

Novell Pot Meets Community Kettle

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I think we may have hurt Novell's feelings.

That's really the only reason I can come up with to justify CTO Jeff Jaffe's remarks regarding the open source community during a product announcement briefing with CNET News earlier this week. That--or a desperate need to grab headlines.

What should have been a routine announcement regarding their new open source identity management tool, Bandit, and the upcoming July release of SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10 instead turned into an opportunity for Jaffe to take a gratuitous swipe at the open source community.

At least, it seemed gratuitous to me. I wasn't at the interview between Jaffe and CNET's Martin LaMonica, and I don't know how the statements in question came about. But knowing the work of LaMonica, I am having trouble envisioning him goading Jaffe into saying something nasty about the community just for the heck of it. I am also making assumptions based on my own interviews with corporate executives, which I'll get to in a moment.

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