

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Recommended Solaris (and related topics) Books

After my book recommendation i was asked for some other recommendations about Solaris. Hmm ... i will just include the books here, i've read on my own, there may be other good books. When you know such a book just drop me a note and an explanation why you think this book should be included into the list ("Want to sell more of my book" isn't a valid reason):

Essentials - Beginners level
OpenSolaris Bible (Bible (Wiley))by Nicholas A. Solter, Jerry Jelinek, David Miner
Good book to learn OpenSolaris. It elaborates on a lot of features of OpenSolaris and gives a good overview about the whole thing called OpenSolaris
Solaris 10 Security Essentials (Solaris System Administration)Nice introduction into several security features of Solaris. I recommend it when you want to have a good overview about all the security features included in Solaris.

Solaris 10 ZFS Essentials (Solaris System Administration)by Scott Watanabe

You will find all the infos of this book somewhere in the internet or in other books, but this book is a nice condensed summary of this topic on dead trees.

Essentials - Intermediate level
Solaris Internals: Solaris 10 and Open Solaris Kernel Architectureby Richard McDougall, Jim Mauro

There is no better way short of reading the source code to learn about the internal mechanisms like dispatching, filesystems, schedulers etc ... when it's not here, you have to look into the source or in some obscure blogs ...
Solaris Performance and Tools: DTrace and MDB Techniques for Solaris 10 and OpenSolarisby Richard McDougall, Jim Mauro, Brendan Gregg

It's essential when you learn DTrace and want to know how to work with the Modular Debugger in Solaris.

Oracle Solaris 10 System Virtualization Essentials (Oracle Solaris System Administration) by Jeff Victor, Jeff Savit , and Gary Combs

Good book about virtualization in conjunction with Solaris 10

DTrace: Dynamic Tracing in Oracle Solaris, Mac OS X and FreeBSD
Jim Mauro, Brendan Gregg, Chad Mynhier, Tariq Magdon-Ismael

The book about Dtrace. From my point of view a must have when you want to work with DTrace.

Essentials - Advanced level
Solaris Systems Programming (Paperback)by Rich Teer

When "Solaris Internals" goes deep into the mechanisms, this book goes even a step deeper. When you really want to know how something works in Solaris and how you use as a programmer, this is the right book. However i've put it into the advanced level for a reason. It isn't an easy read due to the topic of the book.

Other Tips
SunCluster. Hochverfügbarkeit unter Sun Solaris und OpenSolaris. The Fullmoon Frameworkby Rolf Dietze
I'm somewhat divided about that book. I think from the technical side it's really good, it gives a good insight into Sun Cluster and you can learn a lot out of it. But the presentation ... well ... could be better. Even i was able to detect a lot of typos ... due to my extremely fast reading style i overlook typos normally, but here my reading flow stopped over at relatively frequent bugs. However i would recommend it, when you have no problems with typos in a book because of the content. And for readers in Germany it has a big advantage: It's in german language. That's really an advantage, as there are many people since the reunion who are still not that fluent in English as they would be in russian language. (Disclaimer: I got this book as a reviewer's copy)
OpenSolaris für Anwender, Administratoren und Rechenzentren: Von den ersten Schritten bis zum produktiven Betrieb auf Sparc, PC und PowerPC basierten Plattformenby Rolf Dietze, Tatjana Heuser, Jörg Schilling

Suffers the same typo problem and nowadays i recommend the OpenSolaris Bible. At the date of it's publication it was one of the few really good book about OpenSolaris. However this changed. But this book has an advantage in Germany ... it's in german language. (Disclaimer: I got this book as a reviewer's copy)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in English, Solaris at 09:42

OpenSolaris auf PowerPC? Hab ich was verpasst?

Anonymous on Jun 16 2010, 15:57

Moin, das Springerbuch "OpenSolaris für Anwender, Administratoren....." ist aus meiner Sicht auch mehr eine Solaris 10 Referenz, als ein Opensolaris Buch, von daher aus meiner Sicht ausser Konkurrenz. Die Informationen sind zwar nicht mehr die neuesten, aber inhaltlich, abgesehen von den Typos und eigenwilligen Sprachstilen, gut und eine solide Grundlage hatte seinerzeit fast

Referenzcharakter.

Zum Sun Cluster Buch, von Meister Dietze habe ich mich ja auch schon geäußert, an einem anderen Platz.
Anonymous on Jun 16 2010, 16:22

I have been looking for references to a company called "Sun Books" which operated in Melbourne, Australia, in the 1970s. Can you help?
Anonymous on Jul 10 2010, 02:22

I assume you should mention the new Oracle Solaris Cluster Essentials Book from Tim Read too.

From my perspective its not as good as Sun Cluster 3, cause it lacks the old Sun Cluster 3.0/3.1 Commands. In Advantage its very nice to read regarding Zone Cluster Topics. and a few Debugging Topics. Nice stuff and also nicely illustrated. Might be worth a look. But in the end of the day i prefer The Dietze Book.
Anonymous on Oct 20 2010, 14:43