

# Linux Watch

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AT&T and then sold it to the Santa Cruz Operation, SCO's predecessor, claims that it owns the Unix copyrights under its deal with Santa Cruz, which transferred to SCO when SCO acquired the old SCO's Unix business.

The issue is pretty much key to the whole megillah.

SCO's original slander-of-title suit against Novell stems from Novell's badmouthing SCO's claim to own the Unix copyrights.

SCO says the 1995 Novell-Santa Cruz deal contained a provision that licensed back Unix to Novell but prohibited Novell from distributing the "licensed-back technology in (a) any operating system in competition with SCO's core server products or (b) in any product in which that technology constitutes a primary portion of the value of the product."

Thanks to IBM, the core value of Linux is SCO's Unix widgetry, according to SCO, and that makes Novell guilty of breaking its non-compete. And Novell is also infringing SCO's copyrights "by copying, reproducing, modifying, sublicensing, and/or distributing the licensed-back technology, contrary to the express terms" of its deal with Santa Cruz.

The court has got to agree to hear any amended complaints. It refused to hear SCO's third amended complaint in its case against IBM, a sore loss for the little company.

SCO's filing says it's adding the infringement charge now because Novell's countersuit against SCO raised the volume up on their argument.

In March of 2004 SCO sued AutoZone for violating its "Unix copyrights by running versions of the Linux operating system that contain code, structure, sequence and/or organization from SCO's proprietary Unix System V code." That case is still pending.

## Mainsoft & IBM Team on Linux Migration

Mainsoft, the cross-platform development house and friend of Microsoft, announced a partnership with IBM Wednesday to help Windows customers cross over to Linux.

The program is designed to expand the Linux ecosystem by offering Windows customers greater flexibility to choose Linux for large-scale enterprise deployments.

Mainsoft says applications written for Windows web and server apps can run on Linux on IBM's line of eServer platforms supporting IBM WebSphere Application Servers without having to be rewritten or having Microsoft Visual Studio developers retrained in Java. It says it will pave the way to Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) implementations.

Mainsoft claims to substantially reduce the investment needed by .NET software vendors that have products for Windows servers to offer solutions built on an open source stack of Linux and WebSphere.

It means using Mainsoft's Visual MainWin 1.7 for J2EE, a single source code development solution for the .NET and J2EE platforms that integrates seamlessly into the Visual Studio .NET development environment and lets C# and Visual Basic .NET developers develop and maintain web apps and servers on both platforms throughout their lifecycle.

Version 1.7 has been validated by IBM's Server Proven program. It enhances porting capabilities and comes with a comprehensive J2EE implementation of the .NET framework that now includes Drawing, Remoting and Directory Services as well as support for Infragistics's NetAdvantage 2005 Web controls.

The new release also supports WebSphere Application Server 6,

WebSphere Application Server 6 Express and WebSphere Application Server 5.1 and can be used to create portal applications for IBM WebSphere Portal Server 5. The stuff works on all IBM servers including mainframes.

Mainsoft Professional Services will port .NET web and server applications to run on WebSphere software and other J2EE-enabled platforms on a fixed-time, fixed-cost basis, and validate them as eServer-compatible. .NET ISVs can get free access to IBM's system and Linux distribution resources and middleware, as well as troubleshooting support for Visual Basic .NET and C# applications running on eServers and IBM middleware.

Mainsoft reports a growing demand for its cross-platform solutions. Ninety percent of Visual Studio developers that visit Mainsoft's developer zone (<http://dev.mainsoft.com>) want to take their existing .NET applications to Linux and across other Java-enabled platforms.

"For large-scale deployments, a growing number of software vendors and developers want to extend their existing Windows applications to J2EE and Linux, without having to rewrite their applications or expand their skill sets," said Mainsoft CEO Yaacov Cohen. "Mainsoft has a 12-year track record of solving our customers' portability challenges. Together with IBM, we deliver an easy, cost-effective solution to compile Windows applications to multiple Linux platforms."

Early adopters such as Pacific Edge Software, Above All Software and Comtec are reportedly working with Mainsoft and IBM to offer their solutions on multiple eServer platforms.

The pair are targeting system integrators as well as ISVs dangling the incentive of doubling their market share.

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