



Interoperability

You need to know that the choices you make today will not constrict your ability to support your business in the future—which means your IT systems must run smoothly with a variety of platforms, including UNIX*, Linux* and Windows*. When you choose SUSE® Linux Enterprise from Novell®, we'll deliver the most interoperable platform for enterprise computing available. We can help you lay the foundation for your next-generation data center.

The Most Interoperable Platform for Enterprise Computing

Your business is increasingly dependent on reliable information systems—and to get these reliable systems, you need reliable hardware and operating platforms. When you combine these elements, you can concentrate on providing high-quality applications and services quickly.

With so many operating systems and hardware architectures available, you need to know that the choices you make today will not constrict the ability to support your business in the future. And as Linux and Windows become the two dominant platforms of the future, there will be an increasing need for these operating systems to work well together and for the tools that manage them to be interoperable. Systems that lack well-developed interoperability capabilities can cause inefficiencies throughout your

enterprise. For example, limited interoperability between Linux and Windows environments, in both physical and virtual instances, can lead to server sprawl. It can also lead to redundant management tools and inefficient use of IT staff because staff.

To gain complete interoperability you need to choose an operating platform that scales to match workloads, works seamlessly with existing infrastructure investments and can be easily managed—not to mention one that works seamlessly across hardware architectures. That is why you need SUSE Linux Enterprise, the most interoperable platform for enterprise computing.

Run Mission-critical Workloads in Mixed Environments

SUSE Linux Enterprise, is the most interoperable platform for enterprise computing, from the desktop to the data center.

■ Solutions:

Interoperability

■ Products:

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

SUSE Linux Enterprise Virtual Machine

Driver Pack

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for System z

SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop



“We’re relying on the strengths of both Windows Server and SUSE Linux Enterprise to create an efficient and cost-effective mixed-source environment.”

Yoichi Tanaka

*General Manager,
Information Strategy Group,
Corporate Planning Division
Pioneer Corporation*



SUSE Linux Enterprise is the best-engineered, most interoperable platform for mission-critical applications, from the desktop to the data center.

SUSE Linux Enterprise offers a complete open source platform that works seamlessly across hardware architectures and is the only Linux operating system that has been optimized to work with Microsoft* Windows. From bidirectional virtualization to standards-based systems management and directory synchronization, interoperability is an intrinsic and differentiated capability that has been built into the fabric of the SUSE Linux Enterprise platform.

Your business needs to run and migrate mission-critical workloads across both physical and virtual Windows, Linux and UNIX platforms. And SUSE Linux Enterprise can be the foundation for your interoperable, next-generation data center that will deliver:

- *Microsoft Windows interoperability*
- *Integration with existing IT investments and directories, including UNIX*
- *Complete hardware support*

Microsoft Windows Interoperability

SUSE Linux Enterprise is the only Linux distribution endorsed by Microsoft if you want to run Linux and Windows together. With the partnership between Novell and Microsoft, the era of isolated Windows and Linux deployments is over. Novell is jointly developing new solutions with Microsoft that will make our respective products work together better. Both Microsoft and Novell are committing significant financial and staff resources to improve collaboration in bidirectional virtualization, standards-based systems management, directory and identity federation, office documents formats and accessibility

frameworks for the disabled. This partnership will yield enterprise-class interoperability solutions for the heterogeneous data center that will help you:

- **Reduce complexity.** *Manage mixed Linux and Windows deployments*
- **Increase productivity.** *Spend less time on maintenance and more time focused on projects that drive revenue*
- **Enhance flexibility.** *Choose how to provision workloads*
- **Improve support.** *Get the support resources you need to keep everything running*
- **Lower costs.** *Do more with the hardware and software you already have*

As part of this partnership with Microsoft, we have established clear leadership among Linux and open source providers on interoperability for mixed-source environments. Microsoft now officially recommends SUSE Linux Enterprise as its preferred and recommended Linux distribution—and does not endorse any other Linux vendor. So if you want the Linux platform that works best with Windows, SUSE Linux Enterprise is the clear choice.

Integration with Existing IT Investments and Directories—Including UNIX

Beyond our partnership with Microsoft, our Interoperability solution has been designed with today's data center in mind. Leveraging Samba technology, SUSE Linux Enterprise seamlessly integrates into and supports existing Windows file and print environments. In addition, it plugs into existing directory and domain infrastructures, including Microsoft Active Directory* and domains, Novell eDirectory™ and openLDAP. With its broad use of open standards, SUSE Linux Enterprise enables you to share information across any IT system so you can easily communicate between business divisions or business partners.

Novell, SUSE Linux Enterprise and UNIX have a long history together. Novell owns UnixWare, one of the earliest commercial versions of UNIX, and remains the owner of the copyright for UNIX. This means that UNIX and SUSE Linux Enterprise share a common heritage. In addition, Linux and UNIX are both open systems, which means both adhere to open standards for interoperability purposes. The most important open standard in this space is POSIX, and all current UNIX versions are POSIX-compliant, as is SUSE Linux Enterprise.

Complete Hardware Support

SUSE Linux Enterprise, supports all the leading hardware vendors. Whether you want to run it on servers or clients, on single-processor whitebox systems, on blades or on the largest mainframes, you'll find that SUSE Linux Enterprise is certified on the architectures you need. We work closely with chip-manufacturers Intel and AMD and support 32-bit and 64-bit architectures as well as the latest single- and dual-core processors. SUSE Linux Enterprise is fully certified on the latest servers, workstations, desktops and laptops from IBM, Dell, Fujitsu, HP, Lenovo, Silicon Graphics, Sun, Unisys and others.

This versatility allows SUSE Linux Enterprise to truly be the desktop to data center platform. We regularly add new features and functions in SUSE Linux Enterprise because our engineering teams are constantly meeting with their peers at our hardware partners. The teams compare product roadmaps and look for places where we can collaborate and bring new technologies to market more quickly. Our work with these hardware vendors allow us to support their new products at launch, giving you the ability to use the latest hardware immediately.

Designed with Interoperability in Mind

SUSE Linux Enterprise is the best-engineered, most interoperable platform for mission-critical applications, from the desktop to the data center. While the entire platform has been designed with interoperability in mind, a few key products have been optimized to specifically enable it, including:

- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server.** *SUSE Linux Enterprise Server is the best platform for mission-critical workloads in your data center. It includes the Xen* hypervisor, an open source virtual machine (VM) monitor that coordinates low-level interactions between virtual machines and physical hardware.*
- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Virtual Machine Driver Pack.** *This paravirtualized driver pack strengthens connectivity between guest operating systems and the underlying hypervisor. It uses additional channels of communication that improve performance and allow virtualized guests like Windows, to achieve powerful, near-native performance levels.*
- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for System z.** *Novell has tailored this powerful Linux operating system for mainframes by closely working with IBM to include enhancements requested by IBM* customers and by ensuring that it supports many of the ISV applications.*
- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop.** *SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop is the market's only enterprise-quality Linux desktop that's ready for routine business use. Developed and backed by Novell, SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop provides market-leading usability, seamless interoperability with existing enterprise systems and dozens of essential office applications.*

Interoperability

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The Novell and Microsoft partnership will yield enterprise-class interoperability solutions for the heterogeneous data center that will help you:

- Reduce complexity
- Increase productivity
- Enhance flexibility
- Improve support
- Lower costs

Interoperability is a fundamental component of today's—and tomorrow's—heterogeneous data center. And now you can take advantage of the only Linux platform recommended and endorsed by Microsoft for mixed Windows and Linux environments.

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Be Proactive with Interoperability Solutions from Novell

Interoperability is a fundamental component of today's—and tomorrow's—heterogeneous data center. And now you can take advantage of the only Linux platform recommended and endorsed by Microsoft for mixed Windows and Linux environments. SUSE Linux Enterprise can easily integrate with your existing IT infrastructures, including

Linux, and it supports a broad range of hardware architectures so you can leverage software management skills across multiple systems. Our solutions enable you to be more proactive with IT innovations that drive substantial operational improvements as well as lower costs, manage complexity and mitigate risk. For more information, visit: www.novell.com/linux/interop



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