## Subject: Re: IDL for X86 Solaris
Posted by scotty on Thu, 07 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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We'd be interested in 1 or 2 licenses, I expect.

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## Subject: Re: IDL for X86 Solaris
Posted by cnlenz on Fri, 08 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <42nd8d$3ll@agate.berkeley.edu>, Jonathan-Loran FAST <jloran> writes:
>> How many of you IDL users out there would like to run IDL on Sun
>> Solaris for X86?
>>
>> At my institution, it has become clear that we would like to
>> stop buying new SPARCstations, and move to X86 machines running
>> Solaris.  We can put together machines with comparable performance at
>> 1/3 the price. There is one hangup however... IDL is not available
>> for Solaris on X86.
>>
>> What I'm trying to find out if there would be significant demand for
>> IDL on Solaris X86 for it to be worthwhile for RSI to do the port.
>> Please post your opinions to this news group, and tell your colleagues
>> to do likewise.
>>
>> Thanks much,
>>
>>
>> - Jonathan Loran -
>> Space Sciences Lab
>>    UC Berkeley
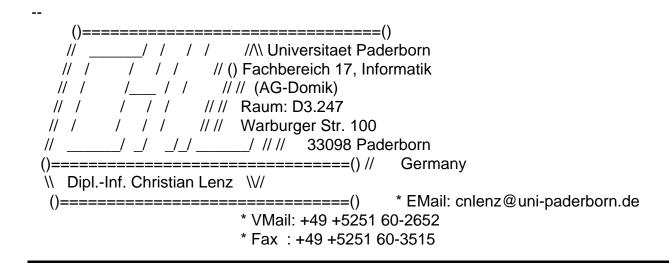>>   (510) 643-8485
>> jml@ssl.berkeley.edu
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Hi!
What do you think about of using LINUX? Here at University of Paderborn (Germany) is Linux the system of the future. That means not, that we buy no more Sun's, but we also buy more x86 machines. And the best: IDL run's under Linux.
The most other software, we have for Sun (Sparc) we also have for Linux. In the many cases it's GNU-software

Bye

Christian

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  \\  Dipl.-Inf. Christian Lenz   \V/
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                              * VMail: +49 +5251 60-2652
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## Subject: Re: IDL for X86 Solaris
Posted by Jonathan-Loran FAST on Fri, 08 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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For us at SSL, Linux is not currently an option for tree reasons:

1) Linux does not support multithreading at the kernel level, which we need for
   a large body of existing high performance software (c and C++) used for realtime
   satellite data acquisition.  Solaris has a great (probably the best) multithreading
   implemention.

2) The Linux version of IDL does not support the CALL_EXTERNAL capability (yet) which
   we use extensively to link in C code for higher performance and data access.

3) It will be a snap to port our non-IDL software from Solaris SPARC to Solaris X86.
   Though it may not be too bad to port to Linux, it will certainly be much easier to
   port to Solaris X86.  We would only need to worry about endian issues.  Otherwise
   the two versions of Solaris are source code compatible.

In fact, by the same token (as with 3), it would be a snap for RSI to port IDL to X86,
since they could use common code from the SPARC version.

Thanks for your comments,

 - Jonathan Loran -
Space Sciences Lab
  UC Berkeley
 (510) 643-8485
jml@ssl.berkeley.edu

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