today's leftovers

By Roy Schestowitz
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- Microsoft quietly cuts off Win7 support for older Intel computers [2]

  If you have a Pentium III, for example, you may no longer be able to install Win7 Monthly Rollups or Security-only patches, in spite of Microsoft's promise to support you until January 2020. It's all about SSE2 and some retroactively fudged documentation. Will anybody notice?

- Tracy Rosenberg on ICE's Corporate Collaborators, Patty Lovera on the Undercovered Farm Bill [3]

  This week on CounterSpin: ?As a company, Microsoft is dismayed by the forcible separation of children from their families at the border,? the global tech company declared in a statement. ?Family unification has been a fundamental tenet of American policy and law since the end of World War II.?' The same Microsoft bragged a few months ago about ICE's use of its Azure cloud computing services to ?accelerate facial recognition and identification? of immigrants, though the post has since been altered to omit the phrase ?we?re proud to support this work with our mission-critical cloud.?

- SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 Announced As a Modular Operating System for Businesses [4]

  SUSE announced the release of the long-anticipated SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 operating system for businesses and organizations of all sizes, bringing new features, updated components, and state-of-the-art GNU/Linux technologies.
Fedora To Deprecate YUM in Fedora 29 Release [5]

Many Linux users familiar with Fedora, CentOS, and Red Hat Enterprise Linux are familiar with YUM, but are oblivious to its origins in the much lesser known Yellowdog Linux, a now discontinued PowerPC variant of CentOS. And now, it seems, YUM is heading in the same direction.

Fourth GSoC Report [6]

As announced in the last report, i started looking into SSO solutions and evaluated and tested them. At the beginning my focus was on SAML integration, but i soon realized that OAuth2 would be more important.

I started with installing Lemonldap-NG. LL-NG is a WebSSO solution written in perl that uses ModPerl or FastCGI for delivering Webcontent. There is a Debian package in stable, so the installation was no problem at all. The configuration was a bit harder, as LL-NG has a complex architecture with different vhosts. But after some fiddling i managed to connect the installation to our test LDAP instance and was able to authenticate against the LL-NG portal. Then i started to research how to integrate an OAuth2 client. For the tests i had on the one hand a gitlab installation that i tried to connect to the OAuth2 providers using the omniauth-oauth2-generic strategy. To have a bit more fine grained control over the OAuth2 client configuration i also used the python requests-oauthlib module and modified the web app example from their documentation to my needs. After some fiddling and a bit of back and forth on the lemonldap-ng mailinglist i managed both test clients to authenticate against LL-NG.

Automation & Risk [7]

Linaro created the LAVA (Linaro Automated Validation Architecture) project in 2010 to automate testing of software using real hardware. Over the seven years of automation in Linaro so far, LAVA has also spread into other labs across the world. Millions of test jobs have been run, across over one hundred different types of devices, ARM, x86 and emulated. Varied primary boot methods have been used alone or in combination, including U-Boot, UEFI, Fastboot, IoT, PXE. The Linaro lab itself has supported over 150 devices, covering more than 40 different device types. Major developments within LAVA include MultiNode and VLAN support. As a result of this data, the LAVA team have identified a series of automated testing failures which can be traced to decisions made during hardware design or firmware development. The hardest part of the development of LAVA has always been integrating new device types, arising from issues with hardware design and firmware implementations. There are a range of issues with automating new hardware and the experience of the LAVA lab and software teams has highlighted areas where decisions at the hardware design stage have delayed deployment of automation or made the task of triage of
automation failures much harder than necessary.