

Re: [opensuse] speaking of cloning....

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On Thu, 2007-07-05 at 12:18 -0400, James Tremblay wrote:

Dave,

I have four different model IBM's in my school ranging from pIII 1000Mhz to pIV 2.8 Ghz , currently I use one Master WinXP image for Zenworks imaging. I can't seem to find any documentation for creating this same kind of "Master Image" for SLED. I understand that Imaging will be less of an issue with Linux due to the severely lowered privilege's regarding installing software into the core operating system, but I still need to be able to overcome any form of corruption quickly. I would also like to distribute a dual boot system image for few years. How do automate the local host name change for Zenworks importing and management?

With different hardware any image of the windows part of the drive will be a problem. You will need safe mode and to fuss with drivers. For SuSE its much easier boot to mode 3; run SaX2 -l; init 5; login as root at which point the different hardware will be found click yes for the reconfiguration and your fine. I installed 9.2 this way on a PIII and moved the disk to the PII because the PIII had the DVD.

As I remember Zenworks like VMware is for running multiple OS in parallel.

But first you want an image for SLED and to dual boot. There I think its easier first start with your XP partition on what we will call the primary system which would be on hda1 and I assume no file exchange partition as users will have flash drives. Second partition the rest of the drive as an extended partition into which you will use Yast/Custom partitioning for the logical partitions for Linux.

I recommend using the standard four, /boot / swap and /home as hda5, hda6, hda7 and hda8 respectively.

Now here its tricky DVD backup will fail over time due to media failure so consider it temporary, harddrives can fail but overtime they have a longer shelf life than the ten years commonly assumed for CDR and DVDR. So backup your backup at least yearly and make incrementals if you make small changes. You can also mirror the drive onto another drive say in a USB inclosure. Yes you want to be paranoid.

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Now for that master image of the dual booting drive you just created.

As long as the target device is the same or larger than the source you can use device-device to copy /dev/hda to /dev/hdb thats not just one partit