

Linux Appliance Software

Overview

Point Clark Networks can help you develop and maintain a custom Linux server appliance distribution. A Linux distribution is made up of hundreds of individual packages. Of course, the only packages that *you* care about are those that make your appliance distinct and valuable. Instead of managing the whole Linux system, you can choose to use our Linux Appliance Software as a base platform.

We not only manage the underlying Linux system, but also offer tools to help manage (with our Device Manager product) and integrate services (with our Device Web Services product). The screenshot below comes from a web-based interface on our open-source ClarkConnect server appliance solution. This software is often used as a building block for custom server appliance solutions.



Features

- ✓ RPM-based system
- ✓ Optional custom installer
- ✓ Linux appliance API
- ✓ Language support
- ✓ Dozens of add-on modules
- ✓ Integrated device manager
- ✓ Integrated web services
- ✓ Software update services
- ✓ Optional billing and storefront engine

A screenshot of the ClarkConnect web interface. The top navigation bar includes "Configuration", "Updates & Modules" (which is selected), "Services", "Reports", and "Help". On the left, there are two sidebar menus: "Updates" with "Critical" and "Recommended" options, and "Modules" with "Core" and "Contribs" options. The main content area is titled "Software Updates" and contains a message: "The Software Updates page displays a list of available bug fixes, patches, and add-on modules. Please keep your software up-to-date." Below this is a table titled "Critical Updates" with columns for Package, Version, Description, and Install.

Package	Version	Description	Install
apache	1.3.27-2	The most widely used Web server on the Internet.	Installed
cc-cups	1.2-3	Common Unix Printing System	Not applicable
cc-daemon	1.2-2	Windows system tray daemon.	Installed

Business Case

Companies that build their own Linux-based systems end up creating and maintaining the underlying operating system themselves. This work can involve two to four full-time engineers on an ongoing basis – more if the requirements and integration are complex. This represents an engineering investment of \$200,000 to \$400,000 per year. Our solution not only realizes substantial cost savings, but also reduces the development time.

**We see the Linux as platform...
not a product.**

How It Works

Our Linux Appliance software solution is focused on providing end-users with innovative features, unparalleled security and a remarkably simple interface for configuration and upgrades. The software transforms standard x86 architecture with modest hardware requirements into a full-time server appliance, complete with:

- ✔ Firewall
- ✔ Content filtering
- ✔ Antispam
- ✔ Antivirus
- ✔ Advanced intrusion detection
- ✔ Wireless support
- ✔ File server
- ✔ Print server
- ✔ Web server
- ✔ ... and more

Of course, we do not build all of this software – we simply integrate best of breed solutions into the Linux system. We currently manage an open-source project based on our Appliance software – ClarkConnect. More information about the ClarkConnect can be found on the following website: <http://www.clarkconnect.com>.

What You Get

Fortunately, you do not have to worry about the underlying details. Instead, you can focus on developing your core products and services. We offer two development options: off-the-shelf and customized:

Our **off-the-shelf** solution is ideal for a basic server appliance. With this option, you pick and choose the components required for your system to create a “one-click” install. For instance, a board of education can create a content filtering solution for all schools in the district. We can get your system up and running in days, not months.

Our **customized** solution is ideal for large deployments and customers with more complex needs. With this option, you not only pick and choose modules for your system, but also apply your own logos and look/feel to the system. You can also add your own modules and software, or use our professional services to develop any additional components.

Managing the Platform

Take a look at our complementary **Device Manager** and **Device Web Services** products. These products help you manage software and services on your appliance solution.



About Point Clark Networks

Point Clark Networks started developing solutions for the broadband device and services market in May 2000.

The first version of our Service Delivery Network was launched in late 2000. This initial release included a basic software update system along with a dynamic DNS service. Today, our solution includes dozens of unique services to help consumers and businesses get the most out of their Internet-based devices.

Everyday, we see new devices appear on our network; and every *minute* of the day, we are handling services for the thousands of devices installed across 40 countries. Our customers include not only end users, but also ISPs, Internet appliance manufacturers, and ISVs.

Whether you are looking for a turnkey system or consulting services to build your own broadband device service solution, we can help.

Legal

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