

LINUX WORLD NEWS

ALL-INDIAN FOSS MONTH

February 2008 marked the month of FOSS conferences across India. The Indian Linux Users' Group Chennai, the National Resource Centre For Free/Open Source Software (NRCFOSS), the Madras Institute of Technology, and FOSS.IN collaborated in organizing the FOSSConf08 in Tamil Nadu's capital Chennai. Conference organizers encouraged first-time speakers to discuss their projects. The audience – including 863 registered delegates – was composed of a blend of FOSS community members, students, and teachers. Beginning on February 1, the 190 talks over three days started what will perhaps turn out to be another regular conference on the calendar.

NRCFOSS rolled out custom software for conference management, which powered FOSSConf. The conference, held at Anna University, included booths displaying final-year projects.

GNUUnify, held February 8-9, already is an annual event organized by the students of the Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies and Research in Pune and the local Linux Users' Group, providing a

forum for students to interact with industry professionals and FOSS contributors. This year, the event focused on providing a complete package to the students, including install fests, BoFs, and workshops in addition to the standard talks and presentations. Attended by more than 500 delegates, GNUUnify was interactive and included intense hallway and corridor discussions and gatherings.

The Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur organized FOSSKriti February 14-17 as part of the annual TechKriti event. Highlights included the Linux Kernel workshop by Ankita Garg, who spoke for six straight hours, and the eye candy Clutter demo by Shreyas Srinivasan. Arun Raghavan, in addition to being a student, also contributes to Beagle and led a Beagle hackfest that produced fixes to some pending issues and secured a couple of new contributors.

The Jawaharlal Nehru University and Indian Linux Users' Group Delhi orga-

nize the freed.in annual event. The February 22-24 event's theme was "Knowledge Shall Set You Free." Aimed at discussing the tools, protocols, and economics of making knowledge available to everybody, freed.in offered a two-day-long conclave in addition to a series of talks. Talk topics included community radio, independent music, OLPC, content translation communities, and community building.

<http://fossconf.in/>

<http://gnunify.in/>

[http://www.techkriti.org/#lookup_](http://www.techkriti.org/#lookup_FossKriti_About)

[FossKriti_About](http://freed.in/2008/)

<http://freed.in/2008/>



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PIMP MY LUGRADIO CONTEST

LugRadio, a British podcast on Linux and OSS, announced the winner of its Christmas 2007 "Pimp My LugRadio" competition on February 25. Sean Ellis, who made a puppet video imitating the four LugRadio presenters Jono Bacon, Stuart Lan-

gridge, Chris Procter, and Adam Sweet talking about Linux, open source, and so forth, won an Asus Eee PC for his efforts.

LUGRadio is recorded every two weeks in Wolverhampton, England, published in Ogg Vorbis and MP3 formats, and

licensed under Creative Commons licenses.

April 12-13, LugRadio arrives in America for its Live USA 2008 show at The Metreon Theater in San Francisco, featuring Miguel de Icaza, Ian Murdoch, Benjamin Mako Hill, and Val Henson, among others.

<http://www.lugradio.org/>



LINUX AT THE NATURAL PARK

A few miles northwest of Paris, the French Regional Natural Park of the Vexin (PNRVF) tries to preserve a beautiful natural and cultural landscape – seen around the world in impressionist paintings by Pissarro, Van Gogh, Gauguin, and Cézanne – now using Linux. Following a call for vendors in June 2007, which closed with no replies, the park's administration decided to invite to bid again in September 2007.

After a migration and deployment process of only one month, the French open source specialist Tranquil IT Systems could present the new solution, with four new servers running Mandriva Linux, at the end of February. The Windows workstations were converted into light clients, and three passive terminals were added to the setup. Eventually, the remaining Windows workstations also will be replaced by terminals.

http://www.parc-naturel-vexin.fr/v_en/

<http://www.tranquil-it-systems.fr/> (French)

<http://www.mandriva.com/enterprise/en/company/press/mandriva-linux-at-the-heart-of-the-new-infrastructure-of-the-french-regional-natura>