

# Linux' Journey to the Mainstream Desktop

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## The Long Linux March to the Desktop

- 1991:** Linux introduced  
Unix X11 GUI framework ported to Linux
- 1998/99:** KDE 1.0 & GNOME 1.0 - Real GUI environments for Linux
- 2001:** Ximian Evolution 1.0 - Can be a Microsoft Exchange client
- 2002:** StarOffice 6.0 / OpenOffice 1.0 - Alternatives to MS Office  
Mozilla 1.0 - A competitive web browser  
KDE 3.0 & GNOME 2.0 - Linux GUIs become polished
- 2003:** Munich switches to Linux - Big desktop successes emerge



*It's a long haul, but Linux will end up with a significant share of the desktop*

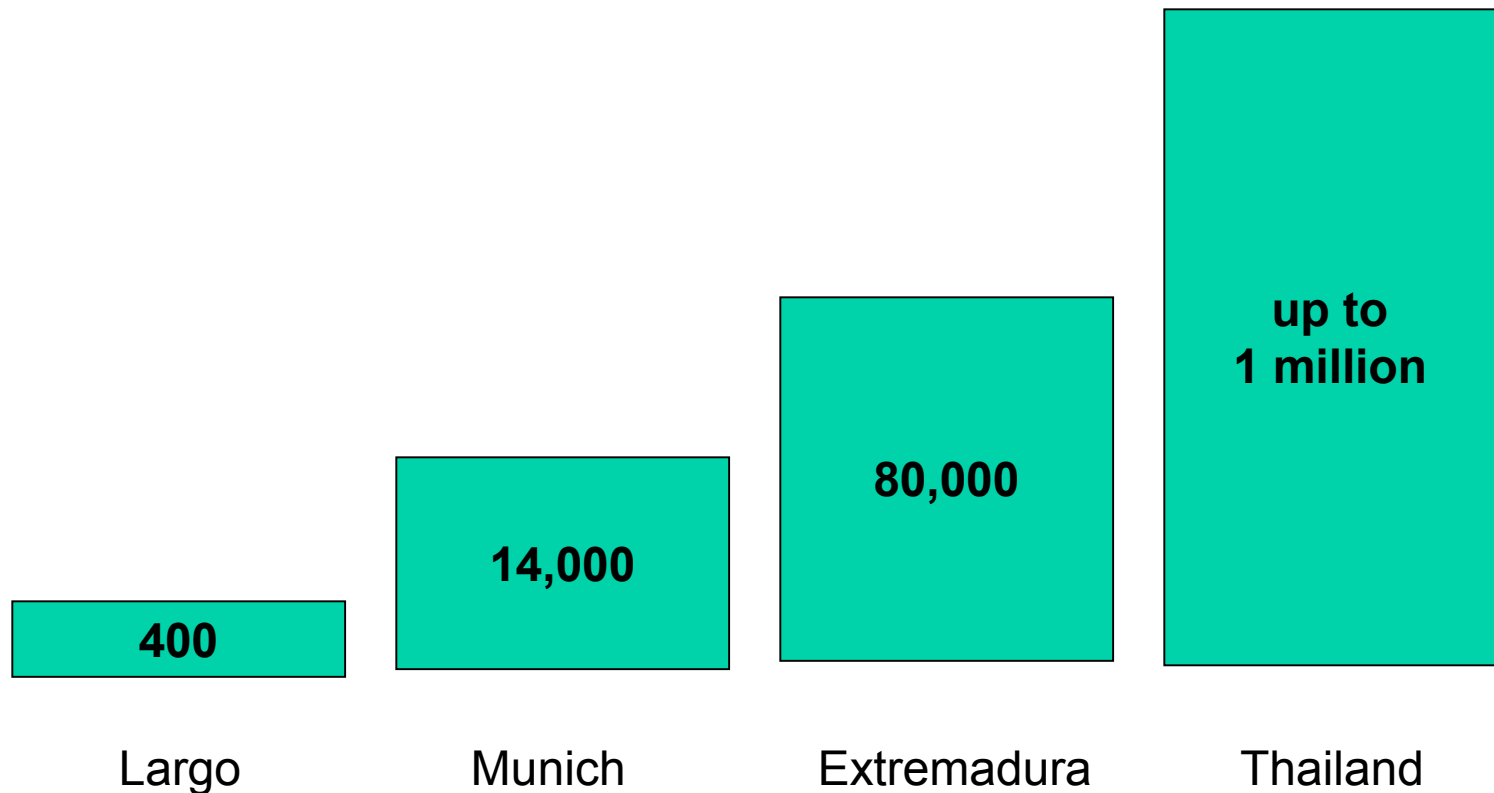
## Trends

- Linux succeeds on the server!
- We're in an era of net-centric computing
- Linux desktop offerings gain credibility
- Pressure on Microsoft
  - Falling cost of PC hardware
  - Resistance to upgrades
  - Resentment of onerous licensing terms
- Desire for open standards and level playing field



*There's an alignment of the stars that's benefiting Linux on the desktop*

## Massive Deployments



*Massive deployments of Linux desktops are happening, mostly in the public sector*



## Desktop Linux Adoption Cycle

	Phase 1:	Phase 2:	Phase 3:
Who	<b>Technical users</b>	<b>Transactional workers, Web-centric Consumers</b>	<b>K workers, Small business, Consumers</b>
When	<b>Now</b>	<b>Starting in 2004</b>	<b>Not before 2007</b>
How much	<b>Broad-scale</b>	<b>Significant</b>	<b>Some</b>



*The challenge today is for Linux to prove itself for transactional workers*

## Report Card: Hardware and Software

The desktop	<b>B</b>
Desktop developer platform	<b>C-</b>
Hardware support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Computer</li><li>- Peripheral devices (<a href="http://www.ometer.com/hardware.html">www.ometer.com/hardware.html</a>)</li></ul>	<b>B-</b> <b>D</b>
Applications	<b>C+</b>
Windows connectivity	<b>A</b>



*“Good enough” for certain classes of users,  
but much work remains to be done*

## Report Card: The Eco-System

Linux distributions	A-
Desktop platforms	A-
Developers	B
ISVs	D
OEMs	C
Distribution channels	D
Consortia	A
News and support	C



*A thriving community of open source developers, lack of commercial pickup*

## Technical Agenda

- 50%: Office file formats
  - Join'em: MS Office compatibility
  - Beat'em: An open alternative
- 30%: Strengthened foundations for the desktop
  - Importance of X
  - Missing pieces (hardware abstraction layer...)
  - Integration between various desktops
  - Standards
- 20%: Fit and Finish
  - Seamless integration between the desktops
  - Useability bug fixes



*“Much of the remaining work either spans multiple projects, or has fallen through the cracks between them”*



## Predictions

- MS price cuts
- From good to gooderer
- 10% share
- ROW leads US
- Public sector adoption as driver
- Selective adoption in enterprises
- No consumer momentum for a while



*Steady progress, More choice & better value for consumers, Tens of millions of Linux desktop users*

## Points of Leverage

<i>Leverage point</i>	<i>OSAF initiative</i>
Desktop foundations layer	Exploring ways to facilitate
Open XML file formats, Office compatibility	Fund extensive compatibility testing of Excel functions
Improved infrastructure for open source projects	Fiscal agency services as appropriate
Resources for public sector decision-makers	Start-up assistance to Opensector.org
Commercial-quality applications	Chandler



*There are no huge missing pieces, but there are things we can do to help accelerate Linux on the desktop*

# Opensector.org

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### French Atomic Energy Commission chooses Zope, Nuxeo

Posted by [Nick Arnett](#) on Monday July 07, 08:42AM

Europe:national/federal

France's Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), which operates 9 research centers with 16,000 employees, has chose [Zope](#) and [Nuxeo Collaborative Portal Server](#) for content management and collaborative work. See the [announcement](#). CEA already has 30 sites up.  
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### Austin, Texas to Begin Linux Pilot Project

Posted by [Kuroka](#) on Thursday July 03, 10:43AM

Americas:municipal

Linux-based desktops or thin clients could spell lower total cost of ownership to a budget-cutting town CIO, and he's about to find out how much lower. The story is on [Linux Journal](#).  
[Read More...](#)

### OSS loses to Microsoft in three EU contracts

Posted by [Nick Arnett](#) on Thursday July 03, 08:10AM

Europe:municipal

Microsoft beat out OSS alternatives for servers and thousands of desktops for municipal systems in Germany, Latvia and Finland, ZDNet UK (and many others) [reports](#). The wins come as Microsoft has seen its position in European governments eroding in favor of Linux and other OSS solutions, particularly for servers.  
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Posted by [Nick Arnett](#) on Thursday July 03, 08:01AM

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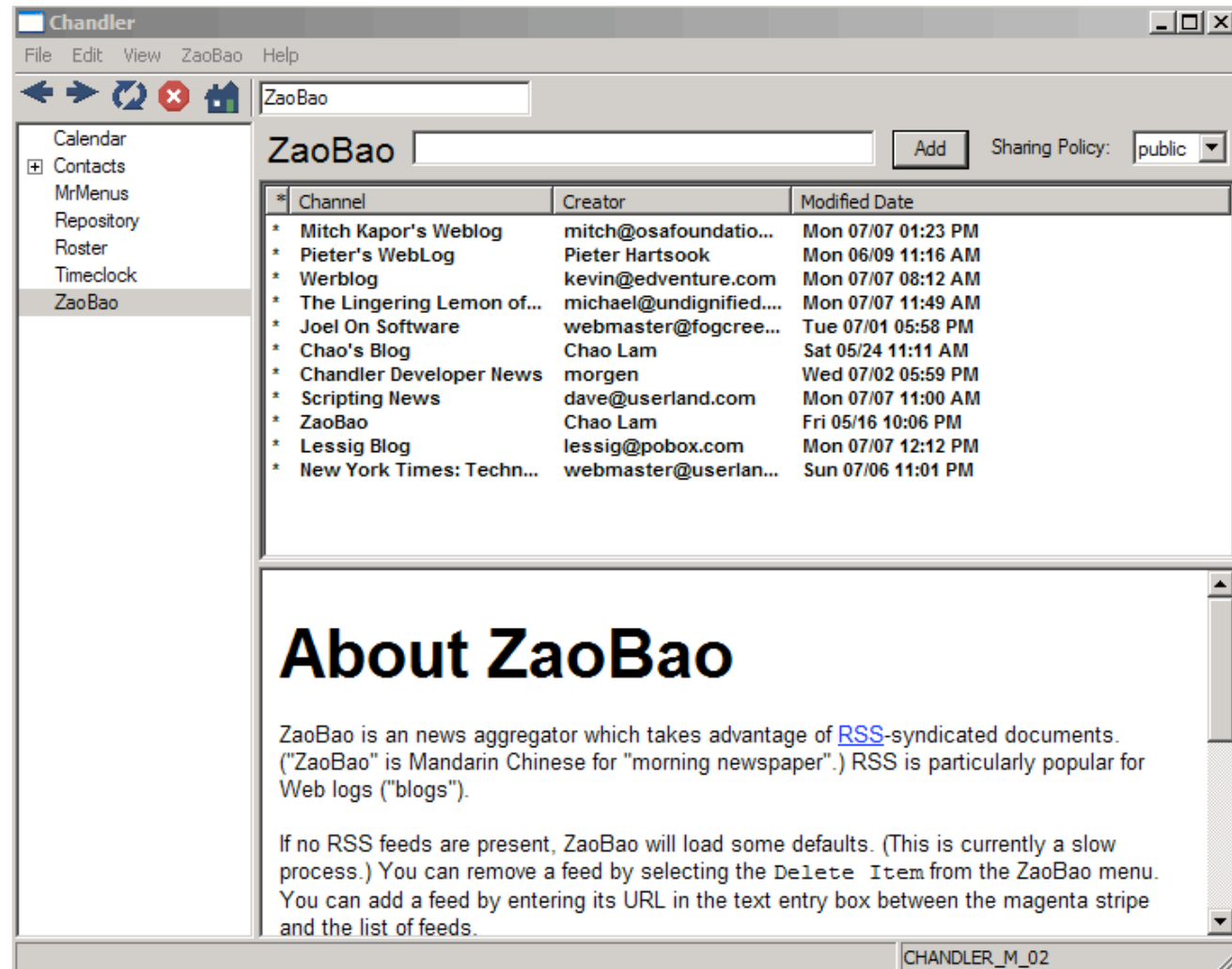
**SuccessToday - SuccessToday is in its second of a three-week series on 'Technology and Public Policy...**

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# Chandler



The screenshot shows the Chandler application window with the ZaoBao interface. The window title is "Chandler" and the menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "ZaoBao", and "Help". The address bar shows "ZaoBao". The left sidebar contains a list of items: "Calendar", "Contacts", "MrMenus", "Repository", "Roster", "Timeclock", and "ZaoBao". The main content area displays a table of feeds and an "About ZaoBao" section.

* Channel	Creator	Modified Date
* Mitch Kapor's Weblog	mitch@osafoundatio...	Mon 07/07 01:23 PM
* Pieter's WebLog	Pieter Hartsook	Mon 06/09 11:16 AM
* Werblog	kevin@edventure.com	Mon 07/07 08:12 AM
* The Lingering Lemon of...	michael@undignified...	Mon 07/07 11:49 AM
* Joel On Software	webmaster@fogcree...	Tue 07/01 05:58 PM
* Chao's Blog	Chao Lam	Sat 05/24 11:11 AM
* Chandler Developer News	morgen	Wed 07/02 05:59 PM
* Scripting News	dave@userland.com	Mon 07/07 11:00 AM
* ZaoBao	Chao Lam	Fri 05/16 10:06 PM
* Lessig Blog	lessig@pobox.com	Mon 07/07 12:12 PM
* New York Times: Techn...	webmaster@userlan...	Sun 07/06 11:01 PM

## About ZaoBao

ZaoBao is an news aggregator which takes advantage of [RSS](#)-syndicated documents. ("ZaoBao" is Mandarin Chinese for "morning newspaper".) RSS is particularly popular for Web logs ("blogs").

If no RSS feeds are present, ZaoBao will load some defaults. (This is currently a slow process.) You can remove a feed by selecting the `Delete Item` from the ZaoBao menu. You can add a feed by entering its URL in the text entry box between the magenta stripe and the list of feeds.

CHANDLER\_M\_02





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