

Sunday, March 11. 2007

Mainframes for India?

When all you have is a hammer, every problem looks like a nail. And when you are IBM and you have a dying technology with a dying (in the truest sense of the word) customer base, every problem looks like a problem for a mainframe. IBM tries to sell mainframes as a consolidation technology to India. Consolidation by virtualisation isn't a unique selling point for the mainframe for years now. And nowadays it's the least efficient way to do it.

Well, we in Europe exported our toxic waste to these countries, why not mainframes

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 17:19

The other parts of this are staffing and outsourcing. Very few new people are learning mainframe skills now, and that's a looming crisis for mainframes (you still need mainframe skills even when running Linux there). IBM will increasingly push outsourcing services to India (and Russia and China, mentioned in the Register article) as first-world CIOs find they can no longer find COBOL programmers or z/OS systems people to run their systems (at least not at the numbers they need and at salaries they're willing to pay). Moving operations off shore will hide the problem on the other side of the world, and under a different budget line item so the still-high costs won't be so obvious.

Anonymous on Mar 11 2007, 22:55

I think this action is clearly targeted to search for other customers as the life support for this technology.

Anonymous on Mar 12 2007, 20:08