

Does SUSE Linux Have A Future?

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Remember SUSE? Way back when it was the cutting-edge Linux distribution, and held its own with Red Hat. But that was a long time ago, long before Microsoft adopted it as its pet and Attachmate took it over as part of its Novell acquisition. With Red Hat dominating the enterprise Linux server market, Canonical owning the Linux desktop market, and Google's Android running roughshod over everyone in the mobile market, what, exactly, is left for SUSE?

In The Clouds

Cloud, perhaps? After all, Alan Clark, director of Industry Initiatives, Emerging Standards and Open Source at SUSE, and a friend of mine, was elected in 2012 to chair the OpenStack Foundation board. OpenStack seems to have real momentum, but ever since Red Hat got involved, it's hard to see OpenStack turning out much different from Linux, where Red Hat wins in part because it's such an active contributor. Already Red Hat has gone from a somewhat light contributor to the third-highest contributor after Rackspace (OpenStack's founder) and HP.

SUSE? It barely makes the list of top-10 contributors.

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