

LINUX WORLD NEWS



Virgin America's Linux-based in-flight entertainment system "Red".

GROUNDING PENGUIN

Will Sir Richard Branson's newest company take off or not? If the U.S. Department of Transportation changes its mind and issues the US-based low-cost carrier Virgin America its approval to fly, passengers will be entertained by penguins. The press release states that the Linux-based in-flight entertainment system "Red" will offer not only TV and radio,

Hollywood movies, MP3 and "Open Source video games" (and a future invitation for savvy linux game developers to participate in Red), but also e-mail, SMS, instant messaging, chat facilities, and wireless access. Each seat will be equipped with a 9-inch touch screen and a QWERTY keyboard and the all important game-controller.
<http://www.letvafly.com/VADIFE.php>

FOCUS ON OSS IN HEALTH CARE

If you weren't aware that your doctor could use open source software if he or she only wanted to, a short trip to Southern California might open your eyes: The 5th

Southern California Linux Expo (dubbed "Scale 5x"), held at the Los Angeles Airport Westin Hotel, February 9-11, 2007, offered the usual talks, bird-of-a-feather ses-

sions and exhibit floor, but also hosted the Open Source Health Care Summit on February 9th.

Its aim was "to foster an awareness of the availability of open-source options to medical organizations, private practices, and hospitals." By attending this mini-conference, you could learn about - among others - the Eclipse Open Healthcare Framework (OHF) project or ClearHealth, a practice management and electronic medical record system.

<http://www.socallinuxexpo.org>

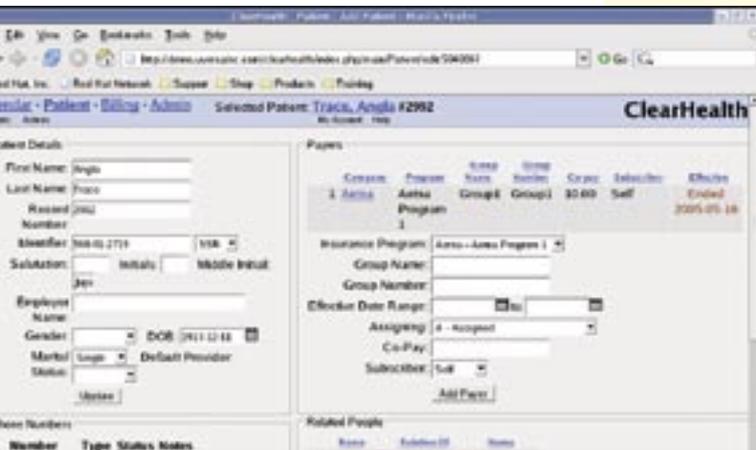
<http://www.clear-health.com/>

<http://www.eclipse.org/ohf/>

LET'S MEET IN BERLIN!

Linuxtag, once Europe's biggest open source conference and fair, and still proud of its "Where .com meets .org" approach, now in its 11th year, is again shifting location. From May 30 to June 2, 2007, it will be held at the Berlin International Conference Centre. The first two days overlap with a regional IT fair for small and medium sized enterprises. The conference itself will focus on virtualization, "Web 2.0, AJAX and mash-ups," and Linux for beginners.

<http://www.linuxtag.org/2007/en/home/aktuelles.html>



KERALA AND TAMIL NADU EMBRACE LINUX

Kerala, one of India's poorest states and known for its excellent and successful focus on education, has plans to become "the FOSS destination in the country." To achieve this goal, the draft information technology policy presented by Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan on January 17th includes a proposal to establish an International Centre for Free Software and Computing for Development in Kochi (former Cochin) and to promote

the use of OSS and open standards in e-governance projects. The government plans to provide special incentives to companies developing FOSS.

Kerala needs to step on the gas to meet its ambitious goals since it is not the only Indian state planning to adopt open source. Tamil Nadu's state-owned IT supplier Elcot recently announced that government departments across the state will migrate their Windows desktops to

Suse Linux and OpenOffice starting this year. According to ZDNet Asia, "6,500 Linux systems have been sent to villages and another 6,100 are on their way. About 20,000 desktop computers running Suse Linux will also be procured for schools across the state."

<http://www.hinduonnet.com/2007/01/18/stories/2007011801800700.htm>

<http://www.zdnetasia.com/news/software/0,39044164,61981452,00.htm>