

Linux Conference marches South to Tasmania

Hobart to host prestigious linux.conf.au for the first time

The Tasmanian Linux community is pleased to announce Australia's prestigious Linux conference, linux.conf.au, is headed south to Tasmania for the first time in its ten year history.

Hobart narrowly won the bid for hosting the conference in 2009 over Brisbane, after missing out to Melbourne in last year's bid process. It is to be held at the University of Tasmania's Sandy Bay campus from the 19th to the 24th of January, 2009.



The conference patron, Linux Australia, stated the decision was a difficult one, but that Tasmania's unique location, and the positive flow-on effect that hosting linux.conf.au would have on the small but dedicated open source community in Tasmania were key factors in their decision. The high level of government and local business support for the conference were also cited as influential in the final choice.

Hobart's conference promises to be innovative, bringing in the wider open source community, such as those creating open content in the fine arts sector, to collaborate with the technical experts that the conference attracts.

"The free and open source (FOSS) community is all about collaboration; when the community works together great things are produced." said Ben Powell, co-coordinator for the linux.conf.au team. "We want to bring the wider FOSS community together for this conference so that we can encourage collaboration across disciplines." He stated that Tasmania's community 'feel' would enhance the conference focus, and bring new perspectives and ideas to the traditionally technically focused event.

The internationally recognised conference started in Melbourne back in 1999, with CALU: Conference of Australian Linux Users, held at Monash University over 3 days in July 1999. Renamed to linux.conf.au in 2001 it has grown to become one of the world's best technical Linux conferences.

It continues to be run by community volunteers for the community volunteers that have made Linux and Free and Open Source Software the phenomenon it is today.

More information can be found at the conference website at <http://www.marchsouth.org>.

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If you would like more information or to schedule an interview please contact:

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Alternatively you can contact the bid team for a statement on Email: media@marchsouth.org