

Bristol centre to offer Linux support

LINUX IT this month opened a managed services and support suite in Bristol, UK.

Aimed at premier government and enterprise organisations, the centre will provide professional support for Linux.

"Linux IT is committed to the success of our customers, from FTSE 100 leaders to small and medium size businesses," said Peter Dawes-Huish, CEO. "We have built an award winning support suite with the organisation, individuals, skills and procedures to meet the most challenging requirements of our customers."

Mark Reynolds, technical services manager, added: "One of

our key differentiators is ownership. Substantiated by our service level agreement, we take responsibility for customers' issues and ensure that we coordinate our efforts with both hardware and software suppliers as necessary. The focus is always on getting the problem fixed."

The suite provides two support offerings. First is enterprise Linux support, with more than 50 certified Linux engineers. The support suite averages a rapid 30min fix using remote interrogation and analysis.

Secondly, the integrated managed services and network operations centre facilitates the



Linux IT support centre in Bristol

delivery of end-to-end monitoring and systems management. The team focusses on the proactive analysis of systems and to solve problems around the clock

before the customer experiences downtime.

Linux IT will shortly be announcing a series of open days at the centre.

DDS compliant interface should help Clip programme

REAL-TIME INNOVATIONS is collaborating with Northrop Grumman to develop a data distribution service (DDS)-compliant interface to the Clip common link integration processing system.

Clip enables the exchange of information between air force and navy platforms that natively support incompatible tactical data links (TDLs).

It also provides TDL processing for platforms that do not have a data link by bridging the legacy host mission computer's software to the new TDL radio terminal. DDS provides a stan-

dards-complaint mechanism for accessing data using COTS DDS software, which is already broadly used within the military.

Clip solves interoperability problems by providing a common interface for multiple TDLs and a bridge so legacy platforms can connect to the standard IP-based systems. Its common TDL software reduces platform-development and lifecycle-maintenance costs.

When deployed, Clip makes it possible for military systems to communicate seamlessly with one another and with the aggregated data analysis and display

systems, thus enabling integration with the Global Information Grid.

DDS provides a network-centric interface to Clip, easing integration of new and legacy TDLs. The interface also complies with Nesi guidelines.

"Working with RTI has been both effective and productive," said Jim Miller, Northrop Grumman programme manager for Clip. "We were able to design and build a system that meets the demanding goals of the Clip programme while also adhering to Nesi requirements."

The Clip programme is under-

going system testing and pilot projects in preparation for initial production deployments next year.

"We're excited about our work with Northrop Grumman on the Clip programme," said Stan Schneider, CEO of RTI. "The combined capabilities of Clip and DDS provide a highly scalable infrastructure for mission-critical applications, with all the advantages of an open, standards-based architecture. This will provide both significant interoperability and long-term cost savings for current and future platforms."

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