

MEPIS may be going Ubuntu

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Created 09/02/2006 - 9:02pm

Submitted by srlinuxx on Thursday 9th of February 2006 09:02:11 PM Filed under [Ubuntu](#) [1]

MEPIS, one of the more popular Debian-derived distributions, may be moving in a new direction soon. MEPIS founder Warren Woodford is considering building future MEPIS releases from Ubuntu sources rather than from Debian.

SimplyMEPIS 3.4-3, which is scheduled for release today, has been quite a challenge to build, according to Woodford. "It's taking up all my time, fighting the Etch pool.... We've had a lot of trouble, because the Debian community has become so active, it's been difficult to get this out, so I'm looking at alternatives to getting out stable releases."

For example, Woodford noted that udev support has been slow to stabilize throughout Etch, which has caused problems in building a stable MEPIS distro based on Etch. "There's not anything to fault, it's simply the fact that Debian is more engineering conscious, and has a more methodical approach to getting a release out every year and a half.... It's not that Etch is broken, but just that Etch is changing a lot."

While Woodford stressed that the rapid change going on in Debian is good for the Debian project itself, he noted that it does make it more difficult for those who might want to base a distribution on Debian Etch.

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