

A Tale of Two Betas

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I don't often write about pre-release versions of Linux distributions any more - I did for a while, but the amount of negative feedback I got compared to the benefit I felt it was providing became too great. I've decided to make an exception this time, though, because there are two particularly interesting new releases coming up - Ubuntu 11.10 Oneiric Ocelot, and openSUSE 12.1. I was thinking that I would have the added incentive of both Beta releases coming out on the same day, but openSUSE decided to push theirs back because they are still working on some difficult conversions to systemd, so I just downloaded Daily Build 301 instead of the actual Beta release. They say that the final release date (10 Nov) will not be changed as a result of this delay, though. The screen shot below was made on my HP dm1-3105ez, after installing Ubuntu 11.10 Beta-2.

Since it is due out first (13 Oct), I will look briefly at Ubuntu 11.10 first. Despite the fact that I don't like the Unity desktop (still, and just as strongly as ever), I have to say that the new release is looking like a big improvement.

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