

Interview: Novell's Greg Mancusi-Ungaro

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Created *11/05/2006 - 9:06pm*

Submitted by srlinuxx on Thursday 11th of May 2006 09:06:45 PM Filed under [Interviews](#) [1] [SUSE](#) [2]

In issue 80 of Linux Format, on sale now, we have an interview with Greg Mancusi-Ungaro -- the director of marketing for Linux and open source at Novell. Here are a few of the questions we asked Greg...

LXF: On the Novell company blogs recently, there's been a lot of discussion about whether a Linux company can be 'the next Microsoft'...

Greg Mancusi-Ungaro: Well, Red Hat in one of their initial prospectuses said 'our goal is to be the Microsoft of Linux'. Actually, that made a lot of people wince! I don't think that should be the goal. I think what you want to be is, in effect, like Switzerland - you want to be the people of unquestionable integrity. You want to be the people with the technical precision, the people who are neutral, but who are leaders.

You don't want to stand on the sidelines; you want to take positions and take on issues, but you want to try and do it as an ambassador to the community. That's how Novell views its role. I don't know if you want to be the Microsoft of anything.

LXF: Do you think that any company can be the Linux equivalent of Microsoft, given that it's an open source OS and people can do pretty much what they want?

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