

Friday, August 31. 2007

Flickr-Set: Paris

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 21:23

Solaris

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 16:19

Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Building an el-cheapo Solaris Workstation

Perhaps this article at ExtremeTech is quite useful to you: [Build a \(Very\) Inexpensive Solaris 10 Workstation](#). Even more interesting than the article itself is the fact, that articles regarding Solaris starts to get more common. Looks like Solaris x86 gets a real factor even outside of enterprises.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 06:06

Tuesday, August 28, 2007

Register: Sun pushes integration with UltraSPARC T2

Clay Rider writes in Sun pushes integration with UltraSPARC T2: The T2 is another example of Sun's out-of-the-box, perhaps a bit off-the-beaten-path, approach to the marketplace. As history has shown, this approach is often the one that delivers the best ROI for Sun, and in the process its customers. As Scott said in the past: There is no profit in making the same as all other around you ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 21:19

Monday, August 27. 2007

LDOMs for T2000

A nice walktrough about LDOMs at Slicing a Partition out of a running T2000.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 14:09

Kris Empfehlungen für mysql auf Solaris umgesetzt

Ich habe mir mal die Anmerkungen von Kris zur Installation von mysql angeguckt und in OpenSolaris Speak umgesetzt:zpool create mysqlpool mirror mirror ... log zfs set atime=off mysqlpoolzfs set blocksize=8k mysqlpoolroot kommt in ein UFS. ZFS ist ja leider noch nicht bootfähig. Kommt noch. Über die Aufteilung der Partitionen mus man sich keine Gedanken machen. Wer das allerletzte an Performane rauskitzeln will kann noch data und log in unterschiedliche pools trennen, aber das seperated log macht das weitestgehend unnötig.

Der Hinweis mit dem Thinwidestriping ist auch für ZFS gültig. Datenbanken mögen das wirklich. Deswegen hassen DBA auch 500 GB Platten. Die sind aber garnicht so schlimm, wenn man viele davon hat. Eine X4500 "Thumper" ist daher eine sehr nette Datenbankmaschine.

Ein Hinweis für mysql und Solaris: Meiner Erfahrung nach ist libumem für mysql eine verdammt gute Idee ... also ins Startup setenv LD_PRELOAD_64 /usr/lib/sparcv9/libumem.so eintragen.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 07:22

100 Songs: Placebo - Running up that hill

Es ist eine wirklich gute Version dieses Liedes, auch wenn man sowohl Kate Bush als auch Placebo nicht mag, und für beides gibt es gute Gründe. Allerdings hängen meine Erinnerungen nicht an dieser Version. Wie auch ... diese Coverversion ist nicht alt genug, um soweit in meine Vergangenheit zurueckzureichen.

Kate Bush war jene Frau, die mich durch meinen ersten Liebeskummer geleitet hat. Meinen ersten echten Liebeskummer. Nicht jene Enttäuschung, die man in den ersten Jahren seines Erwachsenwerdens dafür hält. In Wahrheit sind diese Empfindung nur ein leichtes Strohfueurer verglichen mit dem, was einen noch erwarten würde, wenn die Bindungen erst ersthafter, die Gedanken reifer werden.

So lag ich jedem Stereotyp huldigend heulend in meiner Wohnung auf dem Teppich und fragte die Rauhfasertapete an der Decke, an welchem Punkt wir die Gemeinsamkeiten verloren hatten. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat.

In der Wahl des Liedes meiner Trauer liegt im Nachhinein betrachtet eine Antwort: Jemand der sich in dieser Situation für das seelische Geleit von Frau Bush entscheidet passt vielleicht einfach nicht zu einem Menschen, der die Äusserungen eines schwedischen Zahnarztes nicht in den Orkus des musikalischen Vergessens wünscht.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Music at 06:34

Sunday, August 26. 2007

Twitter list

I finally found a good use for Twitter: I will use it as a scratchpad for links or snippets and a place for links that don't justify an own blog entry or the addition to delicious.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in General at 10:44

Saturday, August 25. 2007

Der BILDblog-Werbespot

(click here to view)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 19:39

Win-Win

Some interesting point about the IBM/Solaris announcement at "IBM and Sun, sitting in a tree, S-O-L-A-R-I-S-I-N-G:Honestly? I think it is one of the few times I'd say "win-win" applies.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 18:25

Rumftarumftarumftarumfta

Frau Fragmente beschreibt die einzig valide Art, die Love Parade zu behandeln: Mit weitem Abstand und Desinteresse

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Music at 18:12

Aha ...

You Belong in 1996

With you anything goes! You're grunge one day, ghetto fabulous the next. It's all good!

What Year Do You Belong In?

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Fundsache at 18:10

Bias

Whenever you speak about Solaris with some Linux fans, they will tell you "I would like to use ZFS, dtrace is so cool ... but well ... i can't do it ... it's not in linux. And it's your fault, because of your OSS license". Okay ... that were multiple persons merged to one citation. But it's a good summary of all the stuff i hear all the day.

I found two blog entries, that speak out what i think: When you want Solaris feature, just use Solaris, and don't wait for some shoehorned concept in your favorite religion-laden operating environment. When you think rational about the problem, you should not tied to your operating systems, you should look at your tasks and your applications. And when Solaris fits better than Linux into the equation , just use it ...

But it's the same with the everlasting dispute about Windows/Unix, vi/emacs: People have a bias regarding their choices. And this bias seldoms comes from rational thinking.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 08:38

Friday, August 24. 2007

The new zunePhone

(click here to view)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Fundsache at 21:26

T2000 at a startup

Serverwatch published a nice article about a T2000 at a startup. Server Snapshots: Sun in the Real World is worth a read, but my favorite quote is:

"I'd recommend that other startups try the T2000," Whitehead said. "Solaris is Unix, so if you know Linux, there is nothing to be afraid of."

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 20:59

Nachtrag zum Thema Spam

```
# grep "200" access.log | grep "23/Aug/" | grep "comment.php" | wc -l
92854
```

```
# grep "403" access.log | grep "23/Aug/" | grep "comment.php" | wc -l
55542
```

Sch... Spammer

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 20:13

T2 licensing for IBM software

IBM announced the PVU for the UltraSPARC T2 a few days ago: Processor Value Unit Licensing for Distributed SW. An UltraSPARC T2 counts as 50 PVUs. That's really good news. Why? Well, wait for the benchmarks and do the math yourself

BTW: The nice thing at PVUs: they have a political component. Thus PVUs are not really based of the real performance, they are based on the performance, IBM wants to admit. So, even when they don't admit that T2 is better than Power6, they help us by making their software cheaper, and they can't make them more expensive, as this would hurt their hardware bussiness by admitting, that T2 is better then Power6. Sometimes Catch-22's are really funny ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 19:43

On the way to volume!

We fastly ramping up UltraSPARC T2. Here you see: 12 E10000k, only a little bit short of a quarter Terabit per second networkbandwith, 0,75 Terabyte per second memory bandwidth, 96 cores, 192 integer pipelines, 96 crypro accelerators, 96 floating point units, 768 threads, 768 virtual processor. Imagine this processors in some nifty boxes, with a nice silver finish, 1 or 2 rack units high. Consuming only 1200 Watts for the processors. Imagine the load this babies can handle. 5 years ago, you had to fill a complete datacenter for a similar performance. Now it's a small tray of CPUs (respective 12 or 24 rack units). Simply mind-boggling. But it's even getting better: In the near future you will have this sheer power in only three machines.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 17:43

Ein Vierteljahrhundert Compact Disc

Vor einigen Tagen ist die CD 25 alt geworden. Ich wollte eigentlich einen launigen Text dazu schreiben. Aber ich habe

da ein Problem: Ich versuche mich gerade zu erinnern, welche CD denn meine erste war. An meine erste selbstgekaufte Platte kann mich noch gut erinnern: Appetite for Destruction von den Guns n' Roses. Das Cover mit dem Mädel mit der halb runtergezogenen Damenunterbekleidung.

Ich kann mich sogar noch an meinen ersten CD-Player erinnern. Pioneer mit dem Stable Platter Mechanismus. Der dazu führte, das ich beim lauschigen Ausklang eines Dates vor der Stereoanlage des öfteren den Player zur Herausgabe der CD zwingen musste, um sie erst mal umdrehen. Denkt man ja auch nicht dran, das die CD vielleicht mit der silbernen Seite nach oben muss. 1993 habe ich den gekauft ... irgendwann um den Dreh. Deswegen habe ich so einige ganz dunkle Vermutungen, welche CD denn von mir als erste erwähnt worden ist.. Von den Dingen, die ich damals gehoert habe ist nur Peter Gabriel geblieben, und das ist auch gut so, zum einen weil Peter einfach der Meister ist, und der Rest wirklich schlecht war ..

Aber mir will einfach nicht einfallen, von wem die erste CD war. Ich hoffe gerade inständig, das es nicht Seal war ... obwohl er damals nicht ansatzweise der Schwiegermutterliebling von heute war ...

Aber das sich nicht erinnern können passt vielleicht zu einem Medium, das sich nicht mehr durch hören abnutzt. Eine Musik zu lieben hinterlässt keine Spuren mehr. Man muss die Musik nicht mehr der Nadel opfern, um sie hören zu können. Vielleicht ist das gerade der Vorteil der CD. Vielleicht passt das Medium CD zu einer Musik, die auch im Hirn keine Spur mehr hinterlässt.

Wie sagt Agent K noch so treffend: "Dann muss ich mir das weisse Album noch mal kaufen". Am Ende kauft man bei jedem neuen Medium doch nur die alte Musik, weil einem das neue unerträglich erscheint. Und erstmals glaube ich, das nicht am Alter liegt, sondern an der Musik an sich: Wir sind die erste Generation von vor sich hin alternden Erwachsenen, die auf eine Jugend stösst, deren Musik zielgruppenorientiert zielgenau so konzipiert ist, das die geistige Barriere auch für den unmusikalischsten und geistig herausgeforderten Menschen zwischen Hören und Kaufen minimal ist.

Was die Zukunft bringt ? SACD, HDCD, BluRay-CD ? Nur: Unsinn und Sinnentleertheit bleibt auch mit 192 kHz und 96 Bit noch Unsinn und Leere. Nur sechzehn mal so gross.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Music at 17:24

Thursday, August 23. 2007

JAVA

Okay ... our stock ticker symbol SUNW will be retired soon. Our new stock ticker symbol is JAVA. Personally, i don't like it. I don't like it at all. We're SUNW. But okay, Jonathan is perfectly right, when he states, that Java is our most powerful brand.

But at the end, it's just a stock ticker symbol and perhaps it's good to hammer one little fact into the minds of the stock markets: We were the ones, who invented Java ... not BEA or IBM or the like. So at the end, this may be a move, that many technical people doesn't like. But hey, stock symbols are unimportant for technical people anyway, they were introduced for the beancounting fraction, for the budget planing fraction. And thus, whenever such a person thinks about Java, the person will think at first about the company, which stocksymbol is JAVA. Whenever, someone writes something about us, they will carry "JAVA" forward. And both can only be of positive effect for Sun.

At the end it's all about awareness, at the end it's all about of closing the circle.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 20:47

Positive Berichterstattung über den UltraSPARC T2 in der c't

Ich muss ja ganz offen gestehen, das ich die c't nicht mehr lese. Die Zeitschrift hat vor vielen Jahren irgendwie den letzten Reiz verloren und in Zeiten der weltumspannenden, drahtgestützten Pornoverteilung gibt es als Nebenprodukt viele weitere Webseiten, die viel schneller Informationen liefern. Einer der wenigen Lichtblicke der c't waren zuweilen die Kolumne "Prozessorgeflüster" von Andreas Stiller, auch wenn dieser sich selten positiv ueber das Haus Sun geäußert hat. Das scheint mit Von Wasserfällen und Ökowellten endlich ein Ende zu haben. Ich zitiere mal meinen Lieblingssatz: All das ist jetzt Geschichte, denn nun hat Sun mit dem UltraSPARC T2 (Codename Niagara2) wieder ein ganz heißes selbstgestricktes Eisen im solaren Feuer, das zumindest als Einzelchip in der Multithreaded-Welt alle anderen in die Finsternis schickt - wobei man Intels „geschummelten“ Quad-Core mit zwei Dice in einem Gehäuse ruhig mit hinzurechnen darf.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 14:06

links for 2007-08-23

EOS (SLR) Camera Systems - Digital EOS Cameras - Digital SLR - EOS 40D
(tags: Canon 40D)

Sun fattens up Niagara for middleware play | The Register
(tags: CMT VictoriaFalls Sun)

research.sun.com: Transactional Memory
(tags: Sun TransactionalMemory Rock CMT research)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Everything else is just a toy ...

A second A380 can be found here, even a A340 looks a little bit small in relation to the lady.
(found on Google Maps via Google Sightseeing)

Blog Export: c0t0d0s0.org, <http://www.c0t0d0s0.org/>

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Technology at 09:20

Wednesday, August 22. 2007

Sylt International

140 Passagiere an Bord einer Boeing 737 aus Stuttgart haben ihr Reiseziel Sylt mehrfach von allen Seiten zu sehen bekommen, weil im Flughafentower der Insel noch kein Lotse im Dienst war. «Der Lotse war krank», sagte der Geschäftsführer des Flughafens, Peter Douven. [...] Der Airport war daher am Montagmorgen erst einmal nicht betriebsbereit.(via: aero.de)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 15:31

links for 2007-08-22

Localwuerstchens Tagebuch - openVPN einrichten
(tags: [OpenVPN](#) [VPN](#))

Airbus A380: Sanft abheben bei 300 km/h - Aktien - Boerse - Finanzen - FOCUS Online
(tags: [A380](#) [Airbus](#))

Sun laesst den Niagara 2 vom Stapel - Nachrichten - computerwoche.de
(tags: [CMT](#) [Niagara2](#) [Sun](#))

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Register about Transactional Memory

Interesting article about this new concept to make programming on multiprocessor systems more efficient: Sun slots transactional memory into Rock.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 10:05

Tuesday, August 21. 2007

Fernweh

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Photographie at 21:35

links for 2007-08-21

Sun eyes 256-threaded server - vnunet.com
(tags: CMT victoriafalls Sun chips)

IBM to sell Sun Solaris on x86 and mainframes; pigs fly
(tags: Solaris IBM Sun)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:22

Opensource@Sun

A few days ago, there was a little bit trollish comment in my blog: Sun must have problems, when we give away our crown jewel Solaris so easy. Well, i've replied with a short: Interestingly the opposite is true. There is a long answer from somebody who has to know it, the CEO of Sun ... or short: Jonathan. He gave a really interesting and insightful interview to CNET's Matt Asay: After spending an hour prodding Jonathan with questions about Sun's history and future with open source, I was left with one clear impression: Sun is rising, and open source is the driver behind its rebirth.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 10:43

What's new in Solaris 10 8/07?

You can already find the What's new in Solaris 10 8/07? document on docs.sun.com. Many really cool features found their way into this release: Big ones like iSCSI Target or the lx brand for BrandZ (aka running 32-bit linux applications in a Solaris 10 container) and smaller ones like the tighter integration of x86 hardware into the fault management architecture.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 07:05

Monday, August 20, 2007

100

I was on business travel today. But the flight back home was a special one: It was my hundredth flight. The eightieth since i lost my fear of flying in Summer 2005.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 22:08

Transactional memory

A interesting article about the concept of transactional memory in internetnews.com: Sun Gives Multithreading an RDBMS feel

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 14:09

Sunday, August 19, 2007

Spam

So, i hope that the changes to the infrastructure will lead to an more stable website. So, what it's the problem: 3000 Visits a day are really good for a niche blog like c0t0d0s0.org, but normaly nothing near a problem for Apache. The problem: The useful requests aren't the problem. Within twelve hours this weblog gets round about 100.000 hits. The bandwidth consumption is between one and two gigabytes per day. And most of it is spam: Within 12 hours the script for posting comments was triggered 78000 times. 78000 useless requests, 78000 useless request to spam filter clearing houses.

When i started as an architect at nordwest.net 10 years ago, we've designed the systems for 50.000 pageviews a day. Now i need 50.000 pageviews capacity without having served a single reader of my blog. Something goes really wrong in the internet.

The problems isn't the internet itself. The problem starts in Redmond: My ruleset for the worst spam offenders (100 and more comment requests within the last 12 hours) is 50 lines long. 50 different IP addresses. 50 different systems. As long it's so easy to "own" other peoples machines and aggregate them to bot nets, there will be no escape from this.

By the way: Microsoft can't give itself a green image as long their are not able to secure their operating systems. Millions of Millions of CPU cycles are wasted every day for cleaning up the problems of an operating system never meant to be connected to a network. Companies operate large arrays of systems to filter spam in every form of its existence, searching for viruses on dozens of attack vectors. Home users operate firewalls, the mail programms use compute intensive heuristics to search spam and scan for scamware, virures, malware, ransomware and so on. Now think about computing without all this. Without the possibility to use large bot nets, a simple ACL in your router would suffice. A secure operating system from Microsoft would be the most efficient energy saver right now

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 12:17

Saturday, August 18. 2007

Minor fuckup

The webserver had some stability problems in the last few days due to high load. Additionally Frank warned me, that he used the links to the T2 photos in a marketing campain. Thus i had to do something and i've migrated it to a different webserver software. c0t0d0s0.org operates now on lighttpd with a fastcgi-php in conjunction with the XCache opcode cacher. The memory consumption is reduced by a huge margin and the load to the database seems to be more steerable. So far i even like the strange way to configure lighttpd...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in General at 22:51

House music M.D.

I know someone, who knows someone with access to british television. Thus i was able to get a dvd with three House M.D. episodes. Emergency Room jumped the shark after Season 10, so House is the last only doctors series you can really look. I'm a fan of this series and House is a role model for us ulltracompetent, but antisocial assholes ...

One of the three episodes was House Training (Season 3, Episode 20). At the end (no spoilers here, but you find one here) music starts as usual in modern series. The "bringing the subplots to an end"-music of this episode is excellent. Perfect match to the situation at the end of the episode. With some search in the internet i found the interepret and the title: It's Follow the leader from the 2006 Mattew Ryan Album "From a late night high rise". An excellent piece of atmospheric music. Give it a try ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 15:55

links for 2007-08-18

Server Snapshots: Spotlight on Sun Microsystems
(tags: Sun Server hardware)

Posted by del.icio.us in General at 13:18

Friday, August 17, 2007

VMware vs GPL

Yesterday i've linked to the Inquirer story about the license violation claims of VMware made by a Linux developer . There is a good blog article venturecake.com that sheds some light on the issue : The VMware house of cards. VMware should clarify this issue, soon ... or port to OpenSolaris (CDDL is friendlier to the alleged deep integration;)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in The IT Business at 13:46

IBM and Sun ink OS Deal

It's not the "IBM kicks AIX" deal i hoped for, although there are some small hints (Who wants AIX when there is a Solaris on the platform). But the deal is nearly as good as a "We kick it" message would be. With this announcement IBM wins a decent operating system for their xSeries (perhaps for zSeries and pSeries, but honestly, i don't believe in usable code anytime soon), we win something more important: With IBM another Tier1 supplier (other than ourself) backs our Solaris x86 story. Better story, more ISV support for the x86 variant of Solaris. And from now on, nobody can talk about Solaris x86 as a niche. Solaris 10 gains momentum everyday. A good article about this agreement is available at the Register: [IBM embraces - wtf - Sun's Solaris across x86 server line](#) - of course beside of the bullshit of this GCG analyst. Such development places Solaris x86 in a good position to compete with Linux. Or as Ashlee states it: Solaris x86 enjoys a relatively small but devoted developer community. The Linux crowd seems to have taken notice of this with zealots bashing Solaris x86 at every chance during recent open source trade shows. Such concern is understandable given that Solaris offers a number of high-end features not found with Linux. (Note to self: Start flame war.) and IBM's support for Solaris x86 could give the developer community a real boost, since Big Blue opens up a broader market. In addition, IBM's move appears to confirm that there is strong demand for the OS among corporate customers. It's hard to imagine IBM agreeing to this arrangement without customers applying serious pressure.

PS: I don't like analysts and the media gives them a stage that is largely oversized for their blurbs. And most often they seem to be single people analyst shops. As far as i memorize, i don't remember a GCG analyst blurb from someone different than Dan Olds. Sometimes those people raise my suspicion, that they are hired to make some marketing statements, when you aren't able to make this statement on your own.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 11:07

Thursday, August 16. 2007

Major fuckup

Sorry for the downtime ... sometimes the celebrated update mechanisms of Linux can leave you with an unbootable system within a few seconds. Had to reinstall the system. Sorry for any inconvenience .

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in General at 20:20

links for 2007-08-16

Â» Counting the roots of growth: BSD vs Linux vs Solaris | Paul Murphy | ZDNet.com
(tags: Sun Solaris Unix market)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Inquirer: VMware "uses a badly-hacked Linux kernel" - claim

Looks like an ticking time bomb at the foundation of VMware:According to Linus Torvalds, such applications are derived works of Linux and Christopher Helwig is the Linux SCSI storage maintainer has been chasing VMware over the issue for a year. He claims that VMware uses a "badly hacked 2.4 kernel with a big binary blob hooked into it", giving a derived work of the Linux kernel that's not legally redistributable.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in The IT Business at 11:12

A380-Auslieferung

Erstauslieferung der SIA-A380 ist am 15. Oktober. Vielleicht hören dann endlich mal die Unkenrufe auf ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Technology at 09:57

Oben ohne

Liebe Angela, auch wenn es momentan anscheinend unter Politikern Mode ist, mit blossen Oberkörper rumzurennen: Mach diesen einen Trend bitte nicht mit! Ich bitte Dich wirklich inständig darum ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Fundsache at 08:55

Joint Sun/IBM announcement

Looks like an interesting press announcement tomorrow. Let's keep the finger crossed and hope that they will announce that they ditch AIX

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Work at 08:31

Wednesday, August 15, 2007

Some thoughts about IBM's Workload Partition.

I've ranted yesterday about the marketing habits of IBM. But kudos to IBM, they have excellent documentation, they even document the weaknesses of their technologies. So you find very interesting documents about their technology. Not that they hadn't withdrawn redbooks in the past like the one that documented the overhead of mpars, but mostly it's a good source of realistic information. And thanks to the RedBooks it's easy to clear some of fuss around some IBM technologies. And so, you find some interesting facts for example in the Redbook. And in this article i want to talk about WPARs. Many people think, that this is a cheap rip off of Solaris Zones. But many of them think, that the Live WPARS mobility is a cool feature, too. But when you really read public documentation much of the fuss appears a little bit overblown. Let's have a look in the Redbook 247431: Introduction to Workload Partition Management in IBM AIX":The application in a WPAR has to write into a filesystem.

Page 32: All files that needs to be written by the application must be hosted on an NFS filesystemThat means: No large applications that needs direct raw access to disk like Oracle on WPARS and the speed of you application is limited to NFS.WPARs works with checkpoint/restore. That means: When you want to migrate your application, you have to freeze the WPAR. Then you have to checkpoint it. The checkpoint state file will be written via NFS to the shared storage. When you restart the WPAR on a different system, the process loads the checkpoint state file from the NFS server, and starts the WPAR. The application doesn't run while to take or revive the snapshot:The chkptwpar command captures a snapshot of all tasks executing within one WPAR. It first interrupts all processes so they reach a quiescence point, then stores a copy of the processes context in a state file.Still sound unproblematic to you? The problem is in a detail. Think about an application that allocates 8 GB of memory (your java application for example), now take into consideration that most datacenters run on Gigabit Ethernet. Let's assume 80 MB/s per Gigabit Ethernet interface via NFS. Thus the writing the state file would take 100 seconds. Reading it on the target system: Another 100 seconds. IBM states:The only visible effect for a user of the application is a slightly longer response time while the application is migrating.Well, i don't know your users, but three and a half minute application downtime isn't a slightly longer response time.

Okay, perhaps you can live with all this stuff, but still believe this, then you should read the manual for the Workload Partition Manager. The parts about Migration compatibility beginning around page 27 is especially interesting: There are compatibility modes like "inbound/outbound compatible". An example:Outbound Compatible

Compatibility testing shows that a WPAR can be relocated from the departure system to the arrival system, but it cannot be relocated back from the arrival system to the departure system.The first time i've heard of it, i thought this is a joke, but it's documented in IBM's own documentation. It's perfectly possible, that you can migrate a system to another system, but not back. When i understand it correctly, all systems have to patched to exactly the same level. When the patchlevel is lower on the arrival machine than on the departure machine, you can't migrate to the system. When the patchlevel ist higher on the arrival machine than one the depature system, you can't migrate back to your old system. And the libc has to be same on both systems in any case. Whoa .. what a bullshit ...

When i look at the WPARS solution, it looks like a really bad kludge. It's good for the bullet point list wars.I'm sure that IBM sales reps will run around with WPARS and tell "Sun cannot do that" and maybe some customers who doesn't like Sun, will use it as an argument to their management, to explain why they didn't bought Sun.

But honestly, I don't think, that you really can use it for anything practical.

PS: I'm not an AIX expert. When i've got something wrong, please correct me!

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Work at 16:48

Na endlich ...

Individuelle Bordunterhaltung in der Lufthansa Economy Class. Die an der Decke hängenden Fernseher, die zudem auch noch reichlich interessante magnetische Farbspieleereien aufweisen sind so 1980 ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Business Travel at 15:05

links for 2007-08-15

Sun rises in Forrester evaluation of platforms for SOA/BPM
(tags: opensource java appserver SOA BPM)

Foundry Networks Application Switching Products - ServerIronGT C10Gx2P
(tags: networking web)

Force10 Networks, S2410, Data Center Switch
(tags: networks 10GbE)

NetScreen-5200/NetScreen-5400 - Enterprise Firewall VPN - Juniper Networks
(tags: firewall networking)

Junk In A Box: The Madness Begins with a 300-Page AT&T Bill for iPhone - Gizmodo
(tags: apple blog iphone bill)

Bestatter-Weblog
(tags: blog blogs bestatter tot business)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Rettet die Apfeltaste!

Ich will die Apfeltaste behalten! Rettet die Apfeltaste!Save the Apple-Key!

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Apple at 10:05

iSCSI FAQ at wikis.sun.com

A colleague at Sun started to build a wiki page about iSCSI in Solaris.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 09:51

Tuesday, August 14. 2007

Paul Murphy about Mainframe Linux

In Mainframe Linux Paul Murphy explains, why Linux on Mainframes isn't a good idea (or as i tend to say: it's utter bullshit to use something like that). It's a must read for everyone, who considers such a move.

But furthermore, it's a nice case study of IBM's marketing at work. The succes of IBM is largely based on a central idea: Do not target the persons with knowledge. Or as Paul states: These stories are intended to make Linux on zVM sound impressive - but both rely on a critical assumption: specifically that the reader knows little or nothing about relative system costs and performance. Only under this circumstance the standard sales tactics of obfuscation and the mastery of the pseudo correlation can reach it's target. They won't go after the die-hard architect with 10 years experience in Unix. They go after the CIO, who has to fight more with budgeting than the newest technologies. Sometimes, they have luck with this tactics even with such obvious nonsense like Mainframe Linux. By the way ... more often it's more elaborated: A few weeks ago i saw a presentation of our loved blue competitor about Niagara and the pSeries. Without deep knowledge you hadn't a chance to see that that this bluish presentation was a perfect case of FUD, full of overstretched facts, nonsensical comparisions, outright incorrect facts and so on. And this was only one presentation, i don't want to know, how many other presentation are held by our beloved competition with the same amount of bullshitting. At least, i have an explanation for a lot of insane questions from customers who had a blue visit.

Back to the mainframes Paul gives a nice example: A company reduces the runtime of a job from 8 hours to an hour by moving from z/OS to Linux on a Mainframe. Looks as a business case for Linux. Well, not exacly. They've upgraded the mainframes, too: IBM gave CALCULO two options moving to DB2 for z/OS or running DB2 under Linux on an Integrated Facility for Linux (IFL) engine in a new IBM z890 mainframe, replacing two older Multiprise 3000 H30 servers. IBM doesn't state, whats the effect of Linux and whats the effect of buying a new, vastly more powerful mainframe. Is this a business case for Linux or a business case for buying new iron? But it clearly seems to have the intention of putting Linux in to the good light of more performance. Pseudo correlation is a powerful marketing weapon ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 20:45

Gamer-Zeitschrift über Niagara2

Die PC Games berichtet über Niagara2 in Schnellste CPU: Nicht von Intel oder AMD: Die Werte des professionellen SPEC-rate-Benchmarks, welcher auch die Skalierung mit mehreren Kernen berücksichtigt, liefern einen großen Vorsprung gegenüber der Konkurrenz aus den Häusern Intel, AMD und auch IBMs Power6. Hätte ja nicht gedacht, das mal aus der Richtung Lob kommt.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 19:53

Instant Alpha in Keynote '08

Wow! The Instant Alpha feature in Keynote is exceptionally efficient. Removing the background in 3 seconds.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Apple at 14:51

Sunday, August 12, 2007

Aha ...

Your Brain is Orange

Of all the brain types, yours is the quickest.
You are usually thinking a mile a minute, and you could be thinking about anything at all.
Your thoughts are often scattered and random - but they're also a lot of fun!

You tend to spend a lot of time thinking about esoteric subjects, the meaning of life, and pop culture.

What Color Is Your Brain?

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Fundsache at 16:00

Little features

At the end, you can do presentations with Staroffice and Powerpoint. But these little features in Keynote helps you to make really good looking presentations. The moment i saw Instant Alpha was the moment i've reached for my credit card. And it confirms my point, that they (my company) will have to break the Powerbook G4 out of my cold dead hands (or buy me one of this nice Mac Book Pros). Fortunatly, Sun is quite agnostic of the employees notebook, as long you don't do your presentation with a IBM or HP notebook (because of the difficult argumentations of it in front of the customer).

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 14:11

Chip Porn: UltraSPARC T2 - up, close, personal and ... naked

Thanks to Frank Selbach, who gave me the both chips to make some photos.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 12:34

Chip Porn: Generations

Side by side two game changers. The left one is an UltraSPARC T2 (aka Niagara 2). The right one is an UltraSPARC T1 (aka Niagara 1). I wanted to take some xrays of both, but the masive heat spreaders made the xrays very boring (two white blocks).

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 12:23

A380 Seitenwindtests

Two impressive points at this video: The landing with cross winds and the the sheer size of the lady ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Technology at 09:07

787 delayed?

The Chicago Tribune speculates in "Takeoff appears delayed for 787" about delays due software problems. I don't think,

that the software will be the biggest problem of the 787. As far as i know, nobody has long-term experience with an large sized commercial aircraft consisting out of plastic. Until now all "plastic aircraft" were military ones, pulled into the hangar at night, relativly small time airborne and with a "no-matter-the-costs"-maintainance. But whats with an apron-parking aircraft, that rushes from one airport to another?

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Technology at 08:48

Saturday, August 11. 2007

Mistwetter

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 16:47

Friday, August 10. 2007

Die Zeit schreibt über Sun

Von Rolf Kersten bekam ich gerade einen Hinweis , das die Zeit über Sun schreibt. So schreibt die Wochenzeitung in Der Fußabdruck des Surfers:
Allein der optimierte Code eines neuen Betriebssystems (Solaris 10 von Sun), so heißt es bei Strato, mache die Server um 30 Prozent sparsamer.undZum Beispiel laufen neue, für Strato speziell ausgestattete Server der Firma Sun um 90 Prozent sparsamer als ihre Vorgänger.Sun predigt das Problem des Energieverbrauchs von Servern schon seit zwei bis drei Jahren. Und nunmehr kommt das Thema auch in den technikfremden Medien und damit auch beim weniger durch schiere Groesse mit dem Problem "Strom und Abwärme" befassten Kunden an. Dabei sollten die Firmen schon aus eigenem Interesse (Strom ist ja nun nicht eben günstig) daran interessiert sein, schon sehr viel weiter zu sein als die Medien. Denn eigentlich ist es recht einfach in einem RZ Strom und damit ziemlich direkt Geld zu sparen. Denn welchen besseren Anreiz als gespartes Geld gibt es für gelebten Klimaschutz.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 22:24

Berlioz Concert in London

I didn't believed it, when i ordered the tickets, but now i have it black on white: My tickets for the Berlioz Requiem in the Royal Albert Hall are the middle of the first row of Area A. Look like i'm a lucky fellow right now.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Music at 21:41

More about Niagara II

Lawrence Spracklen gives a detailed overview about the crypto performance of the Niagara II chip. Alexandre Chartre decibes in his blog the usage of Linux on an UltraSPARC T2 processor.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 21:27

Cool stuff: DTrace Provider for /bin/sh

How cool is this:A DTrace provider for /bin/sh. Makes the analysis of weird shell scripts much easier

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 13:41

IBM whitepaper for Solaris on Bladecenter

Solaris seems to be a factor in the bladecenter world: IBM published a Redbook about the installation process of Solaris on blade center: Implementing Sun Solaris on IBM BladeCenter Servers. And it's even distributed by the media.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 09:05

Thursday, August 9, 2007

About IBM's partitioning story ...

While searching for some informations about LPARS i read some interesting articles about the LPARS technology:
1. According to an article in a pseries forum, you have to calculate 1.25 GB memory overhead for a 32 GB System. To get a 256 MB LPAR up and running you need 756 MB main memory. When the proposed calculation in the article is valid for every memory configuration, the p570 with 756 GB memory, that was used for the TPC-C benchmark, would have an minimal LPAR memory overhead of 12,5 GB for virtualisation alone.
2. In a IBM Redbook titled with

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in The IT Business at 12:36

Lehrinhalte

Ich glaube, ich weiss jetzt, was im ersten Lehrjahr im Handwerk oder im ablesenden Gewerbe unterrichtet wird - gleich als erstes, gleich in welchem Beruf: Wenn Du einen Kunden dazu zwingst, mit der Ankündigung, du würdest zwischen neun und 11 Uhr kommen, dann sei auch nich um 12:30 beim Kunden. Saubande ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Braindump at 12:31

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Pelikan

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Photographie at 20:07

What we've announced yesterday ...

What did we announce yesterday? In my opinion, the most important chip for Sun. It's even more important than Rock. When you look around, the loads for single threaded performance decrease, and as the complete industry turns in the direction of "more cores" (even IBM talks about this in the Power7 timeframe). Rock will be important for the highest end. But the future of general purpose computing begins right here, right now.

So, why is Niagara 2 so important. Niagara 1 had it's weak points for general purpose computing. We decided to design a processor with such weaknesses, as we designed it with a certain workload in mind: Internet, a niche according to IBM and HP, but hey ... it's a really big niche. Niagara 2 was designed as a general purpose CPU. The problem of the single FPU? Addressed ... the N2 has 8 of them? The issue of SSL-centric Crypto-circuits. Addressed ... they were substituted by full-fledged crypto accelerators. You get 64 threads, you get two 10 Gigabit Ethernet interfaces with chipsets specifically designed for multi core processing, as they implement the processing tasks in a similar multithreaded way. You get eight lanes of PCI Express. 2 Gigabyte/s in and 2 Gigabyte/s out. Solely for storage attach, as you have already two really big fat pipes of Ethernet directly connected to the inner crossbar of the chip. 60 GB/s worth of memory bandwidth.

The point of being only capable to run in single socket systems will be solved soon by Victoria Falls. Imagine a system of two or four this processors. Running on an operating system really capable to handle such large amounts of computing threads because four processor with 64 threads each means scheduling you processors on 256 hardware processor. Not an easy task.

Now many people will say: Each thread will only run on 1.4 Gigahertz. This is half as fast as a modern x86 CPU. But is this really a factor? Maybe you can do more cycles in a second, but what's the gain, when you wait most cycles for memory. A T1/T2 swiches simply to a non-memory starved thread. This is one the reason why a 1.4 GHz CPU can be faster than a 4.7 GHz CPU in SPECfp rate and SPECint rate . It's like my sister and me at playing racing games on her PC. I've lost every time in spite of having the faster car. The problem: I've lost traction in every curve of the race track and had to reaccelerate while my sister was able to take the curve without no problems. And: 1.4 Ghz is just the beginning.

IBM want's to tell to plays it's virtualisation card by saying: "But we have better virtualisation, we can do more than 64 LDOMS". But the decision for limit was a sentient one: When ever you want to switch to a virtual machine, you have to save the actual register sets and restore the stored register contents of the next vm into the register sets. Takes a vast amount of clock cycles. Now: A 64 threads processor has 64 register sets. By limiting the number of domains to the number of threads - i hope you've already got the point - you get an important advantage: Switch from a VM to the next in a clock cycle. Neat, isn't it ?At the end, it's not important to be able to partition the cpu into smallest fragments. It's important that the performance isn't evaporated by the VM layer. Or didn't you asked your self, why there's no benchmark result for a virtualized system in the large benchmark portfolio of IBM or why the VMware licence prohibits benchmarks? LDOMs virtualisation is virtualisation done right.

Now, as the N2 hasn't the problem of the single FPU, that prevented N1 of being a general purpose CPU, the game changes again. 18 month after we did it with N1 the first time. With Niagara II you get a processor suitable for almost all tasks of computing. And as Jonathan said: You've ain't seen nothing yet. But you see the future of computing today. And really soon in your datacenter.

PS: Maybe some statements are really bold ones. But when you've read, what i've read in the past, when you know what i know, when you saw what i saw you would be so enthusiastic as well.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 19:34

Niagara II news galore - Volume 2

SearchDatacenter cites Nathan Brookwood in Sun Microsystems unveils Niagara UltraSparc T2 chip:Nathan Brookwood, the founder and principal analyst for research firm Insight 64, a consulting firm based in Saratoga, Calif., said he's impressed with the upgrade.[..]All in all, it's a very impressive chip in terms of its absolute performance and its performance per watt."

And I'm really interested about a discussion at osnews.com. This portal was pro-Sun in the last few years.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 18:23

64

A flash demo in Ashley Saulsbury's blog shows, that 64 LDOMs are not a marketing gag : 64 domain capable (UltraSPARC-T2) chip launched today

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 14:03

Heise über Niagara II

Ein positiver Bericht bei Heise über ein Sun Announcement ... wie konnte das nur passieren? Stop the press "Hell freezes over" ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 09:41

Pride goes before a fall.

It's definitely fear. Or do you know a different explanation for such a major malfunction of good sense. Andrew Morton went as far as:He didn't mince words. "It's a great shame that OpenSolaris still exists. They should have killed it," said Morton, addressing one attendee's question about the possibility of Solaris' most notable features being integrated into the kernel. "It's a disappointment and a mistake by Sun."I have an idea, how it came to this comment. I assume he was asked "When do we get ZFS and DTrace for Linux" all day long and at the hundreth time, he lost his nerves.

PS: Mr. Morton, until the developers of SystemTap don't understand the ideas and concepts behind dtrace, SystemTap won't be anything near of dtrace.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 07:36

Tuesday, August 7, 2007

Second Life - revisited

I'm in desperate need of a system with a faster graphics card ... with multiple videos and the surrounding structure the system was dog slow while watching the Niagara 2 webcast.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 20:24

Niagara 2 performance

BMseer compares the preliminary SPECint_rate2006 and SPECfp_rate2006 results of Niagara2 with some other leading processor brands ... very encouraging.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 19:21

Niagara 2 news galore

Jonathan in Sun Enters the Commodity Silicon Business:

To add fuel to the fire, the blueprints for our UltraSPARC T2 (I personally like the moniker, "Niagara 2" - named after Niagara Falls, btw, and the great volumes of water that pass over them), the core design files and test suites, will be available to the open source community, via its most popular license: the GPL. Making Niagara 2 the only commodity silicon whose core designs are available to the open source community - whose strength, and market power, only grows by the day. BTW: Now I know why there were several articles about N2, while I bite myself on my tongue all day long: In the interim, on Monday a reporter accidentally violated our news embargo, which set off a flurry of press coverage. And Rick Hetherington and Hal Stern state in Innovation@Sun: A System on a Chip – The Sequel: And then being the leader in power efficiency, we paid special attention to how we can manage power internally, so we do have features like clock-gating, extensive clock-gating throughout the core. So if one is not running a floating point application, the clocks are not being submitted to that floating point unit. David Yen in an interview with ZDnet: "At the same time, we will [also] roll out a developer beta program in which we will provide access to Verilog RTL design file and test suites, so that we can get early feedback to refine our open source process and eventually complete the open-sourcing [of UltraSparc T2] by the summer of 2008," he explained. And even a enterprise systems affine news sites like Engadget write about the announcement.

Timothy Prickett Morgan writes Sun Polishes Up Sparc T2 Multithreaded Chips: Sun is not saying much about performance when it comes to the T2 chips, but the T2 is expected to have about 2.5 times the throughput performance of the T1, and Victoria Falls is expected to nearly double that again, with a 65 percent performance boost over the T2's at the system level.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 18:53

Arrogance or fear?

It is just me, or is this statement full of arrogance: "They've fragmented the non-Windows operating system world and they continue to do so," he said. But he acknowledged he did not see much chance of Sun moving away from Solaris. Mr. Morton, Solaris and SunOS were around long before Mr. Torvalds bought it's first 386. So, when you really want to talk about fragmentation, please look in the nearest mirror. But this discussion is nonsensical: There is no fragmentation in a world, where the next binary is just one makefile away. It doesn't fragment the non-windows world, it eats away the Linux addressable market. And this is a huge difference.

So, why do they issue such bold statements. In my opinion, Opensolaris is the most dangerous competitor for Linux in the open source based economy. At least from my point of view, I see many die-hard-linux shop that consider Solaris or Opensolaris. The luminaries of Linux are quite aware of this fact. Furthermore, there are some technical like ZFS or dtrace developments, where Linux can't participate, because of the license they use (it's a GPL problem, not a problem of the CDDL, as the BSDs or MacOS X can use Opensolaris technology).

When you look at Opensolaris and Linux, they seem to be mirror universes. Similar, but with important differences: Both are open-source, but as Linux thrives to broaden it's common of code, Solaris licence was designed to include legacy

components and to enable IP-based business with open source. Where Linux has no roadmap, Solaris and Opensolaris have one (can be advantageous as well as disadvantageous) . Linux development and integration in the mainline kernel is driven by the kernel maintainers, whereas Solaris has an full-fledged process to ensure such things like compatibility. Solaris is different enough to attract developers and nobody can really predict the outcome on a five year basis. Both opinopns are perfectly valid. And the communities will decide. By the way: Solaris has a big advantage, Sun is committed to it's operating system. Linux has such "committed" backers like IBM, which pray Linux and sell AIX ... sorry, could not resist ...

And as a sidenote to the ever-reoccurring "Linux has more drivers" disccusion: In a market, where the newest graphic boards outdates faster than you can pass it over the counter, the advantage of having more hardware drivers can be a very temporary one.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 17:18

links for 2007-08-07

Lozworld [TM] :: Mac Mini, DisplayConfigX and Panasonic TH42PX60B
(tags: Mac Panasonic Plasma resolution)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Monday, August 6. 2007

Register about Niagara II

The usual suspect at the Register wrote a nice piece about the Niagara II: Sun releases world's fastest chip - at 1.4GHz. Ashlee, you've ain't seen nothing yet. Other benchmarks are even more impressive than SPECint rate or it's floating point counterpart.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 22:23

Taking a bath ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Photographie at 20:51

45m

Ich vermute, darüber wird man sich in Finkenwerder freuen: Airbus A380 erhält Zulassung für 45 Meter breite Landebahnen. Bisher waren ja 60m breite Monsterlandebahnen vorgeschrieben. Obwohl: Der Vogel ist wirklich gigantisch ... ich hab direkt neben der Lady gestanden, als sie das erste mal in Finkenwerder gelandet ist. Irgendwie verständlich, das die mit 60m erstmal nummer sicher gehen wollten ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Business Travel at 14:50

Mercury News about Niagara II

Mercury News reports about Niagara II in Sun takes on AMD and Intel with new chip. But i find HP's stance to Niagara II the most interesting part : "Sun's Niagara and Rock platforms are proprietary, niche architectures," HP said in a statement e-mailed to the Mercury News on Friday. "With the industry moving toward standards with processors built by AMD and Intel, HP believes that Sun's Niagara 2 is the wrong way to go for customers and out of step with the market."It's more of this "Sun-is-proprietary-and-niagara-a-niche" bullshit. At first, a processor like UltraSPARC T1, that is fully GPLed can't be proprietary, as everyone can use this processor for own designs. It's based on a specification you can get from sparc.org to develop your own processor. Solaris and Linux (Update: Free-, Open- und NetBSD, too) runs on SPARC. Try to get VERILOG files for Itanium ...

And with Itanium, HP has vast experiences with niche platforms. It's a miracle to me, what forces keeps this architecture afloat, especially as they underdelivered again with Montvale again. From my view, HP is afraid of the silicon we announce real soon now.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 13:36

links for 2007-08-06

Sparks and White Noise: Niagara II About to Take Center Stage
(tags: CMT Niagara2)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:19

Schulungen für Solaris 10

Ich wurde schon häufiger von Lesern nach richtigen Schulungen gefragt, um Auffrischungen für die neuen Features in Solaris 10 zu bekommen. Über Detlef ist mir diesbezüglich nun ein Flyer mit Schulungmassnahmen in die Finger gefallen: Solaris 10 Folgetrainings

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 11:36

Second Life

See you in the Sun Second Life Pavillion tomorrow at 10 o'clock Pacific time (18 o'clock GMT). Don't miss it.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Sun at 09:44

Das Wort zum Montag Morgen ...

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Photographie at 08:15

Sunday, August 5, 2007

links for 2007-08-05

Chris's Wiki :: [blog/solaris/DiskSuiteiSCSIProblem](http://blog.solaris.com/DiskSuiteiSCSIProblem)
Chris blogs about some DiskSuite and iSCSI
(tags: iSCSI DiskSuite Solaris SVM)

Solaris Jedi: First impressions of ZFS
"I'm happy to report ZFS was painless and a pleasure to use. I'm still in shock from the simplicity. This is fun... I don't miss Linux at all."
(tags: ZFS Solaris Sun)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:18

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Successful grid computing

The most successful usage (from an economic standpoint) of grid computing is ubiquitous, but not obvious. The Guardian writes about it in [Why did baddies get grid computing first?: They're computing power available on demand, for the right price, if you know the right people, and can do whatever the person with the money wants: send billions of spam emails every day, bring gambling sites to their knees for ransom demands, spam blogs with comments about pharmaceuticals, host pornography and phishing sites, crack passwords\[.\]](#)By that measure, the underground grid economy is worth roughly \$400m a year.(via: Sun HPC watercooler)

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in The IT Business at 18:55

links for 2007-08-04

Slashdot | Sun to Release 8-Core Niagara 2 Processor
(tags: computer niagara slashdot)

Sun reports strong Q4 profits, but when will revenue follow? | Tech news blog - CNET News.com
(tags: Sun SUNW)

The Unix Guardian--Q and A: Sun's Top Operating System Brass Talk OS Strategy
(tags: OS Solaris Sun)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:18

Frequent Traveller programs

It's a common misconception that frequent traveller program are for frequent travellers: I've flown almost a hundred times the last two years and still no FTL. A good friend, first class ticket (don't ask why), enough miles for FTL with a single flight over the pond and back again. Frequent traveller programs measure the amount of money you gave the airline, not the miles you used their planes They should call it "Frequent spender program"

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 10:21

Friday, August 3. 2007

About scheduling

Interesting annotation about the fuss surrounding the CFS in Linux: I find it interesting and slightly sad, given how low level a topic this really is, how much is being written about the new CFS scheduler being introduced into Linux. The sad part is how much flamage is flying around as a result of this from people not in the slightest bit involved in the design and development - this sadly is the ugly side of many open source groups.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 19:11

Jokes about DRS

A colleague of mine asked me some months ago "Don't make jokes about Dresden airport". Yesterday I had my small point-and-shoot camera with me to document the whole point of my jokes:

1 o'clock afternoon. This airport isn't exactly overcrowded. You will find four persons on the image. The fifth in Bordeaux is a cardboard figure.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Business Travel at 16:47

Informationweek about Niagara 2

One of the InfoWeek blogs published a really nice article about Sun's Niagara 2 Processor Is Multicore Computing On Steroids: Still, this Niagara 2 device is a killer piece of silicon, delivering double the throughput of its predecessor. BTW: I don't share Alexander Wolfes opinion, that "throughput computing" isn't a good catch phrase. Throughput computing is nothing less than the shift from "compute one task as fast as hell" to "compute as much work as possible in a given timeframe". And this concept is well known in the world of those people who buy such servers.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 10:17

Zipper

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 08:42

Thursday, August 2, 2007

DTrace, systemtap and a brief history of "NIH"

You should read the blog entry of to read the perception of one of the DTrace developers regarding the relationship of DTrace and Systemtap. But i really think the whole issue opens up the view to a different problem inside of Linux: The "not invented here (NIH)" problem. Linux isn't immune to that problem.

"Not invented here(NIH)" is a phenomon inherent to many groups of engineer that were on wave of success for a long time and start to get overconfident. Intel designs it's own bus called CSI instead of using Hypertransport or PCIExpress instead of Infiniband (yeah, IB was designed with something different in mind than a mere cluster connect), parts of Sun thought of x86 as inferior processors until Andy came along and showed that you can build real servers out of Opterons.

When you look at the Linux Community, you have the impression, that they have in parts the NIH problem as well (although many concepts in Linux are at least inspired by Solaris, SunOS or other commercial Unix system). There are several attempts to mimic ZFS (none of them comes close) and with systemtap a similar system to DTrace was developed.

The problem: You want a feature, you want it fast and you didn't really understand the objectives and design decisions behind the competing product. But you have time or your employer says "We need a tool like dtrace to compete with Solaris. Fast!". At the end you come up with something that look similar at first sight but you can't really use, because of the several short cuts the developers took. Systemtap started as an DTrace competitor and landed as yet another kernel debugging tool - you won't start a kernel module that easily bring down you server on your production SAP system.

Many people thought about the open sourcing of Solaris "You are crazy, Linux will take the good parts and Solaris will die". But honestly, i have no fear of an operating system that copies functionalities in such a way.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 21:24

SunCEC2007: Customer Engineering Conference 2007

The official invitational mail reached me a few days ago: I will travel to the CEC this year again. I wrote it before, this year in Las Vegas ... i assume, it gives you more bang for the bucks than downtown San Francisco to hold a 3500 heads conference, besides of the issue of not being San Francisco, my favorite city on this planet But, well, wasn't in Las Vegas before. All i know about the city comes from various CSI episodes

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in suncec2007 at 19:41

Clouds

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Photographie at 19:31

links for 2007-08-02

Media Influencer: Conferences are boring by default and design
(tags: Conferences)

Announcing support for IP Filters on SC3.1U4
(tags: Cluster SC3.1 IPFilter security)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:18

Indiana

Interestingly the first article - aside from Sun publication - which fully understands the concept behind Project Indiana is published by a Linux news portal.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Solaris at 08:19

Wednesday, August 1. 2007

links for 2007-08-01

Automatic start and stop of XEN domains
(tags: XEN Solaris)

Elite Bastards - AMD's Barcelona architecture - July update
(tags: AMD Barcelona quadcore)

audiotranskription.de - Zoom H4 Testbericht
(tags: audio podcast)

Posted by del.icio.us in del.icio.us at 13:23

HVV

Wenn man so morgens in die Gesichter der Leute in der S-Bahn guckt, moechte man meinen, sie wuerden zur Schlachtbank und nicht zur Arbeit fahren. Verbiestert, den Blick verbissen nach Aussen gewandt und kein Wort wird im gesamten Zug gesprochen.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in Braindump at 10:20

Teamquest Virtualisation Poll

An interesting outcome of a "Which virtualisation do you use or plan to use?"-poll hold by Teamquest. First place, of course, VMware. This was perfectly explainable. Virtualisation is mostly a cure for this "one service, one server" dogma in Windows based computing. And well, VMware is the best solution for that at the moment (will change soon because of HVM XEN in Solaris . But: The second place is Solaris Containers with 17%. Ahead of IBM's Advanced Power Virtualisation with 11%.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp at 09:23