Re: [SLE] which suse distrib do you prefer?

Source: http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing−Lists/SuSE/2004−11/3827.html

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From: Bahram Alinezhad (*alineziad_at_yahoo.com*)
Date: 11/30/04

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Date: Mon, 29 Nov 2004 15:01:19 −0800 (PST)
To: suse−linux−e@suse.com
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I've always recommended people to use the last version
of linuces, due to its fast development and
improvement; Really sorry to hear these!

Thank you for your notice,
Bahram Alinezhad,
Rudehen, Tehran, Iran.

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"Synthetic Cartoonz" (synthetoonz@bellsouth.net)
wrote:
−−−−−−−−−−
I started at 8.0 Professional, and bought every SuSE
Professional version since. I use the most peculiar
hardware I have −− my HP5295 laptop −− as the index of
success for the distro.

With 8.0 Pro hardly anything worked on the laptop. No
sound, the CD burner wouldn't burn, USB wasn't
functioning worth a darn, and the LAN wasn't working.
At that time I had just bought into running Linux
after experiencing the third Windows implosion on the
laptop in a year. So, the lack of working stuff in
8.0 left me slightly disappointed. But, I managed to
eventually make the LAN work, and figured that sooner
or later I or someone else would figure out how to get
the rest of the hardware running in this or the next
version of SuSE.

8.1 Pro and 8.2 Pro saw progressive improvements. In
8.1 the LAN worked immediately after the install,
sound and the CD−Burner also started working, tough
sound was sometimes sporadic. USB required some
personal hacking on a device by device basis. In 8.2,
the sound stopped working, but USB support increased
dramatically. Most thing I shoved into the USB port
would mount without magic incantations.

I think 9.0 Pro was really intended to be 8.3 Pro, but SuSE appeared to need to engage in Version Number Wars with other distros. That was the BEST version so far. Everything worked on the laptop. Sound was working without issue this time, and everything I needed was working happily. Some of the power management things didn't work so well, but I wasn't concerned with that, since I don't normally use the laptop without the AC power plugged in.

I think 9.1 Pro is the originally intended 9.0 Pro. I get the "dot oh" feeling of being used as someone's unpaid beta tester. Everything is working, but sometimes it works strangely. USB is the biggest problem: USB devices sometimes move locations, so I end up having to remove and recreate icons on the desktop to make mounting/opening/browsing the devices convenient.
Hotplugging USB devices often takes an irritatingly long time to recognize that something was plugged in. USB performance and reliability also took a nosedive. Devices that were working fine with 9.0 have intermittent I/O errors. Most annoying. Some recent patches and updates have fixed something, because I'm having far fewer I/O errors. (USB throughput still stinks.)
Otherwise, the only improvement I see in 9.1 is that the power management features (that I don't care about) appear to be functioning much better.

I just picked up SuSE Pro 9.2 yesterday at CompUSA and it is still on the floor next to my desk. Various computer parts are winging their way to me from a variety of Internet sellers as I write this. In the next week I plan to use 9.2 to build a file and print server for my personal linux boxes in the house (and my wife's nasty Win 98 box.) When that is done I'll start upgrading the other linux systems. to 9.2.
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