

GNU/Linux Paradigm

A short introduction

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Topics covered...

We will consider the following topics before the interactive session...

- Define the terms 'Free' & 'Open'
- Why choose Free/Libre Open Source ?
- Where deploy Free/Libre Open Source ?
- How to implement Free/Libre Open Source ?
- Top 5 'Linux Myths'
- A short history of ILUG-Kolkata
- A short demo on Localisation (L10n)



www.ilug-cal.org

What is Free Software ?

Free Software is not about 'not costing any money'. The 'freedom' lies in...

- **Freedom 0:** run the program anywhere
- **Freedom 1:** study the source code
- **Freedom 2:** redistribute or 'share'
- **Freedom 3:** make improvements



Domains of 'freedom'

The immediately visible areas where 'freedom' makes a difference...

- **Cultural Freedom** - Localisation
- **Political Freedom** – Knowledge Economy
- **Economic Freedom** - TCO/TCOn
- **Social Freedom** – equitable distribution



What is Open Source Software ?

Software released under a license that provides the user with the right to both use the software and modify the 'openly available' source code for making improvements



Why should F/LOSS be chosen ?

The compelling reasons for adoption and deployment of F/LOSS are...

- **Lower IT Costs** – in case of advanced servers, databases and web applications
- **Flexible solutions** – customised for local specific implementation
- **Better security** – mature toolchains
- **Participation** – community based



Where could F/LOSS be deployed ?

The ideal scenario is total deployment. The most visible and quantifiable domains are...

- **Backend Databases** – meeting the data storage needs of G2C applications
- **Desktop Interfaces** – providing customised and familiar computing experience
- **Edge-of-network** – file, printer and mail server applications
- **Portals** – robust CMS, web servers



How to deploy F/LOSS ?

F/LOSS deployment provides various models, the relevant ones are...

- **Build** – motivate in-house development
- **Adapt-Adopt** – use software repositories to choose component, adapt and adopt
- **Procure-Purchase** – choose from 'brand names' to procure products
- **Outsource** – outsource 'non-critical' areas



Process for F/LOSS deployment

Similar to deployment other pieces of software stack

- **Study** – analyse the problem domain
- **Select** – select optimal software suite
- **Phase-In** – phase-in migration in non-critical zones
- **Quantify** – analyse metrics of migration
- **Closure** – migrate completely and transparently



The 'Top 5' Myths

Every software paradigm has its own set of myths, the current list is as...

- Linux install creates problems with Windows
- Linux does not have an Office suite
- Linux does not have robust DBMS
- Linux does not have DTP, Multimedia tools
- Linux does not offer collaborative software



Indian GNU/Linux Users Group - Kolkata

Kolkata chapter of the Indian GNU/Linux Users Group

- Evolved in 1998
- Over 1000 members including students, technocrats, Govt officials, academics
- Participant in COMPASS 2003 & 2004
- Over 700 hits daily on website
- Advocacy and Out Reach efforts



Localisation of GNU/Linux

Ankur Bangla Project (www.bengalinux.org) provides a Bangla interface to GNU/Linux

- Just over 14 months old
- 12 developers, 100+ volunteers
- Completely 'virtual' organisation
- Self-funded R & D process
- AnkurBangla LiveDesktop v1.0 – 1000 CDs
- Mention in IBM Linux RedBook 2004
- Article in Linux Magazine, April 2004



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About us...

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And Finally...

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Thank you once again...



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