

# RH to Debian migration

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Date: Wed, 30 Jul 2003 01:29:49 +0200 (CEST)  
To: debian-user <debian-user@lists.debian.org>

Greetings list,

I have recently taken over as the admin of a small lab at school. The current admin has graduated and gone off to grad school and today we spent the day going over the lab setup. Anyhow, the point is that I don't particularly care for the current setup (10 machines running RH 9) because of the kludges he has set up:

–Remote updating is a real pain (I know there are command line tools for this in RH, but it seems like a real pain)

–The lab director does not want to pay for support or for RH Enterprise Workstation, so they setup one RHN account, added all 10 machines and then rotate the demo entitlement amongst them to be able to run up2date for each one.

The machines are:

1 fileserver (2x80GB RAID-0) houses user home directories, is the print server  
1 firewall/web/email server runs Apache, PHP, MySQL, Horde  
8 workstations running StarOffice 6.0 (university has a site license) and  
VMWare workstation (currently 3.2 but soon 4.0)

The 8 workstations shouldn't pose a real challenge, but any recommendations would be appreciated. The real challenge is the web and file servers because they are both setup to only allow root to log in and they run X, which to me poses a major risk. I would like to transition all the machines over Debian (Sid for the 8 workstations and Woody for the two servers) while preserving the user home directories.

I would also like to setup a DHCP (I know how to do this, but would like a suggestion as to whether it belongs on the web or file server), DNS (currently each machine is named after the person that uses it and since all the IPs are static the hosts file on each must be updated after each change), and VMWare workstation for each machine (I would need some help for doing this on Debian since they don't officially support Debian as a distro).

Any other suggestions/comments/whatever would be greatly appreciated.

## Debian–User: RH to Debian migration

–Roberto

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