



NepaLinux Distribution and The Process Involved

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Nepalinux and its Features:

- A Linux distribution
- Mostly for Desktop usage
- Nepali Unicode support
- Nepali user interfaces in many office and other applications like:
gnucash, nautilus, gedit, openoffice.org, mozilla etc.
- Tools like Nepali spellchecker, thesaurus for Nepali language will be integrated
- Can also be used by the community who don't know English
- Government, private sector, education sector can use it freely with no price
- Zero price or will be freely available for download or CDs from MPP
- Can run without installing to hard disks



Why NepaLinux:

- . Not bound to other commercial distributions
- . Zero price or free
- . Nepali Unicode support
- . Nepali utilities will be integrated

Works (being) done for NepaLinux Distribution:

- . Creation of Nepali Locale
- . Development of Input System and Fonts
- . Gnome Localization
- . OpenOffice.org Localization
- . Mozilla Localization



Works (being) done for NepalLinux

Distribution:

Contd...

→ Creation of Nepali Locale:

- . Part of the GNU C library (glibc) package
- . Every lanugae must have it's own locale
- . Many localized tools are dependent on locale
- . Nepali locale developed and submitted by MPP and named as ne_NP
- . Locale created using locale definition file



Works (being) done for NepaLinux

Distribution:

Contd...

→Development of Input system for NepaLinux

- Used for input of characters; In our case input of Nepali characters
- Many input systems available
- Among them, iimf used at MPP for NepaLinux
- Both romanized and traditional keyboard layouts already developed

→Fonts Development

- Unicode Nepali Fonts developed at MPP
- Kalimati, Kanjirowa, Thakya Rabison, Samanata



Works (being) done for NepalLinux

Distribution:

Contd...

→Gnome localization:

- . Status in l10n.gnome.org
- . Translation of gnome 2.8.x is being done
- . Using POT files for translation

→Gnome Translation Facts and Figures:

- . Total strings exclusive of Help files: 77,372
- . No. of Translators: 4 working 120 hours/week in total
- . Translated strings within 4 months starting from Feb. 2005: 44983
- . Remaining strings to be translated: 32389
- . On an average: 106 strings per day per person.

Note: 1 string on an average contains 10-15 words.



Works (being) done for NepaLinux

Distribution:

Contd...

→ OpenOffice.org and localization

- . Complete office suite
- . Replacement for MS Office
- . Announced the localization at l10n.openoffice.org
- . Localization of 2.0
- . Localization processs involved of:
 - . a) Announcing
 - . b) Adding Languages
 - . c) Creation of openoffice.org locale
 - . d) UI translation
 - . e) Creating patch for localization
 - . f) Build the localized Nepali openoffice.org
- . Will be integrated with NepaLinux
- . Will support almost all linux distributions and most probably for windows.
- . Development of Nepali Spellchecker for openoffice.org in process
- . Translation work already started



Works (being) done for NepalLinux

Distribution:

Contd...

Mozilla localization, rendering , printing

- . Web browser with email client
- . Localization involves
 - . a) Build enabling CTL and necessary parameters
 - . b) UI Translation
 - . c) Prepare language pack xpi (ne-NP.xpi)
- . Version used is 1.7
- . Rendering and printing done by pango;but print problem exists

Mozilla Translation Facts and Figures:

- . User Interface strings: 5,000
- . Help files: 48
- . No. of Translators: 1
- . No. of days required for Translation with testing: 144



Translation and Process Management Tools used

→ Translation Tools used:

- . Translate tool used for mozilla , openoffice.org , gnome apps etc
- . Mozilla translator for mozilla
- . KBabel
- . More

→ Process Management Tools used:

- . Concurrent Versions System (CVS)

→ Prerequisites:

- . Research on Translation Tools
- . Training for the translators



Brief Notes on Translation work and Experiences collected

- . Translation work initially outsourced; but could not bring expected outcome in terms of quality and time factor
- . Translation work turned out to be voluminous than what was expected; So had to hire more translators
- . Gnome glossary not of much use due its small size; Later National Standard Glossary for IT terms devised by HLCIT, HMG Nepal used as a standard for translation of English computer terms into Nepali
- . For other common words, available English to Nepali dictionaries used



NepaLinux CD Demo and Installation

→Nepalinux CD demo:

- . Based on debian sid and knoppix based morphix linux
- . Live cd
- . Can be installed on hard disk

→Linux installation:

- . Boot from CD
- . Make / , swap partitions and Linux native ext3 , Linux swap partition and follow the normal process
- . Select packages
- . Install boot loader as grub, lilo etc