

Software Freedom

Pragmatic Idealism?

Jonathan Oxer
President, Linux Australia

Australia:

The Clever Country

Australia:

The Clever Country

Really?

2000

Exports \$7.7B, Imports \$15B

ICT Deficit: \$7.3B

2000

Exports \$7.7B, Imports \$15B

ICT Deficit: \$7.3B

2005

Exports \$5.3B, Imports \$25B

ICT Deficit: \$19.7B



We used to create smart
innovators

Now Australia creates smart
consumers

K-12 ICT education is
focused on teaching
which buttons to click.

“We have to teach kids the software they will encounter in the workforce”

Baloney

Baloney

True learning is not rote
memorisation

Baloney

True learning is not rote memorisation of data with a use-by date.



NEW Commodore 64

WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HOME COMPUTER
FINDS AND MORE TO GO!
AND THE CUSTOMER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
FLEXIBLE, ROBUST, SAFE, BASIC
INCLUDES 400K 5.25

SUPER FLOAT

COMMODORE

MR. C

Open Source

empowers us to
understand the *how*
and the *why* as well
as the *what*.

Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

Global opportunity

Junta de Extremadura



Junta de Extremadura

Better computer/student
ratio than Australia

Junta de Extremadura

Better computer/student
ratio than Australia

Converted trade deficit
into a trade surplus

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Whole-of-government
conversion to FOSS

It's Contagious!

- The German judicial system
- Bergen Education Dept
- Munich City Council
- Deutsche Bahn (DB)
- Chinese Federal Govt
- Google
- Yahoo!
- Amazon
- Europcar International
- Credit Suisse First Boston
- Air New Zealand
- Bolzano Education Dept
- Norwegian Education Dept
- City of Bergen
- Korea Post
- Singapore MINDEF
- Allied Irish Bank
- Dept Of Veterans Affairs
- etc, etc, ...

52% of companies are replacing Windows servers with Linux servers.

Source: Forrester Research, January 2005

Local innovation

Local business

Local productivity

Global opportunity

Local innovation

+

Local business

+

Local productivity

=

Global opportunity

Linux Australia

www.linux.org.au

Non-profit association
representing and
supporting the local FOSS
community

Linux Australia

Annual linux.conf.au

Grant Scheme

Mirror Project

Linux User Group Services

Software Freedom

Pragmatic Idealism!