

Project Mgmt

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Microsoft v/s Linux

Yahoo Phishing  
ToolBar

Next Gen iPod's



OPEN  
SOURCE  
WORLD



## What's Next Bluetooth Technology



M ega B its ... .. keeps you Connected

## A Marriage Made In Hell!!!

Most of the people who believe in marriage say that it is made in heaven. Being a bachelor I cannot say much, but what my amateurish thinking indicates that Windows Weds Linux is definitely a marriage made in hell.

To start with let see what is history of two companies.

**Microsoft** : started developing GUI based operating system in mid 80's and keeps churning out new operating systems(OS) every few years with lots of enhancement. Always keeps updating its OS and provides Service Packs for the flaws in the system. Over the years it has been a favorite choice for Desktop computers and being used on small end Servers. Advocates that windows implementation is one time investment against the costlier implementation of free 'Open Source Linux'.

**Novell**: currently developers of Suse Linux. Only 2 main proprietary Linux players exists in the market. though the Linux OS is free and kept same under GNU-GPL norms, Suse Linux continues to develop it & ask end users to pay for the service. the service include one stop critical updates from time to time just like windows OS. Suse always played second fiddle to RedHat Linux who continue dominate the distribution of Linux. It gained significant

market with its Linux 10.0 OS. It tries to convince the end user that Suse is best solution to an enterprise at an effective cost to ever so expensive Windows OS. Also Linux is developed with Unix as its base which brings an element of stability with it.

**The Hatred:** In mid and late nineties both companies fought a war with Novell accusing Microsoft of withholding key information about windows that led to sinking of word perfect project. In 2004 they again locked horns over antitrust case against Microsoft with the EU.

**The Love:** Microsoft for years has enjoyed a mantle of being the king in computer based companies. With entry of Google, the place of being an unchallenged king has come under fire. Google which began with search engine, started to excavate other applications development. Recently it has released its own word processor, spreadsheet, web-page development to name a few web based application. It was also leaked that Google uses Ubuntu Linux for its in-house operations. Maybe Microsoft wanted to have a stick in hand to beat Google at Linux. Novell: It had its own war on one side with Microsoft and on the other hand RedHat Linux.

Common Ground: Many Survey

indicates that Microsoft has not manage to penetrate the Server market where as Suse is not famous on desktop or client end. Another factor that shows that successful organization would like to use both Windows and Linux to maximize productivity, which both parties are aware of.

**Beneficiary:** Microsoft and Novell both have their competition on hands and feel that by having each other they can take on the rest of the players in the pool. Novell has benefited most in terms of cash as Microsoft is paying millions for a 5year deal.

The biggest beneficiary is the user who either wanted to have cross platform or people who already exist with such combination. Large amount of money will be saved as, from now Ms-office will run on both platforms and also compatibility issues will be solved.

**Problems:** Since Suse is bound by GNU's GPL only time will tell if the duo are heading for any lawsuit against them.

Only Time will tell if this marriage will indeed will be beneficial to both but certainly it would be to the end users. It is also a moral victory of Linux. Cheer!!!

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## wHAt nEXT

Bluetooth technology will allow for the replacement of the many proprietary cables that connect one device to another with one universal short-range radio link. Bluetooth radio technology when built into both the communicating devices will replace the cumbersome cable used today to connect a laptop to a cellular telephone. Printers, PDA's, desktops, fax machines, keyboards, joysticks and virtually any other digital device can be part of the Bluetooth system. Bluetooth radio technology provides a universal bridge to existing data networks and a mechanism to form small private ad hoc groupings of connected devices away from fixed network infrastructures.

Designed to operate in a noisy radio frequency environment, the Bluetooth radio uses a fast acknowledgement and frequency hopping scheme to make the link robust. Bluetooth radio modules avoid interference from other signals by hopping to a new frequency after transmitting or receiving a packet. Bluetooth radio typically hops faster and uses shorter packets. This makes the Bluetooth radio more robust than other systems. Use of Forward Error Correction (FEC) limits the impact of random noise on long distance links. The encoding is optimised for an uncoordinated environment.

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Source: <http://web.ukonline.co.uk/p.boughton/bluetooth.htm>

## Web World

### Yahoo adds phishing shield

The feature requires people to create a unique "sign-in seal" on a specific PC. This seal--a text message or photo--will be displayed on the Yahoo login page when visited with that computer, this seal is a secret between the computer you set it up on and Yahoo, this tells the user that tells that you're seeing a genuine Yahoo site, not a phishing site.

Phishing is one of the most common online threat. In May, just over 20,000 phishing Web sites--a record--were reported. Phishing typically combines spam e-mail with fraudulent Web sites to trick people into giving up sensitive information, such as a Yahoo user ID and password.

The sign-in shield is designed for use on a personal computer, not on systems in libraries or Internet cafes, for example. It works based on cookies, tiny files that a Web site can place on a user's computer.

People who remove cookies from their system, for privacy reason, can disable the new Yahoo feature and have to create a new shield. Yahoo is tweaking the sign-in shield so the feature won't be rendered useless by removing cookies

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## Open Source World.

Over the past few years, many of us have heard "open source software", "free software", GNU/GPL. What Does Free Mean?

Many people new to free software find themselves confused because the word "free" in the term "free software" is not used the way they expect. To them free means "at no cost". When we speak of Free Software, we mean freedom, not price.

The freedom to run the program means the freedom for any kind of person or organization to use it on any kind of computer system, for any kind of overall job and purpose, without being required to communicate about it with the developer or any other specific entity.

The GNU Project was launched in to develop a complete UNIX-like operating system which is free software: the GNU system. Variants of the GNU operating system, which use the kernel called Linux, are now widely used; though these systems are often referred to as "Linux", they are more accurately called GNU/Linux systems.

Open Source" on the other hand is a marketing name for Free Software, coined in Feb 1998, refers to the fact that the source code of Free Software is open to and for the world to take, to modify and to reuse.

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## Threats

### “Netsky-P leads the top 10 chart”

No this is not a new number that's heading a pop chart, for those who have faced the brunt of the menace this malicious software has done, would recollect the amount of time and money that has incurred to get this off their systems. During August, Netsky-P accounted for 19.9 percent of all malicious software incidents reported by security researcher Sophos. Netsky-P, which remains the most widely spread of the e-mail worms, was ranked the worst virus of 2004.

The numbers dropped to 1 infection in every 278 e-mails as compared to 1 infection in every 50 mails in august '05. Netsky-P was followed by Mytob-AS which accounted for 15.8 percent of malicious software reports, while Bangle-Zip accounted for 8 percent of reports according to Sophos.

The most frustrating part is that even 2 years on since this fixes were available to fight this worm, it continues to plague the email-highway easily. It is advisable to have system security in place before connecting to the Internet. This not only prevents critical loss of important data, but also prevents safe heaven to these time bombs which may go off any time, triggering another set of attacks to all in your contact list.

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source : [http://news.com.com/Two+years+on%2C+Netsky-P+tops+virus+charts/2100-7349\\_3-6111716.html?tag=cd.top](http://news.com.com/Two+years+on%2C+Netsky-P+tops+virus+charts/2100-7349_3-6111716.html?tag=cd.top)

## Test Your BIT

- Q1) Name the first computer to perform a trillion operations per second?
- Q2) Which is one of the most commonly used test models in computer graphics?
- Q3) How many bits make a nibble.?

- |  |
|--|
| <p>Q1. Grave IV at University of Tokyo</p> <p>Q2. Stanford Bunny at Stanford University</p> <p>Q3. 4 bit</p> |
|--|

### Do's... Don'ts... Interview Tips

#### Do's...

- Perfect your telephonic skills
- Arrive 10 minutes early to the venue
- Remain calm and alert to answer all questions
- Be honest about your background and experience
- Follow up interview with a Thank you letter

#### Don'ts...

- Don't wait for someone to call you for an interview
- Don't use cell phones during interview process
- Avoid talking about yourself too much
- Ask about the salary unless the interviewer brings it up
- Don't let rejections stop you. Instead, expect them and move on

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## Did you know this bit

### What is difference between kb and KB??

*Simple, one is lower case one is upper case... .0 h!!!  
Common grow up. Most of us think its same and use it, but there is a lot of difference between them.*

**kb- Kilo-Bit** is a unit of information, abbreviated **kbit**, sometimes also **kb**.

The standard definition is 1 kilobit=10<sup>3</sup>bit = 1,000 bit. In the context of storage-memory and address-space sizes, the alternative binary definition of 2<sup>10</sup> = 1,024 bits is occasionally used although this usage is ambiguous.

Kilobits are commonly used to express digital communication speeds, e.g. a 56 kbit/s or 512 kbit/s broadband Internet connection.

**KB-Kilo-Byte** is a unit of information or computer storage equal to either 1024 or 1000 bytes.

Many software use KB to mention the amount of space it will occupy on the hard-disk. Most Standards organization have changed the abbreviation to **KiB- Kibi-Byte** but it will take time before it is accepted by all.

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

## Vista Drains Battery

The most awaited next generation windows vista operating system from Microsoft is not good news for battery's life of laptops. During the recent test on vista the company found is noticeably lower battery life when Vista runs in its "average power" mode. Microsoft has acknowledged the problem and have stated they will try to close the gap within next few months.

One of Vista's most visible changes is its Aero interface, which offers spiffier graphics when people navigate through the operating system. "Doing all of those wonderful things that (the Aero Glass effect) allows, you are going to end up burning more milliwatts," said chip analyst Nathan Brookwood.

The most important concern for the laptop manufacturers have been to optimize the performance of battery of laptops. Though the industry has made significant advances in other fields it has failed to deliver it for the age old problem and just when some had close the gap, the next generation OS has again widen the gap.

Microsoft acknowledged that Vista's more intense graphics do cause a hit to battery life. The Windows Vista Aero theme and components which implement it can use more resources than previous versions of the operating system

Some individual reports have come which states that there laptops were heated when they were running the beta2.

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Source : <http://news.com.com/2100-1016-6079215.html>

## nEXT gENeration iPods



Source:[http://news.com.com/2300-1041\\_3-6114514.html?tag=ne.gall.latest.index](http://news.com.com/2300-1041_3-6114514.html?tag=ne.gall.latest.index)

## What's your thought.

This is 1<sup>st</sup> edition on MBIT an inhouse magazine for JCU-Singapore. So please send suggestion at [editor\\_mbit@yahoo.com](mailto:editor_mbit@yahoo.com) to improve it

## Learn Piano-without a Teacher

Electronic piano lessons have not posed much of a threat to a piano teacher.

The three-octave plastic keyboard, which plugs into your TV, uses an adaptation of the teaching methodology from an older PC-based piano system called the Piano Wizard. Children can peck out the melodies to one of eight songs, including "Für Elise" or "The Entertainer," by matching moving colored dots on the screen to the color-coded keys on the keyboard. If the note is played at the right time, the melody plays and your score improves. You can buy additional songs on cartridges with various themes.

The keyboard, which is powered by either four C batteries or an included AC adapter, has controls for adjusting the tempo. A freestyle mode lets children jam along with background chords. The package also includes a car-racing game and a game of dodgeball to add some variety to all the music.

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Source : [http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/21/technology/21piano.html?\\_r=1&ref=technology&oref=login](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/21/technology/21piano.html?_r=1&ref=technology&oref=login)