

Peerless Finds Linux

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Companies rely on technology for marketing, human resources, supply chain and numerous other applications, and as a rule, executives understand the tasks these singular tools execute and comprehend their cost-cutting benefits.

But when it comes to the core of mission-critical computing, the very operating systems that make everything go, many companies don't have a clue about the costs or benefits of options like SUSE Linux Enterprise or UNIX Operating System.

"If you look at the garment industry, most of the industry has less than 1 percent of an IT budget," says Joffrey Bienvenue, IT infrastructure and operations manager for Peerless Clothing, the largest domestic producer of men's fine-tailored clothing in the United States. "We have to be a bit more creative and try to find ways to save money."

The Peerless IT Story

Peerless works with labels like Calvin Klein, DKNY, Bill Blass and Sean John, designing and manufacturing suits and paying royalties to the labels. Peerless must follow label specifications, "the type of fabric we will use, the style," Bienvenue says. "Most of our production is done overseas, and so one of our challenges right now is collaboration with our factory."

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