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openSUSE Project Releases openSUSE 12.1

Latest distribution includes platform innovations and tools enabling users to run cutting edge Linux-based operating systems in physical, virtual and cloud environments

World-Wide, Web, November 16, 2011 -- The openSUSE Project, a global open source community, announced today the general availability of openSUSE 12.1. The stable, complete and easy-to-use multipurpose operating system distribution helps users and developers leverage free and open source software in physical, virtual and cloud environments.

“openSUSE 12.1 represents more than eight months of worldwide effort to create one of the industry's best Linux distributions,” said Jos Poortvliet, openSUSE community manager for SUSE. “The openSUSE distribution and its thousands of open source applications are the result of contributions from individual testers, writers, translators, usability experts, artists, ambassadors, packagers and developers having a lot of fun working together to create a uniquely powerful set of tools and capabilities.”

The openSUSE Project's commitment to providing a stable, complete and easy-to-use multipurpose distribution is demonstrated by the latest community community-led features [openSUSE 12.1](#). Notable innovations include:

Cloud Innovation

Designed with integration in mind, the latest openSUSE release ships with the latest Linux kernel 3.1, making it even more versatile and extensible for supporting mixed IT environments including public and private clouds. By leveraging [SUSE Studio](#) users can build and deploy unique versions of openSUSE 12.1, with custom package selections, artwork, scripts, etc. that can be deployed directly to Amazon EC2 or onto a variety of other cloud platforms.

openSUSE is the first Linux distribution to support ownCloud with its own unique [Mirall](#) desktop integration. Additionally, the [openSUSE Virtualization and Cloud repository](#) offers the latest versions of Eucalyptus, OpenNebula and OpenStack for openSUSE 12.1. The latest virtualization technologies including Xen 4.1, KVM and VirtualBox can be managed with the latest virt-manager and open-vm-tools.

Distribution Innovation

openSUSE 12.1 includes Snapper, a new and unique tool that employs the snapshot functionality in btrfs to allow users to view older versions of files and revert changes. The integration of Snapper into the zypper package manager allows users to roll back system updates and configuration changes.

openSUSE is also the first major distribution to ship the [Go programming language](#), Google's new open development language. Go is a fast, easy-to-use language that helps programmers handle multi-core, networked machines with the convenience of garbage collection and run-time reflection.

OpenSUSE 12.1 also includes an option to enable [Tumbleweed](#), a version of openSUSE with rolling updates that contain the latest stable versions of all software. The project was conceived by [Greg Kroah-Hartman](#), a SUSE kernel engineer. Tumbleweed lessens the significance and change impact of major releases by updating systems continuously.

Desktop enhancements

With Gnome Shell 3.2 the openSUSE interface focuses on deeper integration of collaboration tools such as calendar notifications, chat and a centralized online accounts configuration. The UI elements and workflows are touch-screen friendly, equipped to handle smaller screens, multi-screen setups and automatic rotation for touch screen devices.

openSUSE is the first major Linux distribution to ship both GNOME and KDE with color management. Other features in KDE include the introduction of the Apper software manager, simplifying software installation. openSUSE also include the innovative Plasma Active tablet interface in the Open Build Service.

“While the big updates include Snapper, systemd and ownCloud, there are also many smaller enhancements like the improvements to YaST or the work on zypper. And that is only what our own community did,” said Bryen Yunahsko, member of the openSUSE Board and marketing lead. “We’re standing on the shoulders of the gigantic open source community. I would not be surprised if openSUSE's latest update has over 300,000 improvements that resulted from efforts in the open source community.”

For more details about the latest innovations in openSUSE 12.1 visit opensuse.org/12.1

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About openSUSE

The openSUSE project is a worldwide effort that promotes the use of Linux everywhere. openSUSE creates one of the world's best Linux distributions, working together in an open, transparent and friendly manner as part of the worldwide Free and Open Source Software community. For more information, visit www.opensuse.org.

About SUSE

SUSE is a leading provider of enterprise Linux solutions that increase agility, reduce cost and manage complexity in dynamic environments. With a portfolio centered on SUSE Linux Enterprise, the most interoperable platform for mission-critical computing, SUSE enables organizations to confidently deliver computing services across physical, virtual and cloud environments. With our award-winning products and ecosystem of partnerships, SUSE solutions empower thousands of organizations around the world. For more information, visit www.suse.com.

Press Contacts

Jos Poortvliet
openSUSE Community Manager, SUSE
jos@opensuse.org

Amie Johnson
PR Manager, SUSE
amie@suse.com