

Analyzing ROI for Linux Migration

Linux and Open Source have a place in the Enterprise

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Overview

- Open Source drivers at The Indianapolis Star
- IndyStar.com
 - **Evolution**
 - Proprietary
 - Mixed
 - Open Source
- Text & Photo Archive System
 - **Platform switch opportunity**
- Other Open Source at The Indianapolis Star
- Evaluating options

Open Source Drivers at The Indianapolis Star

- Lower acquisition cost
- Reduce or eliminate maintenance costs
- Leverage existing skills
- More flexibility
- Wider adoption in area of application
- More software options
- Easier to scale
- Security

First Phase: Proprietary

- **Business Drivers:**
 - **Establish web presence**
 - **Put partial content on web**
 - **Avoid print subscriber cannibalization**
- **Architecture:**
 - **Eight macs running Webstar**
 - **Served main site and separate niche sites**
- **Technology:**
 - **Webstar web server running on Mac OS**
 - **Off-the-shelf software packages**
- **Challenges:**
 - **Lack of stability and scalability**

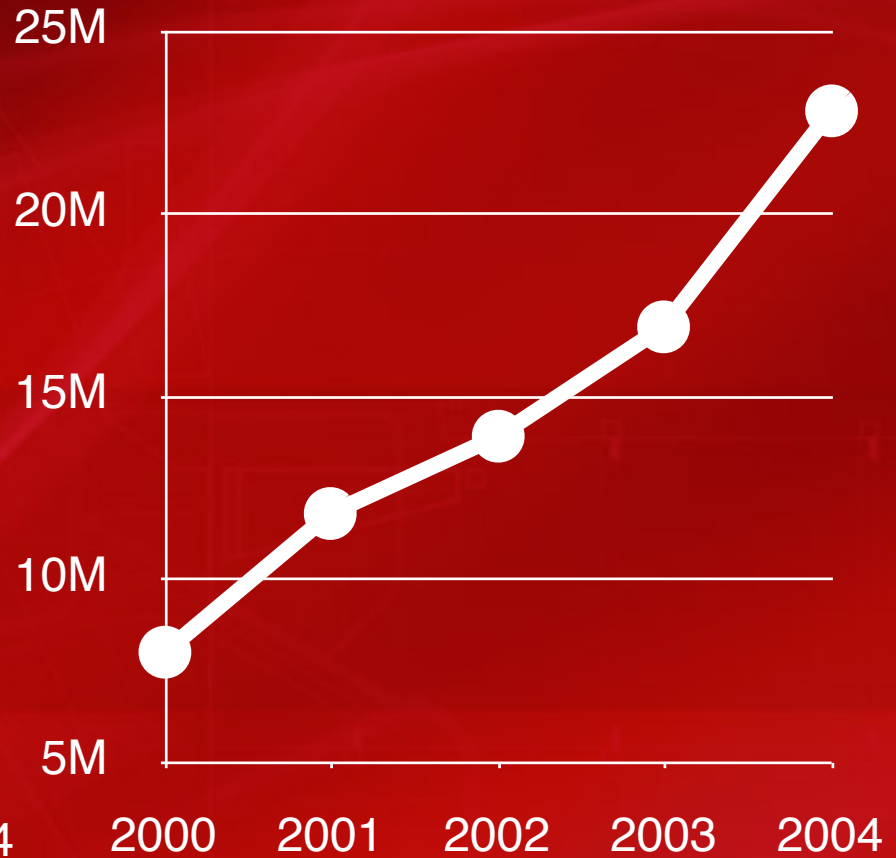
Second Phase: Mixed

- **Business Drivers:**
 - **Continue main site (StarNews.com) growth**
 - **Expand niche sites**
- **Architecture:**
 - **Multiple Sun Enterprise-class servers**
 - **Multiple web serving running on each server**
- **Technology:**
 - **Apache running on Solaris**
 - **Netscape Enterprise Server and Oracle for custom applications**
- **Challenges:**
 - **Lack of stability and scalability**
 - **Slow workflow due to bloated Java CMS**

Third Phase: Open Source

- **Business Drivers:**
 - **Focus on breaking news**
 - **Grow classified franchise**
- **Architecture:**
 - **Multiple x86 (Intel) web servers**
 - **Sun Enterprise database server**
- **Technology:**
 - **Apache on web servers**
 - **MySQL databases**
 - **Php & Perl**
 - **Custom CMS written in Php using MySQL**

Decreasing cost per pageview

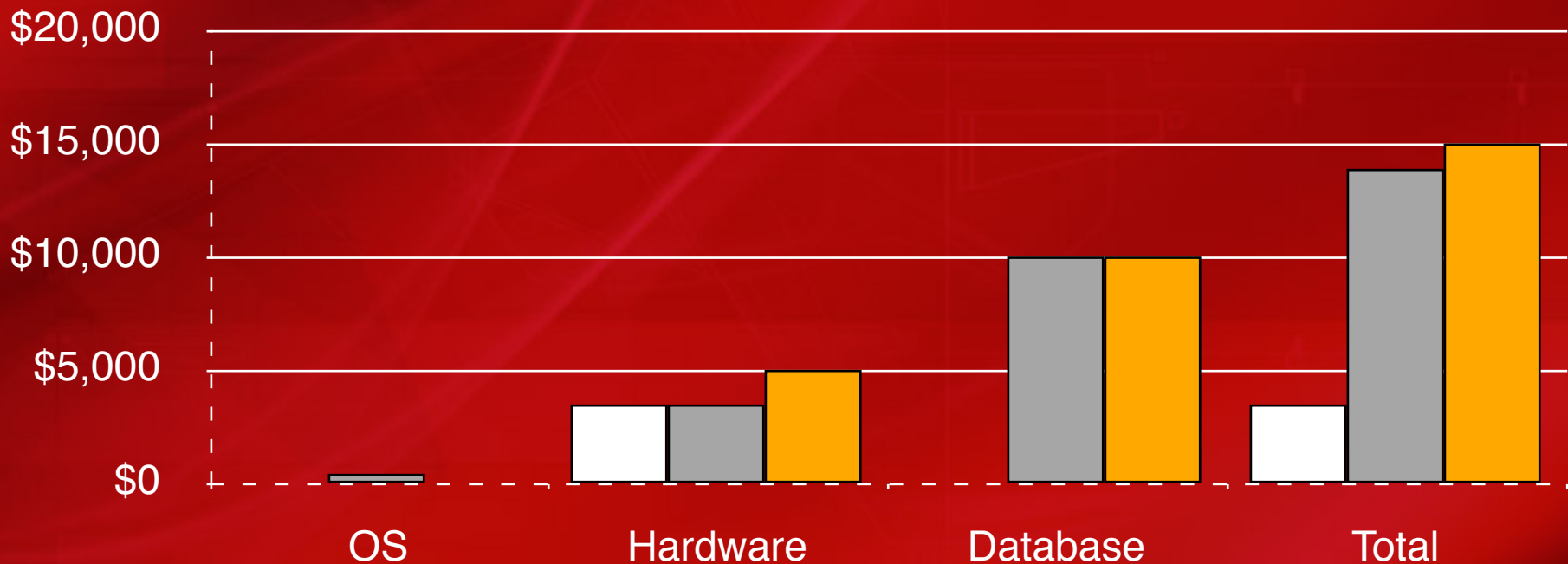
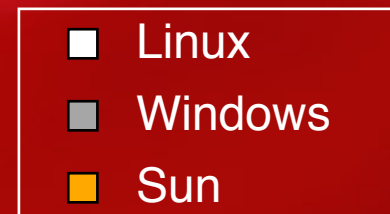


● Costs

● Avg. Pageviews/Month

Linux and Open Source with IndyStar.com

- \$3,500 IBM x86 vs. \$5,000 Sun Sparc Servers
- OS Licensing \$0
- \$10,000 - \$20,000 yearly savings with Oracle to MySQL conversion



Text & Photo Archive System

- Platform switch opportunity between Solaris to Linux
- Requirements:
 - **System should support 4-8GB of memory**
 - **Must connect to SAN with 400GB-1TB storage**
 - **Must have commercial support**
- Deciding factors to choose Solaris
 - **Application proven on Solaris**
 - **Supported solution from all vendors (Sun, EMC, Veritas, Oracle)**
- Problems encountered by sister site
 - **Lack of information**
 - **Latest versions of vendor software unavailable for Linux**
 - **Version compatibility issues**

Other open source at The Indianapolis Star

- MAN Roland presses run Linux
- Separate smaller archive running Linux
- System and network monitoring
- Ghostscript image manipulation

Deciding on Linux & Open Source

- Factors:
 - Cost
 - Horizontal vs. vertical scalability
 - Control
 - Security
 - Staff competencies
 - Desire for commercial support

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