2003 USENIX Annual Technical Conference

http://www.usenix.org/events/usenix03

June 9–14, 2003   **Marriott Hotel, San Antonio, Texas**

Important Dates

General Session Refereed Track submissions due:
Monday, November 18, 2002, 11:59 PM, EST
FREENIX Refereed Track submissions due:
Monday, November 25, 2002, 11:59 PM, EST
Notification to authors: *January 22, 2003*
Papers due for final shepherding approval:
March 31, 2003
Camera-ready papers due: *April 8, 2003*

Conference Organizers

Program Committee

Chair: Brian Noble, *University of Michigan*
Andrea Arpaci-Dusseau, *University of Wisconsin*
Edouard Bugnion, *VMware*
Vinny Cahill, *Trinity College Dublin*
Jason Flinn, *University of Michigan*
Steve Gribble, *University of Washington*
Geoffrey H. Kuenning, *Harvey Mudd College*
Darrell Long, *UCSC*
Patrick McDaniel, *AT&T–Research*
Vern Paxson, *ICSI*
Dave Presotto, *Bell Labs*
Alex Snoeren, *UCSD*
Dawn Song, *CMU*
Marvin Theimer, *Microsoft Research*
Amin Vahdat, *Duke University*
Bennet Yee, *UCSD*

Invited Talks Coordinators

Ted Faber, *USC Information Sciences Institute*
John Ioannidis, *AT&T Labs–Research*

FREENIX Program Committee

Chair: Erez Zadok, *Stony Brook University*
David Beazley, *The University of Chicago*
Ray Bryant, *SGI*
Chuck Cranor, *AT&T Labs–Research*
Angelos Keromytis, *Columbia University*
Chuck Lever, *Network Appliance*
Bart Massey, *Portland State University*
Keith Packard, *XFree86 Core Team & HP
Cambridge Research Labs*
Guido van Rooij, *Madison Gurkha*
Robert Watson, *Network Associates Laboratories
& The FreeBSD Project*
Carl Worth, *USC, Information Sciences Institute*

"The Guru Is In" Coordinator

Lee Damon, *University of Washington*

Overview

USENIX is the Advanced Computing Systems Association. For over 25 years, its members have come from a broad community of developers, researchers, system administrators and engineers with interests spanning the full range of technology. As the core conference of this community, the USENIX Annual Technical Conference is the premier forum for computing professionals to share the results of their latest and best work, develop new ideas and solutions, and connect with their colleagues.

Three days of tutorials start the conference with practical tutorials on timely topics. The three-day technical session of the conference follows and includes a track of General Session Refereed Papers selected by the Program Committee; a track of Invited Talks by experts and leaders in the field; and FREENIX, a track of refereed papers on freely available POSIX-based software and systems.

General Session Refereed Papers

The 2003 USENIX Technical Conference seeks original and innovative papers about the applications, architecture, implementation, and performance of modern computing systems. Some particularly interesting application topics are:

- Administration-free systems
- Complexity management
- Distributed caching and replication
- Embedded, parallel, and distributed systems
- Energy/Power management
- File systems and storage systems
- Finding bugs
- Mobile code
- Multimedia
- Networking and network services
- Operating Systems
- Reliability and availability
- Security, privacy, and trust
- Ubiquitous and mobile computing
- Usage studies and deployment experiences
- Very large/small systems
- Web technologies

Cash prizes will be awarded to the best papers at the conference. Please see the Web site for examples of Best Papers from previous years.

How to Submit a Paper to the General Session Refereed Track

Authors are required to submit full papers by Monday, November 18, 2002 at 23:59 EST. **This is a hard deadline; no extensions will be given.**

All submissions for USENIX '03 will be electronic, in PostScript or PDF, via a Web form located on the Conference Web site. Authors will be notified of receipt of submission via e-mail. If you do not receive notification by Saturday, November 23, 2002, please contact: *usenix03chair@usenix.org*.

Submitted papers should use reasonable font sizes and margins, and must be no more than 14 pages long. The 14 page limit includes everything: references, figures, appendices, etc. Longer papers will not be reviewed. Don't feel compelled to fill 14 pages! If you can say everything in 12 pages, (or 10, or 8), do so. However, papers so short as to be considered extended abstracts will not receive full consideration.

It is imperative that you follow the instructions for submitting a quality paper. Specific questions about submissions may be sent to the program chair via email to: *usenix03chair@usenix.org*.

A good paper will demonstrate that the authors:

- are attacking a significant problem,
- have devised an interesting, compelling solution,
- have demonstrated the practicality and benefits of the solution,
- have drawn appropriate conclusions,
- have clearly described what they have done, and
- have clearly articulated the advances beyond previous work.

Authors will be notified of paper acceptance or rejection by January 22, 2003. Accepted papers will be shepherded by a program committee member through an editorial review process prior to final acceptance for publication in the proceedings.

FREENIX Refereed Track

FREENIX is a special track within the USENIX Annual Technical Conference. The FREENIX Program Committee is looking for papers about projects with a solid emphasis on nurturing the open source and freely-available software communities. FREENIX papers should advance the state of the art of freely-redistributable software or otherwise provide useful information to those faced with deploying, selling, or using free software in the field.

FREENIX is an excellent showcase for the latest developments and interesting applications of freely-redistributable software, and can help to expand your developer and user base. The FREENIX forum includes Apache, Darwin, FreeBSD, GNOME, GNU, KDE, Linux, NetBSD, OpenBSD, Perl, PHP, Python, Samba,

Tcl/Tk, X11, and more. The FREENIX track attempts to cover the full range of software which is freely redistributable in source-code form and provides pointers to where the code can be found on the Internet.

Submissions to the FREENIX track should describe freely-redistributable software. Although submissions need not necessarily be research papers, we encourage submissions that describe mature work – submissions for which the authors are ready to fully describe the background, new ideas, experiments, and results of their work. The FREENIX track also seeks to gather reports on projects that are current and solidly under way, but may not yet be 100% finished. This differs from a Works-in-Progress session, which is really a poster session for ideas.

Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Cross-platform source portability and binary compatibility
- Desktop metaphors
- Distributed and parallel systems
- Documentation
- Embedded systems
- File system design
- Graphical user interface tools
- Highly-available systems
- Highly-scalable and clustered systems
- How free software is being developed and managed today
- Interesting deployments of free software
- Large scale system management
- Network design and implementation
- Non-technical aspects of free software: business, legal, etc.
- Operating system design
- Print systems
- Quality assurance
- Security
- Software development tools
- Storage systems
- System and user management tools
- Technical aspects of commercial use of free software

Interesting applications of freely-redistributable software include: wearable computers, video or audio processing, ubiquitous computing, studio graphics, robotics and automation, large-scale environments, high-speed networking, high-performance simulations, embedded systems, clustering, automation, and more. FREENIX submissions will be primarily judged based on the novelty of the work, usefulness of the work to the OSS community, and the paper's ability to educate or provoke discussion about the topic.

We encourage first-time authors to submit papers. In our experience, it is important for authors to begin thinking about writing a paper early enough. If you would like help or comments on your paper idea, feel free to email *freenix03chair@usenix.org*; we would be happy

to guide authors toward a successful paper submission.

Cash prizes will be awarded for the best paper and the best paper by a student.

How to Submit to the FREENIX Refereed Track
The FREENIX Refereed track submission deadline is November 25, 2002 (23:59pm EST). **This is a hard deadline; no extensions will be given!**

You may submit either a complete paper, or a 3-5 page extended abstract of your work to date. The program committee reads these submissions to determine which papers to accept for the conference; it is important that you include enough detail that program committee members can know what you are doing. In no event should you submit a description in excess of 14 pages including all figures, tables, and bibliography.

All submissions for the USENIX 2003 FREENIX Track will be electronic, in PostScript, PDF, or plain text, via the Web form on the Conference Web site. Be sure your paper is formatted in US-letter style (8.5x11 inches) and please use only standard English fonts.

Authors will be notified of receipt of submission via e-mail. If you do not receive notification by Friday, November 28, 2002, please contact: *freenix03chair@usenix.org*.

Please see the Web site for more detailed guidelines on FREENIX submissions including what a good paper should include and paper examples: http://www.usenix.org/events/usenix03/ cfp/freenixsubmit.html

Publication Restrictions for the General Track and FREENIX Refereed Papers
The USENIX Technical Conference, like most conferences and journals, requires that both General Track and FREENIX papers not be submitted simultaneously to more than one conference or publication, that submitted papers not be previously published elsewhere, and that accepted papers not be subsequently published elsewhere for a year from date of acceptance by USENIX. Papers submitted to this conference that are under review elsewhere will not be reviewed. Papers accompanied by non-disclosure agreement forms can not be accepted, and will not be reviewed. All submissions are held in the highest confidentiality prior to publication in the Proceedings, both as a matter of policy and in accord with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976.

Submitting a Tutorial Program Proposal
On Monday–Wednesday, June 9–11, USENIX's well-respected tutorial program offers intensive, immediately practical tutorials on topics essential to the use, development, and administration of advanced computing systems. Skilled instructors, who are hands-on experts in

their topic areas, present both introductory and advanced tutorials covering topics such as:

- High availability and quality of service
- Distributed, replicated, and web based systems
- System administration and security
- Embedded systems
- File systems and storage systems
- Interoperability of heterogeneous systems
- Operating systems (Linux, *BSD, NT, etc.)
- Application development (threads, Perl, etc.)
- Intrusion detection and prevention
- Internet security
- Mobile code and mobile computing
- New algorithms and applications
- Systems application configuration and maintenance
- Personal digital assistants
- Security and privacy
- Web-based technologies

To provide the best possible tutorial slate, USENIX continually solicits proposals for new tutorials. If you are interested in presenting a tutorial, contact: Dan Klein, Tutorial Coordinator, Email: *dvk@usenix.org*

Invited Talks Suggestions And Proposals Welcome
These survey-style talks given by experts range over many interesting and timely topics. The Invited Talks track also may include panel presentations and selections from the best presentations at recent USENIX conferences.

The Invited Talks coordinators welcome suggestions for topics and request proposals for particular talks. In your proposal state the main focus, including a brief outline, and be sure to emphasize why your topic is of general interest to our community. Please submit via email to *usenix03it@usenix.org*.

Work-in-Progress Reports
Do you have interesting work you would like to share, or a cool idea that is not yet ready to be published? The USENIX audience provides valuable discussion and feedback. We are particularly interested in presentation of student work. To request a WIP slot, send email to *usenix03wips@usenix.org*.

Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions (BoFs)
The always popular evening BoFs are very informal, attendee-organized gatherings of persons interested in a particular topic. BoFs may be scheduled at the conference or in advance via email to *conference@usenix.org*.

Registration Materials
Complete program and registration information will be available in March 2003 at *http://www.usenix.org/events/usenix03*. If you would like to receive the program booklet in print, please email your request, including your postal address, to: *conference@usenix.org*.