I have covered Microsoft's interference with FOSS for over a decade and carefully studied even pertinent antitrust documents. I know the company's way of thinking when it comes to undermining their competition, based on internal communications and strategy papers. Even days ago we got this in the news.

The pattern of embrace and extend (to extinguish) -- all this while leveraging software patents to make Linux a Microsoft cash cow or compel OEMs to preinstall privacy-hostile Microsoft software/apps with proprietary formats (lockin) -- never ended. What I see in the Linux Foundation right now is what I saw in Nokia 5 years ago and in Novell 10 years ago -- the very thing that motivated me to start Boycott Novell, a site that has just turned 10 with nearly 22,000 blog posts.

It is a saddening day because it's a culmination, after years of Microsoft 'micro' payments to the Linux Foundation (e.g. event sponsorship in exchange for keynote positions), which will have Microsoft shoved down the throats of GNU/Linux proponents and give an illusion of peace when there is none, not just on the patent front but also other fronts (see what Microsoft's partner Accenture is doing in Munich right now). The links below are a complete list of the bad (in my view very bad) news.

"We need to slaughter Novell before they get stronger?.If you're going to kill someone, there isn't much reason to get all worked up about it and angry. You just pull the trigger. Any discussions beforehand are a waste of time. We need to smile at Novell while we pull the trigger."

--Jim Allchin, Microsoft's Platform Group Vice President

In the news today:

- Microsoft Steps Up Its Commitment to Open Source
Today The Linux Foundation is announcing that we’ve welcomed Microsoft as a Platinum member. I’m honored to join Scott Guthrie, executive VP of Microsoft’s Cloud and Enterprise Group, at the Connect(); developer event in New York and expect to be able to talk more in the coming months about how we’ll intensify our work together for the benefit of the open source community at large.

- Microsoft Joins The Linux Foundation As A Platinum Member [4]

- Microsoft’s Linux love affair leads it to join The Linux Foundation [5]

  No, this isn't The Onion and it's not April Fool's Day. Microsoft has joined The Linux Foundation.

  Microsoft announced that it was joining forces with The Linux Foundation at the Microsoft Connect developer event in New York.

- Microsoft announces the next version SQL Server for Windows and Linux [6]

- Microsoft joins The Linux Foundation as a Platinum member [7]

- Microsoft joins the Linux Foundation [8]

- Microsoft?yes, Microsoft?joins the Linux Foundation [9]

- THE END TIMES ARE HERE: Microsoft embraces Google, Apple, Samsung and even Linux in one go [10]

- Microsoft’s open source love fest continues as it joins Linux Foundation [11]
Microsoft announces the public preview of the next release of SQL Server on Linux and Windows

Microsoft Joins Linux Foundation, Google Joins .NET Community

Microsoft just joined the Linux Foundation as a Platinum member

Linux has won, Microsoft joins the Linux Foundation

Microsoft is joining the Linux foundation as a platinum member

Microsoft joins Linux Foundation, Google added to .NET community

Microsoft seeks to grow Azure platform with products, partnerships

Microsoft Joins Linux Foundation As Platinum Member

Microsoft Fortifies Commitment to Open Source, Becomes Linux Foundation Platinum Member

Microsoft contributes to open ecosystem by joining Linux Foundation and welcoming Google to the .NET community

Linux Academy Partners with Microsoft Visual Studio Dev Essentials Program

Microsoft Joins the Linux Foundation as the World Remains the Right Side Up
Microsoft is hosting its annual Connect(); developer event in New York today. With .NET being at the core of many of its efforts, including on the open-source side, it’s no surprise that
the event also featured a few .NET-centric announcements...

- Samsung launches Visual Studio Tools for Tizen preview, lets developers build apps with .NET
- Microsoft joins the Linux Foundation, welcomes Google to .NET community
- Microsoft releases SQL Server Preview for Ubuntu and Red Hat Enterprise Linux
- Microsoft says Linux is no longer 'cancer,' joining Foundation

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Links: