# Open Source Alternatives Options to Commercial Software



**Pat Hartley Technology Director** Hampshire Educational Collaborative

## **Today's Topics – Two Goals**

- Discussion of possible alternative software solutions for building infrastructure without using commercial software.
   Show the maturity of free Open Source Software
- Project Background (Then vs Now)
- Open Source Concepts
- TCO Information
- Specific Application Comparisons
  - Network Operating Systems
  - Website/Content Management
  - Email Groupware w/Calendaring
  - Course Management
- Future Projects
- **Q/A** 12/2/06



## **Project Background – Pre HEC**

- Manager of Network Services – Evergreen
- 25,000 Students and 3000 Staff
- 36 Urban Sites
- Completely Commercial Infrastructure
  - 100 + Windows Servers
    DEC Alpha & AlX
  - DEC Alpha & AIX
- IT Department Staff of 40



## **Project Background – HEC Pre 2005**

- Technology Director 2005
- Regional ESA
- Many Rural Sites
- Single Novell Server
- ISP Provided Email and Web Services
- 430+ Email Accounts
- 13 Databases
- IT Department Staff of 1



## **Project Background – HEC Today**

 All of the Collaborative's infrastructure is based in Free Open Source software.

- Email and Web are Internal
- Employing Content Management System
- Providing Hosting for Email, Web, Etc.
- Established MassDLN.net
- Converting Databases to Common Format

## HECTek

## **The Open Source Concept**

- "Open Source" describes practices in production and development that promote access to the end product's source materials—typically, their source code.
- The open source model is typically decentralized in contrast with models often used in commercial software companies.
- Open Source Software is the most recognizable term.
- The concept is not limited to computer technology.
  - Agriculture
  - Manufacturing
  - Health and Science
  - Music



#### More on Open Source

#### GNU Licensing Agreement (GPL)

- FSF Major Supporter
- 60-75% OS Falls under this Agreement
- Freedom to copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software
- Commercial Open Source
  - Enhanced Value Packages
  - Commercial Support Agreements
  - Operating Systems
    - Novell Suse Enterprise
    - Redhat LINUX
- Possible revenue streams for ESAs?





Pat Hartley - HEC

## **TCO Information - Technology**

- Total Cost of Ownership
  Controversial topic Requires analysis.
- Linux as an Example
  - Approx 36% savings using Linux over Windows/Novell
    Especially notable in web services.
- In moving more services to the web, savings may be substantial.
- Numbers are scaled by size of the organization.
- Does not account for migration, only new builds.
- Presentation Costs = Street Pricing



## **Network Operating Systems**

#### File and Print Services

#### Windows 2003

- Active Directory
- MS DNS
- MS CALs
- Backup Software
- Management Software ?
- Cost for 30 Clients : \$2799

- Ubuntu Linux
  - LDAP
  - DNS
  - Samba for Windows
  - Amanda (Backup)
  - Webmin for Management
- Cost for 30 Clients: \$0





## Webmin Screenshot

Webmin System <u>Servers</u> Netwo	min System <u>Servers</u> Networking Hardware Cluster Others Webmin Home								
Webmin 1.300 on localhost (Ubuntu Linux 6.06.1)									
🛰 Apache Webserver	💰 BIND DNS Server	😴 CVS Server	DHCP Server						
Dovecot IMAP/POP3 Server	📭 Fetchmail Mail Retrieval	SFrox FTP Proxy	🔉 Jabber IM Server						
Majordomo List Manager	ភ្លេឆ្នាំ MySQL Database Server	🌺 OpenSLP Server	Postfix Configuration						
🕼 PostgreSQL Database Server	ProFTPD Server	💐 Procmail Mail Filter	👸 QMail Configuration						
🚌 Read User Mail	SSH Server	🎐 Samba Windows File Sharing	🧭 Sendmail Configuration						
🛞 SpamAssassin Mail Filter	🙀 Squid Analysis Report Generator	💥 Squid Proxy Server	🔍 WU-FTP Server						
Webalizer Logfile Analysis									

#### Web Services

#### For web pages and content.

Windows 2003
 IIS Services
 MS Frontpage Extensions
 ISA Server?

Ubuntu LAMP Server
 Apache Web Server
 MySQL Database
 SQUID Proxy/Cache?

Cost \$630

Cost \$0





#### Web Server Screenshot 1 - Joomla

#### Navigation

hec

about hec after school programs dys program early childhood licensure @ hec learning support & sourpfoffessional development special education student services technology @ hec

#### Latest News

- ♦ <u>Resources</u>
- Service Learning
- Special Education Consulting and Training Services
- <u>Center for English</u>
  <u>Language Education</u>
- Programs and Services
- <u>Celebrity Softball</u>
  <u>Game</u>

#### Hampshire Educational Collaborative

empowering teachers, inspiring learners

About the Hampshire Educational Collaborative Empowering Teachers. Inspiring Learners.

The Hampshire Educational Collaborative (HEC) is a catalyst for innovation and excellence in education. A nonprofit, multi-service agency, HEC offers leading-edge, high-quality programs and services to ensure that learning is accessible and engaging for our community's most vulnerable and at-risk youth. We promote lifelong



learning by educating and supporting students, teachers, and administrators through programs in early childhood, after school, special education, and adult education, as well as offering comprehensive professional development for educators. HEC is governed by school committee representatives from our 17 local member school districts.

#### Upcoming Events

search..

Fri Dec 1st @8:30am-10:00AM Principals Network Group Wed, Dec 6th, @1:00pm-03:00PM Conversations About English Language Learners Mon. Dec 11th. @9:30am-11:30AM Conversations about School Outreach Mon, Dec 11th, @3:15pm-05:00PM Information Session Reading Specialist Program Tue, Jan 9th, @4:00pm-05:30PM Licensure@HEC Open House Sat, Jan 13th, @9:00am-03:00PM Assessing English Language Learners for Instruction

Events Calendar

#### Web Server Screenshot 2 – Joomla Admin

😓 controlpanel											
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	$\sim$					Logged	Componer		Latest Items	Menu Stat	s
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A	Add New Content	Content Items Manager	Static Content Manager	Frontpage Manager				1 Next > End			
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	1	<b>1</b>									
	Section Manager	Category Manager	Media Manager	Trash Manager							
	Menu Manager	Language Manager	User Manager	Global Configuration							

Joomla! is Free Software released under the GNU/GPL License.

Joomla! 1.0.10 Stable [ Sundown ] 26 June 2006 00:00 UTC

Check for latest Version

## Email and Groupware

## For Electronic Collaboration

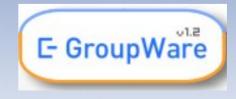
#### Novell

- Open Enterprise Server
  Groupwise 7
  Annual License Costs?
- Ubuntu Linux
  - Postfix Mail
  - LAMP Server
  - Clam A/V &SpamAssasin
  - E-Groupware

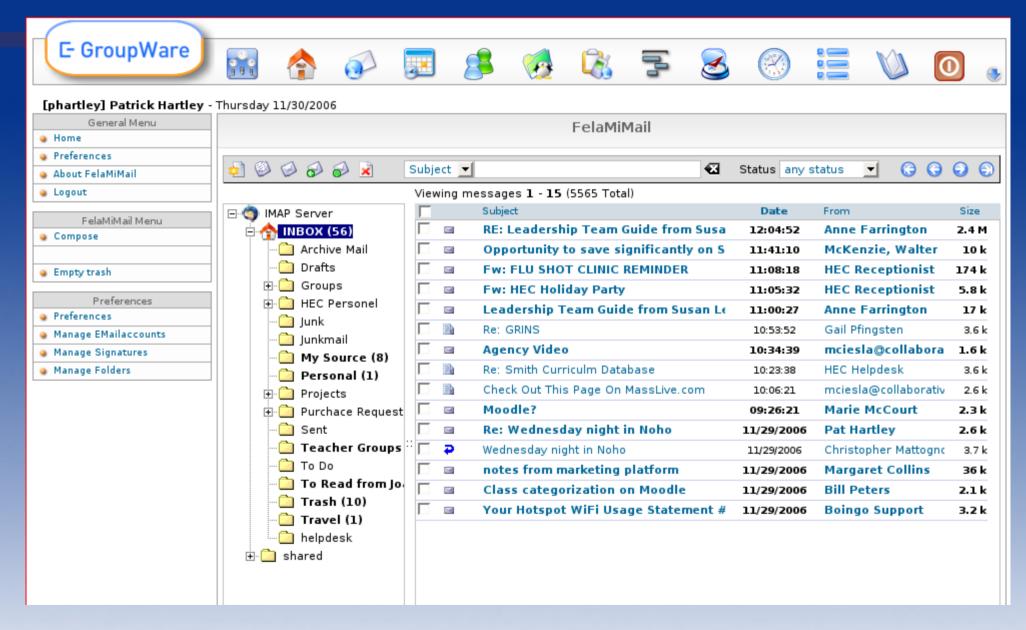
100 Seats: \$3274

100 Seats: \$0





#### E-Groupware Screenshot 1 -Email



#### *E-Groupware Screenshot 2 – Calendar*

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[phartley] Patrick Hartley									
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●Import: iCal & CSV									

#### **Course Management Software**

#### For Extending Classrooms to the Internet

Blackboard/WebCT
 2- Windows 2003 Servers
 App Server
 MS SQL Server

Moodle CMS
 Linux
 Apache
 MySQL

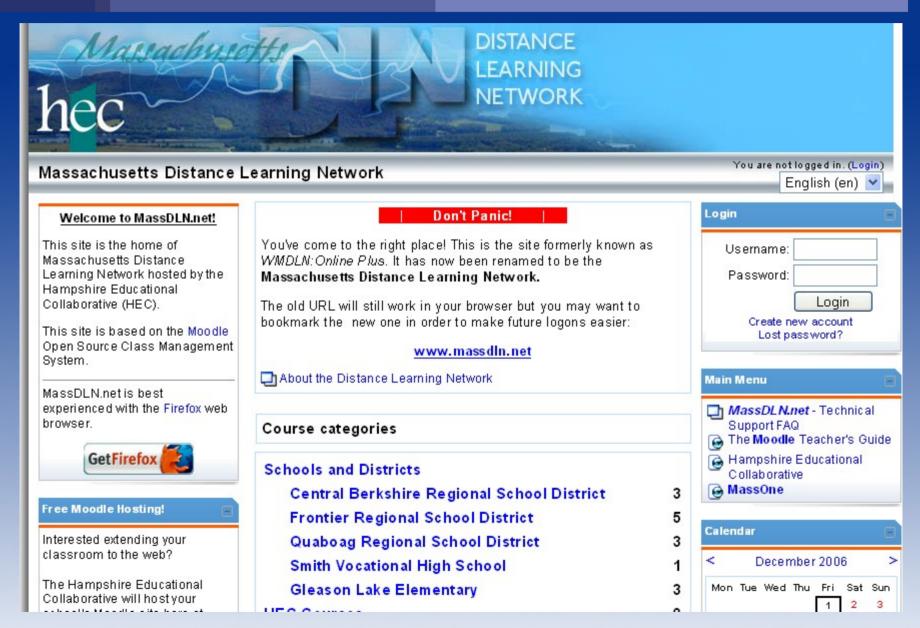
Cost
 \$3,000 to \$30,000

Cost\$0

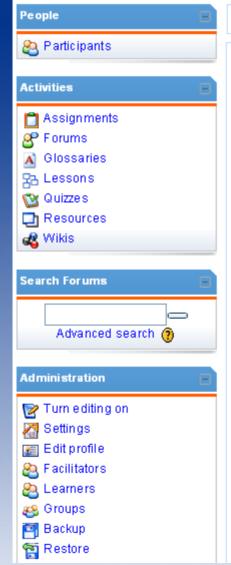




#### Moodle Screenshot 1 - MassDLN.net



#### Moodle Screenshot 2 – MassDLN.net Class



#### Weekly outline

#### Virtual Tools for Online Instruction

#### Course Syllabus: Summary

Welcome to Virtual Tools for Online Instruction! In this hands-on orientation course, we provide you with effective strategies, instructional techniques and technology tools to create, implement, and teach the online course(s) you offer through HEC. We also introduce several classroom-ready resources available through Moodle, the online course management system that HEC has put in place to host your Web-based classes and help you direct and manage student outcomes.

With estimates that nearly 300,000 high schoolers attended online classes in 2002-03 (Eduventures Inc.,) and current numbers for online courses even larger, you are no longer sailing in uncharted waters. You are, however, offering your students a unique technology-rich learning experience that will enable them to assume responsibility for their own instruction and share what they have learned through electronic communication.

The character of online (virtual) teaching and learning differs substantially from teaching and learning in a face-to-face environment. It requires qualitatively different kinds of expectations, assignments, assessments, and supports. Research shows that course facilitators, classroom teachers, learners and students are both affected by the demands of this virtual environment. Students attribute a positive learning experience to strong and consistent interaction with the instructor (course facilitator), a tightly knit and supportive interpersonal community, and timely response by course facilitators to questions they send via email. In this ten (10) week training, we explore the nature of online pedagogy, the demands of online communication and technology tools available to enhance and sustain a computer-mediated CourseRoom.

#### Target Audience

The course is directed at in-service classroom teachers in grades 9-12, professionals who provide curriculum support services in grades 9-12 settings (e.g., math specialists, reading specialists, language arts coordinators, special education providers and Title 1 specialists), pre-service teachers expecting to teach in grades K-12, and educational administrators who supervise, coordinate and assist in the delivery of K-12 instructional services and programs.

#### Course Description:

In conventional K-12 face-to-face technology professional development classes, instruction typically follows two paths. We teach the tools that you want: 1) your students to use for learning, self-assessment, research, and more, and 2) to use for instruction or your own work, i.e. digital and electronic resources that help you teach the content or information you need to teach, and resources to make you more efficient and productive.

Tech tools for learning and tech tools for teaching may be identical. For example, you may want your students to share what they have learned and the best way for them to do that is by using Microsoft PowerPoint for presentation. Or, you in your role as instructor may find PowerPoint to be your tool of choice for introducing a difficult concept or summarizing a report.

#### Future Projects

 The Collaborative will continue to explore and implement Open Source alternatives under the Commonwealth's "Open Data initiative".

- Deployment of Open Source Doc Management (2006)
- Standardization on Open Office (2006/07)
- Full Deployment of Groupware Solution (2006/07)
- Evaluating Linux on the Desktop (2007)
- IP Telephony using Asterisk (2007)
- Deployment of Open Source CRM (2007/08)

## **Open Source Adoption Considerations**

- Are you doing a new build or are you migrating?
- Why would you want to switch?
- Have you analyzed the 'hidden' costs?
- What are you running on your desktop?
- How much time do you have for education?
- What is your organizational culture like?
- What is your technology philosophy?
- Who funded your report/analysis/whitepaper?

## **Remember - TINSTAAFL!**



## **Questions and (Hopefully.. ) Answers**

## Slide Presentation and Resource List at: www.collaborative.org or

- www.teknoviking.com
- Contact Pat Hartley at:
  phartley@collaborative.org or
  pat@teknoviking.com



This presentation was produced on the Ubuntu Linux operating system using OpenOffice *Impress*, Open Clipart, and the *Gimp* Graphics Program

"Oh, yeah... 'Ooooooh, ahhhhhh !', that's how it always starts. Then later there's running and screaming."

Dr. Ian Malcolm - Jurassic Park