4th Annual Linux Showcase & Conference, Atlanta

Sponsored by USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association, and the Atlanta Linux Showcase, Inc., in cooperation with Linux International

October 10-14, 2000, Cobb Galleria, Atlanta, Georgia

http://www.linuxshowcase.org

Important Dates

Extreme Linux abstracts due:
   April 17, 2000
Hack Linux/Use Linux abstracts due:
   May 1, 2000
Extreme Linux author notification:
   June 16, 2000
Hack Linux/Use Linux author
   notification: *June 30, 2000*
Registration material available: *July 2000*
Extreme Linux editorial revisions due:
   July 23, 2000
Final papers due (for all tracks):
   August 24, 2000

Program Committee

Hack Linux: Technical Development Track
Chair: Theodore Ts'o, *VA Linux Systems*
Bryan C. Andregg, *Red Hat*
Peter Beckman, *TurboLinux, Inc.*
Jes Sorensen, *Linux Care*
Stephen Tweedie, *Red Hat*
Victor Yodaiken, *New Mexico Institute of
   Mining and Technology*
Leonard Zubkoff, *VA Linux Systems*

Use Linux: Tools and Applications Track
Chair: Greg Hankins, *Atlanta Linux Showcase*
Eric Ayers, *Atlanta Linux Enthusiasts*
Donnie Barnes, *Red Hat Software*
Clem Cole, *Compaq*
Danny Cox, *Atlanta Linux Showcase*
Hunter Eidson, *Atlanta Linux Showcase*
Jon "maddog" Hall, *VA Linux*
Vernard Martin, *Atlanta Linux Showcase*

**Extreme Linux: Clusters and High
Performance Computing Workshop**
Co-Chairs: Pete Beckman, *TurboLinux, Inc.*,
   and David Greenberg, *Center for Computing
   Sciences*
David Bader, *University of New Mexico*
Don Becker, *Scyld Computing Corporation and
   USRA-CESDIS*
Peter J. Braam, *Stelias Computing Inc &
   Carnegie Mellon University*
Rajkumar Buyya, *Monash University, Australia*
Remy Evard, *Argonne National Laboratories*
Jon "maddog" Hall, *VA Linux*
David Halstead, *Ames Laboratory*
Yutaka Ishikawa, *RWCP*

Walter Ligon, *Clemson University*
Greg Lindahl, *HPTi*
Bill Nitzberg, *NASA*
Bill Saphir, *LBL/NERSC*
Matt Welsh, *UC-Berkeley*

Overview

The highlight of this year's Linux community calendar is undoubtably the Annual Linux Showcase and Conference. Now in its fourth year, ALS 2000 is specifically designed for the Linux enthusiast, with an emphasis on high-caliber technical knowledge. This conference is developed by a volunteer community of computing professionals and by USENIX, a not-for-profit technical association respected for its tradition of in-depth technical conferences.

ALS 2000 promises to be the biggest event in ALS history, expanding its technical program to include more tutorials, refereed papers, invited talks, Birds-of-a-Feather sessions, hothouses, and opportunities for informal discussions with Linux experts, professionals, and vendors. The conference includes a three-day vendor exhibition in which more than 80 companies will showcase their latest products and services.

Technical Sessions, Oct. 12-14

Three days of technical sessions feature three parallel tracks of refereed papers and invited talks. Refereed papers are published in Proceedings which are provided free to Technical Sessions attendees in print and a CD-ROM. Papers that analyze problem areas and draw important conclusions from practical experience are especially welcome.

Hack Linux: Technical Development Track

For this refereed technical track, we seek papers on topics relating to Linux and Open Source development, including:

- Kernel performance improvements and enhancements
- Linux networking
- Linux clustering and high availability
- Ports to new hardware architectures
- Low-level support infrastructures for X11, KDE, and GNOME
- Embedded Linux

Selection will be based on the quality of the written submission and whether the work advances the state of the art of Linux implementation. Please see also the detailed author guidelines of the Web site, including sample extended abstracts and final paper: *http://www.linuxshowcase.org/ cfp/guidelines.html.*

Use Linux: Tools and Applications Track

Paper submissions should focus on the following Linux tools and applications areas:

- Development
- Networking and running network services
- System administration
- Usability and desktop interfaces
- Security
- Integration and interoperability with non-Linux systems
- Performance tuning

Extreme Linux: Clusters and High Performance Computing Workshop

This track is devoted to clusters using Linux which are intended to scale to hundreds or thousands of processors. Comparisons with other systems are of interest, but papers should directly address issues of Linux and scale. For a complete Call for Papers for this track, see *http://www.extremelinux.org.*

How to Submit

The submission deadline for 2-5 page summaries to the Hack Linux and Use Linux Tracks is May 1, 2000 The submission deadline for maximum of ten

page extended abstracts to the Extreme Linux Track is April 17, 2000. All submissions will be electronic. A web submission form for each track/workshop will be available on the conference Web site in February.

Submissions may be formatted in any way that you find convenient. However, accepted papers will need to be submitted in the format prescribed by USENIX. If you would like to avoid future formatting changes, you may consult predefined templates on the conference Web site which format according to the USENIX guidelines.

Further details for specific tracks can be found below. Specific questions about submissions may be sent to the program chair via email to:

Hack Linux Track:
hacklinuxchair@usenix.org
Use Linux Track:
uselinuxchair@usenix.org
Extreme Linux Workshop:
extremelinuxchairs@usenix.org

Guide to Submissions for Hack Linux and Use Linux Tracks

Submissions should be 2-5 page summaries in ASCII, Postscript, or PDF format. You may submit a full paper, however we expect that most submissions will be 2-5 page summaries of your work to date. In no event should you submit a description in excess of 14 pages. However, please provide enough detail to let us know what you are doing; one paragraph summaries are unlikely to be accepted.

A good submission will clearly demonstrate that the authors:

- are attacking a significant problem,
- are actively working on a solution,
- have made enough progress to have useful information to report.

In particular, the technical tracks are not for people that are thinking about doing some project, but have not yet started it. Such talks are better presented in the Work-In-Progress (WIP) session.

Authors will be notified by June 30, 2000. All accepted submissions will be expected to produce a written report for the proceedings by the August 24, 2000 deadline. These reports need not be polished papers, but they should describe

work that has been completed as of the time of their submission. The purpose of your paper is to let readers and attendees know what you are doing. Your talk at the conference may describe not only what is in your paper but also the work completed between the time that the paper is submitted and the conference is held. Members of the program committee will help shepherd authors through the writing process prior to final acceptance for publication in the proceedings.

Each accepted paper must be presented at the conference by at least one author. Authors of an accepted paper must provide a final paper for publication in the conference proceedings and electronic files for the CD-ROM and Web site. Final papers are limited to 12 pages, including diagrams, figures and appendices.

For the Hack Linux Track, please see the author guidelines on the Web site, including sample extended abstracts and final papers: *http://www.linuxshowcase.org/cfp/guidelines.html*.

To discuss potential submissions and for inquiries regarding the content of the conference program, contact any member of the program committee of the program chair.

Guide to Submission of Extended Abstracts for Extreme Linux Track

All submissions for the Extreme Linux track of ALS 2000 will be electronic, in PostScript or PDF. A Web submission form will be available in February.

Authors will be notified of receipt of submission via e-mail. If you do not receive notification, contact: *extremelinuxchairs@usenix.org*.

Extended abstracts, up to 10 pages in length, are preferred, but full papers can also be submitted. Papers should be 8 to 12 single-spaced 8.5 x 11 inch pages (about 4000-6000 words), not counting figures and references. Papers longer than 14 pages will not be reviewed.

It is imperative that you follow the instructions for submitting a quality paper. A good paper will clearly demonstrate that the authors:

- are attacking a significant problem,
- are familiar with the literature,

- have devised an original or clever solution,
- if appropriate, have implemented the solution and characterized its performance using reasonable experimental techniques, and
- have drawn appropriate conclusions from their work.

In order to facilitate the submission of current work the Extreme Linux Track will use the "shepherded paper" model. The program committee will notify authors of the acceptance or rejection of their paper by June 16, 2000. A program committee member will help the authors to produce a second version of the paper which may include updated results by July 23, 2000. Final, camera ready, versions must be submitted by August 24, 2000 in order to be including in the printed proceedings.

Note: the ALS Extreme Linux Track, like most conferences and journals, requires that papers not be submitted simultaneously to more than one conference or publication, and that submitted papers not be previously or subsequently published elsewhere. 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.

Cash Prizes

The USENIX Association will award cash prizes at the conference for the best paper and for the best paper by a student.

Financial Assistance

Some financial assistance is available for speakers' travel and accommodation in cases of need. All speakers will receive free admission to the conference and an invitation to the welcome dinner on Wednesday evening.

Tutorials, Oct. 10-11

Gain mastery of complex techniques and technologies, and you'll get immediate payoff within your organization. There will be full and half-day tutorials in all

areas and levels of expertise of Linux. If you are interested in presenting a tutorial at ALS, contact the tutorial coordinators: Daniel V. Klein, *USENIX Association*, and Paul Manno, *Georgia Tech*, Email: *alstutorials@linuxshowcase.org*

Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions

Birds-of-a-Feather sessions (BoFs) are very informal gatherings organized by attendees interested in a particular topic. BoFs are held in the evenings. BoFs may be scheduled in advance via email to *alsbofs@usenix.org.* or at the conference.

Works-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 ALS audience provides valuable discussion and feedback. Presentations of student work are particularly welcome. To schedule your short report, send email to *alswips@usenix.org.*

Exhibition, Oct. 12-14

In the exhibition, the emphasis is on serious questions and feedback. Vendors will demonstrate the features and technical innovations that distinguish their products.

For more information, contact:
Dana Geffner
Tel.: 1.831.457.8649
Email: *dana@usenix.org*

Program and Registration Info.

Program and registration information will be available in July 2000 at the conference Web site: *http://www.linuxshowcase.org.* If you would like to be kept up to date on ALS information, sign up for our email list by sending the message "subscribe als-announce" to *majordomo@linuxshow.org* or contact the USENIX Conference Office (email: *conference@usenix.org;* telephone: 1.949.588.8649).