-business stuff, and I manage all my mailboxes within GroupWise.

Cheryl Walton, author

Editor’s Note

If you have paid any attention to Novell’s advertisements and commercials, you know that Novell has been talking about giving you—its customers—the power to change. At the same time, the company has maintained that it’s giving itself the power to change. Judging by what attendees saw at Novell BrainShare in Salt Lake City, this claim seems to be based on fact. (Novell BrainShare was held March 18–23.)

Over the past several months, Novell has announced some rather wide-sweeping changes—a spin-off, an acquisition, and a new CEO. Despite these changes, Novell presented a cohesive, consistent message at BrainShare. The message? Novell is the leading provider of Net services software, and Novell envisions a world in which this Net services software creates one Net.

The message was refreshingly familiar. After all, Novell rolled out this message one year ago at Novell BrainShare in Salt Lake City. This year, Novell executives reiterated the message and demonstrated the progress it has made in delivering Net services software and realizing its one Net vision. For example, many of Novell’s products—such as NDS eDirectory and Novell Portal Services—run across multiple platforms, allowing you to create and manage a “one Net” environment.

In addition, many of Novell’s management tools are now web-based, allowing you to manage your company’s network from any desktop at any location. For example, some of the BrainShare attendees I spoke with are particularly pleased with Novell’s new web-based management tools in GroupWise 6.

Novell has also released, or will soon release, new products that fit squarely in the Net services software category. Particularly interesting is Novell iFolder. Designed to solve the problems associated with storing and retrieving data, Novell iFolder allows you to store data on an Internet server and to synchronize that data with data on your desktop workstation. (Incidentally, the next issue of Novell Connection will contain an article about Novell iFolder.)

Novell also seems to be concentrating on providing solutions, rather than just products. The acquisition of Cambridge Technology Partners, which is in the business of providing solutions, should increase Novell’s focus in this area.

As an editor, I notice and admire consistency (I have to—it’s my job). From what I saw at Novell BrainShare, Novell has become quite adept at presenting a consistent message.

Debi Pearson, editor-in-chief

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