Linux Training Proposal

This letter is to intimate you with the details of a proposal for Linux training for your staff. Linux is proving to be a very competitive alternative to Microsoft on the server side, and brings UNIX class features, including security, at PC type prices. By cutting over to Linux, corporations can expect, not only cost savings, but also better Quality of Service levels, availability, scalability, security, and inter-operability. To make the best of such new investment, it is necessary to train staff to adequately manage the new platform. This proposal details a one-day program for quick acquaintance with the Operating System, with the objective of bringing IT staff up to speed on Linux.

Allow me to expand on the schedule and timing of the proposed one-day Linux training session. For the convenience of the bank, the session will be held on-site and we will be bringing one or more machines for the exercise, unless of course the bank has spare PCs that can be used for the exercise. A projector would be useful, if the bank has one available, else, we will arrange to have one with us, the proviso here being that the training occurs after December. We (CTO and Head of Platforms), intend to present a ten-topic session, with the following structure.

Linux Training – Outline

Scheduling and Sessions

0800 – 1030	Introduction, Installation, Basic Config., Simple Commands
1030 – 1100	Early Break
1100 – 1300	Basic Admin, Tuning, Email
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1600	Internet, Samba
1600 – 1630	Late Break
1630 – 1800	Oracle on Linux, Assessment

1. Introduction

Introduction of Instructors
Introduction of nettech
Introduction of attendees
A brief summary on Linux
    history, vendors (RedHat, Suse, Caldera, etc.), versions Suse 6.4, 7.0??
Our training platform
    Laptop/PC, Suse 7.0 for Intel

2. Installation
Suse
Brief mention of difference between Suse and RedHat installation

3. Configuration
Devices
   Network, Keyboard, Mouse, Video Card + Monitor + xWindows, Modem, Sound
Exercises

4. Simple Commands
ls, cp, rm, top, vstat, mstat, wc, |, path
Exercises

5. Basic Administration
Users, Groups, Directories, File permissions (including sticky bits)
Path, Common File locations
   binaries/executables, configuration, log, NULL
Backup
Restore
Exercises

6. Tuning
CPU
Memory
Exercises

7. Email
Qmail, Sendmail, POP3
Local/Intranet, external/Internet
Exercises

8. Internet
Apache server – configuration
Netscape client – where to find it
Telnet – configuration and DNS issues
FTP – configuration and DNS issues
xWindows – configuration (client and server), DNS issues
Exercises

9. Samba
Configuration
Security
Exercises

10. Oracle on Linux
Prerequisites
Platform of installation
   OS type and version (Suse 7.0)

Configuration (user, group, public access to binaries)
Installation
Utilities
   svrmgrl, sqlplus, lsnrctl, Enterprise Manager
Exercises

Assessment

Attendees required to fill out a form giving their opinion of the usefulness of the course

The course will be interspersed with breaks, however, we will be responsive to any suggestions from yourselves to spend more time on some topics and less on others, and perhaps to work into the breaks as well. If there is a pressing requirement, we could be persuaded to extend the session into after hours to allow for fuller participation. We intend to make this exercise a fully hands-on experience with a lot of action and laughs, so please expect attendees to roll up their sleeves and loosen their ties, our expectation is for it to be a memorable experience. The course is priced at N40K per attendee and includes access to hands on machines and course handouts; hard copies (paper) and soft copies (read-only PDF documents).

The focus of this letter is to intimate you with the details of our planned course on Linux, and it is to that system that we wish to conclude. Linux is the least exposed Operating System, in terms of security; probably because it is the newest. Many hackers contribute to its security systems, and being open source, it is more readily changed to keep up with attacks and/or technological changes. We believe, cost-savings aside, it is a reasonably stable, scalable and secure system, as well as being the fastest-evolving platform for deploying enterprise class eCommerce applications. This course aims to prepare you to tap in to this wealth of opportunity and we look forward to delivering it to you sometime soon.
Yours faithfully,

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