
Subject: Re: IDL for linux on Macintosh ppc
Posted by [Vincent Favre-Nicolin](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Andrew wrote:

- > It always amazes me to see companies who have a product
- > that runs on "Linux 6.0 or later" (vs. a kernel version
- > number). And it amazes me even more to see companies
- > (like RSI) who support only one distro.
- >
- > RedHat version x.y doesn't mean sooo much standardization.
- > Is it KDE, Gnome, plain X? Is lesstif installed? How
- > is the kernel configured? Etc.
- >
- > Why is it that Wolfram can get Mathematica to run on
- > any distro? Why is it that Statcorp can get Stata to
- > run on any distro --- and also supports Linux/PPC?
- > And I would not be surprised to see Stata for Linux/SPARC
- > or Linux/Alpha.

In the present case, it is not only a matter of distribution.
Supporting 'only RedHat' by RSI means that it has only be tested on
RedHat, it does not mean that it will not run under other distributions.
Similar distributions will certainly alos work. I have installed IDL on
Suse 6.4 and it seems to work, although it's only the demo.

In the case of LinuxPPC, it is not the same *processor* so things
are quite different ! Depending on how IDL was programmed , they may
need some serious work to have it fonctionnal on a PowerPC + Linux.
Still, since it already runs on many various (and big-endian) machines,
most of the work should already have been done. But the question is :
how many people would be interested ? I *do* use LinuxPPC at home so I
would be interested, but I can understand their point of view.

BTW, there are *numerous* programs which do not run under LinuxPPC
(StarOffice, and Mathematica too, I think), so RSI isn't that much
isolated. A pity, but things are slowly changing

VFN

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