## EIL Linux Client Agent Update 2010-12-20

* Installation Progress:
  + Requirements were:
    - Single, cross-distribution installer
    - Statically linked binary (no additionally dependency installation)
  + What's done:
    - Cross-distribution installer is mostly complete and tested on RHEL, SLES/SLED, Ubuntu and ESXi.
    - Some testing has been done on Xen, but more needs to be done.
    - ESXi has proven problematic (as we expected it would) and we have had to make a one-off installation scriptlet just for ESXi which the main installation tool uses when it auto-detects ESXi.
    - Installation tool can be used to
      * Install manually
      * Build manually (dynamic or static linking)
      * Build installable cross-distribution tar file “package” (not-native distribution package)
      * Install automatically from cross-distribution tar file “package”
      * “Bootstrapper” tool used to bootstrap a fresh install or update an existing one
    - Additionally, we currently have an auto-update tool complete, which is well ahead of schedule (it is bundled with the install tool, and makes testing easier)
  + Problems and Issues:
    - Because we are not using underlying package management system, there is a certain degree of “re-inventing the wheel” in the install tool, and with that, there will be problems
    - There have been some quirks and issues (as explained last week), many of which have been addressed.
  + Recommendation:
    - Strongly recommend, moving forward, using the underlying native package management systems for installation and upgrade of the EIL Linux Client agent.
    - Strongly recommend moving away from pure static binary to dynamic binary with dependency packages (unencumbered from libc)
* Client Agent Progress
  + Dispatcher:
    - Most significant progress in the dispatcher lately has been to migrate away from heavy dependence on bash-isms and generalize everything to be more shell-agnostic
      * Dispatcher now runs successfully in bash (RHEL, SUSE), dash (Ubuntu), and Busybox ash (ESXi)
  + Steward:
    - As of 2010-12-20 (Monday) morning, the steward is now consuming commands from CCMS.
      * It's not *doing anything with these commands yet (at roughly 11am, we finally got the C struct correct and observed the correct data in gdb, so there is no logic to interpret the code yet) but it is very close*