

## Re: Linux alternative to m\$ abscess?

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.misc/2004-08/2417.html>

---

**From:** Jean-David Beyer ([jdbeyer\\_at\\_exit109.com](mailto:jdbeyer_at_exit109.com))

**Date:** 08/29/04

Date: Sun, 29 Aug 2004 07:35:20 -0400

Sean wrote (in part):

> *Maybe you think you are a superior being by virtue of your highly  
> skilled cli abilities.*

I see the advantages of a CLI for some things, and a GUI for others. For example, I greatly prefer Mozilla to Lynx for browsing web sites as they are constructed these days. And I greatly prefer a CLI for some other things (where a simple shell script will do what would take hours of pointing and clicking with a GUI).

> *I'll give you a hint, you are a dinosaur.*

I suppose I am, even though that remark was not directed to me. It might as well be.

When I was running Windows 95, I bought Microsoft Office Professional. I paid extra for the "Professional" where the only difference was that it included Microsoft Access. Now I had a lot of database experience (I even wrote a relational dbms for Unix in the late 1970s). But I failed to get a particular (fairly simple) database designed in Access because it complained that the relationships I tried to impose among the relations were incorrect. I gave up and got Linux and had no trouble defining the very same database in PostgreSQL. I abandoned PostgreSQL because in 1998 or so, it was too buggy. I switched to Informix where I had no trouble defining that same database and not much trouble converting it from PostgreSQL. When I upgraded from Red Hat Linux 5.0 to RHL 6.0, Informix quit. And Informix would not support it on RHL 6.0, so I moved to IBM DB2 UDB V6.1. Here too, I had no trouble getting the database defined and converted from Informix. Now all these database management systems, except Microsoft Access, ran CLIs and if they had a GUI, I never noticed.

> *And yes the CLI has it's advantages, but the earth is moving toward the  
> gui and you had better move with it or you will be extinct.*  
>

I do not doubt you are right, but in some cases I believe that it is just a detour that will have to be undone.

comp.os.linux.misc: Re: Linux alternative to m\$ abscess?

--

```
.~. Jean-David Beyer          Registered Linux User 85642.  
/V\          Registered Machine 241939.  
/( )\ Shrewsbury, New Jersey http://counter.li.org  
^^-^^ 07:15:00 up 16:29, 4 users, load average: 4.10, 4.12, 4.14
```