

**461**



**A Company Positioning  
White Paper**

# ***Our Social Contract with the Open Source Community***

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Open Source is both a software development methodology and a community. As a good neighbor in the Open Source community, Caldera Systems is committed to strengthen and protect it. Furthermore, we have utilized the Open Source development methodology to create software that is widely used in the industry today.

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## **Executive Summary**

Caldera Systems believes that the Open Source community is best served by a combination of grass-roots development and commercial development efforts. As a major distributor of Linux, Caldera Systems has positioned itself to both develop Open Source software and to encourage commercial software developers to open-source their products. Caldera Systems has always differentiated itself by selecting packages that are needful for business; and has also added value to our products by providing both commercial and Open Source solutions.

**Caldera Systems, a  
Recipient and Pro-  
vider of Open  
Source Software**

Caldera Systems is both a recipient of Open Source software and an open-source provider. We bundle the GPLed Linux kernel as well as additional packages from Open Source developers. In this manner, we are very similar to other Linux distributions, including RedHat, SuSE, TurboLinux, and others. But in addition, Caldera Systems develops software for open-source, sponsors the development of commercial Linux products, and funds Open Source development by others.

**LINUX** for eBusiness

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**Caldera Systems  
Co-sponsored and  
Funded Activities**

Caldera Systems has consistently been a contributing member of the Linux and Open Source community. Some of the areas in which we have participated include the following:

- We provided engineering assistance and specifications for the IPX kernel development
- We helped with the development of SPX in the kernel
- Caldera Systems contributed to the development of DOSEMU
- We participated in the development of WINE, supporting WABI
- Caldera Systems was an early sponsor and architect of the Redhat Package Manager (RPM)
- We helped sponsor the development of WABI and extensions
- We contributed equipment and funding for the SMP project
- We were an early contributor to the development of various kernel drivers, including Ethernet and Frame Relay
- Caldera Systems helped incorporate some NT drivers for the XFree Organization
- We helped fund the development of the K Desktop Environment (KDE)
- We helped make patches to streams available to the Open Source community
- We helped fund the initial porting of Netscape for Linux and Fast-Track for Linux
- We developed, then open-sourced Novell's Netware Client for Linux
- We funded work on NFS for Linux
- We co-sponsored the initial porting of WordPerfect to Linux
- We helped finance the development of StarOffice with Star Division
- We have GPLed COAS, the Caldera Open Administration System
- We were the among the very first Linux distributors to work with commercial developers, promoting the porting of many important software works to Linux.
- We just recently QPLed our Linux Wizard, Lizard.
- We continue to provide manpower and funding to vendor-neutral initiatives such as Linux Standard Base and the Linux Professional Institute

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**Introduce Third-Party Software Vendors to Open Source**

We will continue to encourage third-party commercial software developers to open-source their products when it is consistent with their business model and beneficial to the vendors and the Open Source community.

We encourage all of our strategic partners to participate with the Open Source community to the extent that they are able. We see that the long-range success of Linux and the Open Source community will be a cooperative effort with the commercial community.

**Develop in a Commercial Environment**

Caldera Systems will continue to develop software that will break new ground and demonstrate technology advances. Where appropriate and feasible, and where there is sufficient demand and value to the Open Source community, we open-source our own developments. We expect that our efforts will continue to strengthen the Open Source community and encourage the widespread deployment of Linux.

***Legal Notices***

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