

The Beginning Of The End For Micro\$oft Reign Of Terror

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The world has lost faith in Micro\$oft. Most people have now realized that the seemingly never-ending problems caused by this viral operating system are the direct result of Micro\$oft's marketing strategy and shady business practices, and can be easily avoided. The very core design of windoze was based not on the best design for the user, but on the best design for Micro\$oft's business.

To put it simply, Micro\$oft just cannot be trusted, Micro\$oft products will never work properly because Micro\$oft doesn't want them to...

German gov deal offers Linux great leap forward in Europe

By John Lettice

The Register / R.A.G.U.N.S.

Yesterday's announcement of a Linux-based cooperation agreement between IBM and Germany's ministry of the interior changes the rules of the game dramatically. Microsoft still has deals with the German government, and will undoubtedly still sell software to it and to Germany's states, but the territory covered by the agreement and the terms used by minister of the interior Otto Schily signal that Linux has already won the server war in principle, and that the German government intends it to do so in practice.

The deal initially covers the sale of IBM systems including eServer hardware running SuSE Linux to federal, state and local government in Germany. This helps IBM and SuSE, obviously, but in long term they're unlikely to be the only ones, as Schily's goals included raising "the level of IT security by avoiding monocultures," and he is of the view that the agreement will help the federal, state and local governments by allowing them to acquire open source products "quickly, easily and without complication."

The agreement also calls for IBM to and the German government to create "innovative and reusable IT solutions for the federal administration," while IBM will be setting up an open source portal

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and providing support services.

Microsoft has been making optimistic noises about its existing contracts with the German government, along with rather sour ones about the German government allegedly ignoring its own studies which (equally allegedly) "showed" that Microsoft software was superior both
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