



Issue IV

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Notes From the Editor

Author: [Katrina D. Mukherjee](#) , [The Montopolis Group](#)

Welcome to the 4th issue of North SA Chamber's newsletter! There are some great articles in this edition! Whether you are looking to increase your websites' Search Engine ranking, want to install a free version of Linux, can't wait to hear what Larry says this month or want to go 'behind the scenes' at Kelly's Jet Engine Repairs - we've got some more "News you can Use!".

Keep your eyes open for North Chambers Tech Event coming up in November! You'll have a chance to meet some of the newsletter contributors as well as many other knowledgeable San Antonio technology leaders! Look for the upcoming flyers from the North Chamber and in the San Antonio Business Journal!!

Please [let us know](#) if there are topics you wish to be included in upcoming editions of the newsletter or if you wish to submit an article!



Linux - Overview and Free Installation Instructions (Part 1)

Author: [Phil Hopkins](#), [Hallmark Institute of Technology](#)

Most Windows users have heard about Linux but have never tried it. They may even know that Linux and the Apache webserver dominate the market for web servers (Apache with a 67% market share ? see www.netcraft.com). However for the desktop many misconceptions of Linux are bantered about such as;

"it's too difficult to install"

"it's only for servers"

"it doesn't support different types of hardware"

"it's difficult to use"

"you must know the command line"

.... and on and on.

Many of these myths were true at one time but in the last several years Linux developers have made great strides in making a Linux desktop that is easy to use and install. With the appeal of the wide number of applications - such as word processing, graphic editing and even personal finance - the average user can save several hundred dollars as opposed to having to purchase the equivalent Windows applications.

There are a wide number of different distributions (in the Linux world anyone can package together the kernel and a set of applications and release what is known as a distribution) available. A new type of distribution that will run straight from a CDROM without any install process has recently become popular. CDROM based versions of Linux will boot and run a wide variety of Linux based applications without needing to be installed onto a hard disk. They are easy to use, filled with powerful set of applications, won't damage data on the hard drive and are best of all - free to download.

Getting started with CDROM based Linux is easy. Here is a step by step guide to get Linux up and running on your PC. First before you start you will need access to a high speed internet connection to download a CDROM image (the file will be over 600Mbytes, so be sure you have enough free space on your hard drive) and a CDROM writer to copy that image to a CD or you can purchase a CD on-line for a few dollars. This article will cover the basics to get started using a Linux distribution called Knoppix which will run on about 80 to 90% of the PC's without any problems and with a few simple options many of the remaining systems will also work.

To obtain a copy of Knoppix - go to www.knoppix.net and click on the Get Knoppix tab. From there you can purchase a copy of Knoppix or download a copy for free. If you are going to download it go to one of the mirror sites and download the file - KNOPPIX_V3.6-2004-08-16-EN.iso - sure you get this file and not one that has -DE in the name as those are in German.

Now write the CD image file to a CD. Don't simply copy it on to the CD. The file is in the

form of an iso format and must be written properly. The following Windows CDROM burning programs are capable of writing iso images:

- Alex Feinman's ISO Recorder Power Toy,
- Nero Burning ROM,
- Padus DiscJuggler,
- NTI CD Maker 2000 Professional,
- Roxio/Adaptec EZ CD Creator,
- WinOnCD.

If you don't know how to write an iso image to a CDROM detailed directions for using these programs can be found at: <http://members.home.nl/lnoek/iso.htm>

Now with the hard part done and the CD in hand simply boot from the CD. Place the CD into the CD drive and reboot, (again this will not harm any data on your hard disk) after a few minutes the Knoppix desktop will appear, it's that easy. If your system didn't boot from the CD check the ROM BIOS settings to insure the your system is set to boot from the CD drive ahead of the hard disk. If you don't know how to change these setting check the documentation that came with your computer or go to: http://www.eleli.de/knoppix/docs/tutorial/english/knoppix_boot_details.h

tml#1

Explore some of the Linux based applications by moving the mouse pointer to the Stylized K in the lower right corner of the desktop and pressing the left mouse button. A menu list of application groups will pop up (similar to when one left clicks on the Start button on a Windows desktop). Move the mouse pointer to an application group and a list of available applications will pop up, continue by moving the mouse pointer to an application and that application will launch. All this is similar to the way one launches an application on a Windows based system.

Reward yourself for your new found abilities! You have successfully run your own copy of Linux.

You can shut down Knoppix as follows: Press the <ctrl>, <alt> and key simultaneously. Now the window "End Session for "knoppix"" will pop up - click on the button <Logout> with the left mouse button (you can use the <Alt> <L> key combination if your mouse doesn't function). When tray of the CD player opens, remove the CD, close the cdrom drive and hit return.

Note that: Some Notebooks/Laptops (e.g. Dell Dimension 4550) will only boot again, when they are cut off from the power line for a few minutes.

If the the Knoppix-KDE-Desktop, never was displayed on your screen or the mouse pointer does not move correctly, then you may have to give the CD a helping hand. Information on how to do that can be found at: http://www.eleli.de/knoppix/docs/tutorial/english/knoppix_boot_details.html

What's next? In the next edition we will discuss how to use Knoppix to scan your Windows hard disks for virus'.

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Getting a High Search Engine Rank - Quiz!

Author: [Steve Wilson, A+ Net Solutions, Inc](#)

Do You Know How To Get A High Search Engine Rank?

Just submitting to a search engine won't get you a good ranking. The site needs to be optimized! Do you know what search engine optimizing entails? Take this short quiz and see.

1. Your website page's TITLE tag should include your keywords.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. META tags are the most important part of search engine optimization.
 - A. True.
 - B. False.
3. How often should you use your targeted keyword phrases in the visible text of your page?
 - A. Only use once per page.
 - B. Should be 2% - 5% of the page text.
 - C. Should be 5% - 10%.
 - D. Search engines don't give much weight to keyword density.
4. How much visible text should an optimized page have?
 - A. Approximately 50 words.
 - B. Approximately 100 words.
 - C. Approximately 150 words.
 - D. Approximately 200 words.
 - E. Search engines don't care about page length.
5. Search engines like sites with a high inbound link popularity? What's is your site's inbound link popularity?

- A. Less than 10.
 - B. 10 – 50.
 - C. More than 50.
 - D. Don't know.
6. Many design or graphic techniques can hurt your ranking. Have you designed work arounds for the design or graphic techniques that could hurt your ranking?
- A. Yes.
 - B. No.
 - C. Don't know.

Now it's time to find out how you scored! Keep in mind that this quiz covers only a few key points and you will have to know the answer to these questions plus a lot more to get your website a high ranking.

- 1 - True.
- 2 - False.
- 3 - B.
- 4 - D.
- 5 - B or C.
- 6 - A.

If you would like a short explanation on each question, send an email to swilson@aplusns.com and put "quiz" in the subject area.

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Why I like SBS 2003 - Then and Now (Part IV)

Author: [Larry Lentz](#), [Lentz Computer Services](#)

<This article originally appeared June 11, 2004, in Small Business Best Practices (now SMB Technology Watch).>

Last September I attended an all-day hands-on training lab for the soon-to-be-released Microsoft SBS 2003. I was very excited about it then, and I continue to be excited now that I've had eight months to deploy and administer it. I'll give you a glimpse of the features that stand out to me. Some of the features are of particular interest to network administrators, while others are of direct interest to the users.

Why Administrators Like It

Administrators appreciate the new features in network setup and Internet connectivity. They also find Server Management console and Volume Shadow Copy Service extremely

helpful.

During network setup, users can now be added in bulk rather than one at a time. Say you want to add the folks in Accounting, and you create a user template with all the appropriate settings for the Accounting Department. You can then enter all the names of the Accounting folks at once and let the system automatically create each account with all the appropriate permissions.

Another new feature is the way a computer is added to the network. It is no longer necessary to use a setup diskette. Instead, you access a web link, <http://ConnectComputer>, on the server across the network and download all necessary client components directly.

Also, in the past if you had existing users on a workstation running Windows 2000 Pro or XP Pro, you had to manually copy all the settings, such as Desktop and My Documents, from the old profile to the new one. Now these steps are included in the workstation setup process. The only exception is Windows 98. If you have Windows 98 clients, I advise you consider upgrading them to XP Professional. If that's not going to happen, then you'll have to install all the SBS client applications manually.

Yet another nice addition is that Internet connectivity is now accomplished with the E-mail and Internet Connection Wizard (EICW). With EICW, you can easily configure SBS for Internet access, configure the firewall, and set up remote access. SBS 2003 also sets up a certificate server and configures certain company websites like the Outlook Web Access to use a secure connection. As you complete each wizard, you can save the list of settings to a file, so you document your network as you go!

After running SBS 2003 for many months, I have found that I especially like the Server Management console and the monitoring features. The Server Management console provides easy-to-use menus and wizards for server and network management. With the wizards, you can quickly configure the server to send daily, easy-to-read status reports of the server's health. I configure my clients' servers to e-mail me these reports so I can keep a finger on the pulse of their networks.

Lastly, SBS 2003 includes backup processes that actually work! Volume Shadow Copy Service makes copies of open files and databases and backs them up. The backup results are included in the daily status reports, and a separate e-mail notice is generated if there is a problem with the backup.

Why Users Like It

Several features stand out as being killers for users: Volume Shadow Copy Service, Remote Web Workplace, and SharePoint. Mobile workers also love the new Outlook Mobile Access (OMA) and ActiveSync features.

With Volume Shadow Copy Service, the system automatically backs up all files in shared folders on the server. By default, the backup occurs at 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. every week day, but you can adjust the schedule to meet your own needs or those of your clients.

Let's say that a user is working on a document or data file, and it becomes corrupted. In the past, the user had to contact the network administrator and ask that the document be restored from backup, a lengthy process. With Volume Shadow Copy Service, the user merely needs to right click on the document, select Properties, and click on the Previous Versions tab. The copies that have been created appear in a list, and the user can restore the file immediately! Hmmm. I guess administrators must like that feature too.

Another helpful feature is Remote Web Workplace. Windows XP Pro has a Remote Desktop feature that is similar to Terminal Server on a server. Users can access their personal workstations from the Internet via Remote Desktop. However, before SBS 2003, setting up Remote Desktop took some effort, and it could be tricky to use.

With Remote Web Workplace, employees can easily access a company's private website (Remote Web Workplace), and their own workstations, from an Internet-enabled coffee shop or hotel. Remote Web Workplace lists the available workstations on the network. Employees can click on their workstations, enter the appropriate user names and passwords, and find themselves virtually sitting at their own workstations. Pretty slick!

SBS 2003 also has an improved version of SharePoint Services. Well, actually it's now an integral part of SBS. In addition to being a great tool for posting company news and events, it can be used as a document management system. Users can post documents and projects that they are working on as a team to the SharePoint site. Team members can then check out documents they want to work on and check in documents they have finished.

The Outlook Mobile Access is another major improvement. With it employees can access e-mail and other Outlook features, live on the server, from virtually anywhere using a web-enabled cell phone. I've personally found this feature invaluable. Yet another new feature is ActiveSync. I recently purchased a Pocket PC (PPC), which I can use to synchronize Pocket Outlook with my desktop Outlook. With SBS 2003, I can synchronize with the server instead. My desktop doesn't have to be logged on (as me). Since I have built-in WiFi, I can synchronize from my couch, from across town, or from across the country. I can hook in from wherever I can find a WiFi hot spot.

These features only scratch the surface of why I like SBS 2003. They are some of the highlights.

BEST Practice: Point out the merits of SBS 2003 to your clients, and encourage them to upgrade.

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Local News

Submitted by: [John Dickson](#), [The Denim Group](#)

SITetrek2 Hidden Dimensions - October 16th, 2004 9am - 5pm

Designed to give participants a behind-the-scenes, hands-on experience of four important research, technology, and production facilities in San Antonio rarely accessible to the public.

This all-day bus tour launches from KellyUSA Building 171 at 9:00 a.m. on October 16th, 2004. Sign-in starts at 8:00 a.m. From there, participants will engage in a 'minds-on', in-person tour of four sites:

- The Interactive Technologies Department at the Southwest Research Institute
- Lockheed-Martin's Kelly Aviation Center/Standard Aero jet-engine repair facilities at KellyUSA
- The Urban-15 studios for a showcase of San Antonio's Digital Media Arts Cluster
- The Research Imaging Center at UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Participants will reconvene for lunch at KellyUSA (included in ticket price), where San Antonio's "hidden history" of innovation will be presented.

This event is brought to you by SACCESS, the San Antonio Council for the Cooperation of Engineering and Scientific Societies, with public relations provided by BlabberMouth PR. To register online (cut-off October 13 at 5:00 p.m.) visit <http://www.satechnews.com>; click on the Hidden Dimensions banner. For further assistance with registration, please call (210) 698-0806.

Visit us at www.blabbermouthPR.com

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Need More Information?

If you would like more information on any of the articles in this newsletter the following options are recommended;

- Discuss the article with your IT professional.
- Contact the Author of the article (contact info is available within the article)
- [Contact us](#) and we will help you find the resources you need.

If you would like information on a topic not included in the eNewsletter - please let us know and we'll do our best to find the information you need and have it included in the next eNewsletter!

This newsletter is a combined effort of the North Chamber Tech Committee and The Montopolis Group. All input is provided by Chamber members. [Top](#)

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