The Site: first quarter report

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Today marks the anniversary of my first quarter year actually getting hits. I started a little website [2] last July actually, but didn't do much with it. The main focus then was getting a server running using gentoo [3] and logging the struggle. Later, I wanted a content management application that I could update easier and perhaps do some reviews and stories that might be interesting enough to get some reads. I looked around, tried several of the popular apps, and finally settled on one that I thought was the prettiest and easiest to use. That application was drupal [4]. I've since revamped the look some and thanks to jrangles [5], I'm quite pleased with the look and feel. The drupal forum [6] has been invaluable in helping with small glitches and added features.

I opened with a few links to stories on Feb. 04 and finally posted my first original article [7] on Feb. 08. It got almost 2500 hits and I was quite pleased. My site has grown since to have received over 111,000 hits last month and have link exchanges with 6 other sites. One exchange was initiated by the other party recently and I've been approached by google to includes some ads. I've been slashdotted once and osnew'd once as well. Tho the site never went down, the traffic was too much for my small dsl pipe to handle. All I could do was watch the logs fly by.   Thanks to Slashdot [8] , osnews [9], userlocal [10] and all the others for carrying my stories.

I'm not aggressively promoting the site and rarely submit my news to other sites, with the exception of the PC-BSD story [11] that I did submit to a few, but my articles have been linked to from some of the biggest sites around and I can't thank them enough. I couldn't be happier, unless I had a bigger pipe.   The biggest thanks goes out to pclinuxonline [12] for their continued support for which I have no doubt I owe any success I've had.

Tied for first in that "biggest thanks" list is you the readers. Without your interest and visits, my site of course would be nothing. Thanks for visiting and reading my articles [13].

To date the site has had the following number of hits:

2005-05 16186
2005-04 111392
2005-03 67624
2005-02 8990

This doesn't not include the gallery for several reasons. The main one being it's a separate application not integrated with drupal. That's good tho because most of the hits come from links from my stories, with the exception of the KDE 3.4rc1 [14] album that slashdot linked to instead of the article [15]. April was a good month, because the community had two major releases in KDE 3.4 and Mandriva 2005 in that March/April timeframe. I struggle to find interesting topics each month, and those will be hard to follow.

Stories by other's are most welcome [16] and are always posted (so far). I apologize for having to disable anonymous commenting, but I was getting slammed with spam posts. Speaking of folks messing with me, I was hacked once too.

Some may recall my site being down for about 10 or 12 hours around April 23. My restore efforts were hampered by having to go my real job right after it happened. Someone took advantage of a php vulnerability and corrupted the database. It was my own fault as I knew for days that a patch was available to close that security hole. I hesitated in hopes to wait for a day off from work in case the updates broke my site, it was reportedly breaking quite a few. I updated several core utilities and applications then restored a recent backup not losing too much news and only about and estimated 500 to 1000 hit counts. I hope not to make that mistake again.

I'd like to mark this occasion with a small champagne toast, but a virtual one will have to do. Cheers! And thanks to everyone. Ain't the Linux community great!?

Site News

Source URL: http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/830

Links:
[1] http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/122
[2] http://www.tuxmachines.org/tuxmachines.html
[3] http://www.gentoo.org
[4] http://www.drupal.org
[5] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/497
[6] http://drupal.org/forum
[7] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/30
[8] http://slashdot.org
[9] http://www.osnews.com
[10] http://www.userlocal.com/
[11] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/804
[12] http://www.pclinuxonline.com
[13] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/337
[14] http://www.tuxmachines.org/gallery/KDE_rc1
[15] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/215
[16] http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/add/story