

# Ten Reasons to Choose SUSE™ LINUX over Microsoft® Windows\*



Face it. It's just not fun being a Microsoft® Windows® customer these days. Support programs change seemingly overnight. Maintenance contracts turn into multi-year commitments. And what do you really know about Longhorn?

Don't assume that you have to "upgrade" to Windows 2003 just because Microsoft says you have to do it. You have a choice. SUSE™ LINUX from Novell offers reliability and outstanding performance at a lower cost than Windows. According to Cybersource, companies save an average of 34 percent in total cost of ownership by replacing Windows with Linux\* on existing hardware.<sup>1</sup>

SUSE LINUX offers the comprehensive functionality needed to power your networks and keep your users productive. Plus, SUSE LINUX provides you with the flexibility and cost advantages of open source computing. And SUSE LINUX is backed by a global commercial software vendor with support programs and partnerships.

**Check out these ten reasons why you should migrate from Windows to Linux:**

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**01 Tighten your security.** When you move to Linux, you move to a secure operating system. Period. It's called security by transparency. The Linux security model makes it more difficult for malicious software to undermine system integrity. Plus, with Linux, developers around the world are constantly looking at the source code and making improvements. If a security gap is discovered, the community quickly publishes code to close the vulnerability, so criminals don't waste their time writing viruses for Linux. Imagine what you'll do with all the time you'll save by skipping "Windows Patch Tuesday."<sup>2</sup>

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**02 Save money on hardware.** Typically, the largest cost in any IT implementation is the hardware. With SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 9 from Novell, you can extend the life of your existing hardware while improving your system performance. In fact, one study shows SUSE LINUX "doubles the performance of Windows 2003 on the exact same hardware."<sup>3</sup> Moving from NT or Windows 2000 to Windows Server 2003 usually requires new hardware, and Longhorn will almost certainly require another hardware upgrade. No matter what server you run today, if it runs Windows, then you can run Linux on it.

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1 [http://members.iinet.net.au/~cybersrc/about/linux\\_vs\\_windows\\_tco\\_comparison.pdf](http://members.iinet.net.au/~cybersrc/about/linux_vs_windows_tco_comparison.pdf)  
2 <http://www.itjungle.com/two/two020905-story01.html>  
3 <http://www.flexbeta.net/main/printarticle.php?id=81>

4 [http://www.osdl.org/lab\\_activities/carrier\\_grade\\_linux](http://www.osdl.org/lab_activities/carrier_grade_linux)  
5 <http://www.microsoft.com/resources/ngscb/default.mspx>

**03 Avoid Active Directory\*.** It's expensive. It's bulky. It's complicated to deploy. It only runs on Windows. Why put it in your enterprise? Award-winning Novell eDirectory™ is a robust, scalable enterprise directory that can be deployed across mixed environments, including SUSE LINUX, NetWare®, Windows and UNIX\* systems. Don't lock into Windows. Go open.

**04 Improve Reliability.** Imagine a world where reboots were not part of your daily task list. That's what Linux can do for you. SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 9 conforms to the Carrier Grade Linux 2.0 standards, just another example of its outstanding robustness and reliability. With SUSE LINUX, uptime can be measured in years, not hours or days. SUSE LINUX Enterprise Server 9 offers "five nines" reliability—the best you can get in the industry.<sup>4</sup>

**05 Eliminate multiple licenses.** How many licenses do you need? Microsoft charges you for the server and then charges you for client access licenses (CALs) for users to access the server. It's a double whammy. CALs often end up costing you more than the server licenses. With SUSE LINUX, you pay just one license fee for the server, regardless of the number of users who login.

**06 Get what you pay for.** With Windows, you get the operating system, basic networking and an application framework. To acquire critical services such as relational databases and virtualization, Microsoft makes you buy additional products. With SUSE LINUX, you get a complete set of network services, including Apache, Samba, openLDAP and others, plus reliable relational databases like MySQL\* and PostgreSQL. That's the entire LAMP stack, included in the box. Any way you look at it, you get more of what you need and at the right price.

**07 Protect your critical data— today.** You can't open the newspaper these days without reading about yet another security attack. With Microsoft, you have to continually patch your servers to keep intruders out. And you'll have to wait until Longhorn to gain the benefits of new Next-Generation Secure Computing Base (NGSCB) technology.<sup>5</sup> With Novell, there's a better way. Novell® AppArmor provides enterprise class, host intrusion prevention solutions natively for SUSE LINUX. Using technology based on DARPA funded research, Novell AppArmor uses application behavior enforcement to protect operating systems and applications from both known and unknown vulnerabilities. Which means you'll never have to worry about a rogue application crashing your network again.

**08 Choose the right tools for the job.** Microsoft's development strategy is built around technologies that only run on Windows, such as Visual Basic and .NET. With Novell, there's a better way. SUSE LINUX embraces multiple development tools, environments and languages from PERL to Java\* to C#. In fact, today many of the most advanced development tools, compilers and runtime engines are targeted at the Linux platform. When you switch from Windows to SUSE LINUX, you'll be moving your developers to a world without bias. That's real IT flexibility.

**09 See the future.** Novell combines the benefits of open source with the commercial accountability of an established, global software company. With SUSE LINUX, you can see the Linux code. You can update it when you want, or you can wait for Novell to package it for you periodically. SUSE LINUX is easy to use, it's been thoroughly tested and it comes with a predictable and reliable roadmap.

**10 Don't let your vendor hold your business hostage.** Linux is an open platform. Which means that we have to earn your business every day. And we do that by providing the best tech support, consulting and training in the industry. Your IT environment is as important to us as it is to you. Our support staff will be there when you need us—whether it's for a critical patch, a last-minute fix or assistance with a middle-of-the-weekend upgrade.

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482-001016-002