LINUX WORLD NEWS

BHUTAN WITH NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

Dzongkha GNU/Linux was launched in the Kingdom of Bhutan on June 2, a national holiday celebrating the anniversary of the coronation of the king. Two and a half years ago, the Ministry of Information and Communication started the DzongkhaLinux project to promote the use of the national language in computing.

The Dzongkha-localized system is based on Debian and consists of one CD which serves as either an installation or a live CD. DzongkhaLinux is part of the PANLocalization project, aimed at bringing localized computer use to several Asian countries, and funded by the International Development Research Centre, a Canadian governmental organization.

The launch event was widely advertised in Bhutan and covered in mainstream newspapers and TV channels. The Nepali localization team, who launched a Linux distribution for the Nepali language, Guntupalli Karunakar, the leader of the Indlinux project, and Christian Perrier, an active Debian developer contributing to Debian installer localization and internationalization, were all invited to share their experiences and knowledge.
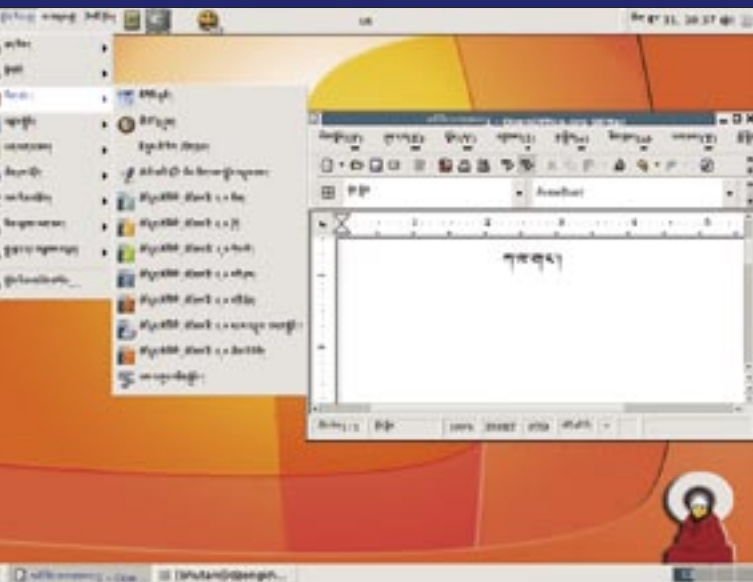
http://www.dit.gov.bt/newsdetail.
php?newsId=44
http://dzongkha.sourceforge.net/
(outdated)
http://www.panl10n.net/
http://www.idrc.ca/
http://www.indlinux.org/

MAINLY KERNEL IN OTTAWA

The Ottawa Linux Symposium (OLS), held this year from July 19–22, 2006, is a conference that focuses largely on issues concerning the Linux kernel. It was preceded by the Linux Kernel Summit – a two-day by-invitation-only meeting of some of the most active kernel hackers – and the Desktop Developers Conference (DDC).

Jonathan Corbet gave his traditional Kernel Report in which he summarized aspects of Linux kernel development during the past year as well as the results of the Kernel Summit and what to expect in the coming year. The major topics covered during the 8th OLS were virtualization and Xen, the new kernel source code management system Git, filesystem optimization, security and kernel debugging. Other talks focused on how to reduce power consumption (not only for battery-operated devices) and how to improve bootup time.

Several talks centered around the increasing frustration in the Linux kernel community over the growing number of binary-only kernel drivers. In his keynote, Greg Kroah-Hartmann summed up these sentiments in a very simple statement: Loading binary-only modules into the Linux kernel is illegal! Claiming that the Linux kernel supports more devices than any other operating system, he does not see this mandate imposed by the GPL as a major inhibitor to the acceptance of Linux. While his views were vigorously shared by his audience, they may not be accepted by all hardware vendors.

http://www.linuxsymposium.org/

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN SOURCE PRIZES

It is not unlikely the traditional Norwegian Free Software Award ceremony will take place in October as it did in 2005, but this year the Swedes got out their call for nominees for the "Linux Open Source Award 2006" earlier. Nominations for the best open source implementation, the best open source application and the best academic contribution to Linux and open source development should be handed in by the first of October. The prize will be awarded during the "Linux Open Source Forum 2006" in Stockholm on October 25–26.

Unlike for the Norwegian prize, nominees should be located in Scandinavia, but not necessarily in Sweden itself. In 2005, the Norwegian city of Bergen won the Swedish "strategic award" for their Open Source migration project.

http://www.linuxopensourceforum.se/
TheLinuxOSAward.htm (Swedish)
http://www.linuxopensourceforum.se/
http://nuug.no/prisen/ (Norwegian)
http://www.linux-magazine.com/issue/
45/Linux_World_News.pdf