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Burapha Linux

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Summary:

Burapha Linux is a distribution of linux originally derived from Slackware Linux. Burapha Linux has a completely different installation system, and contains additional packages, many Thai language related. Burapha Linux is a product of Burapha University Computer Science Department.

Burapha Linux is the output of our research on building computer systems for use within the Burapha community and for other Thai people such as like teachers and students in school, computer administrators, network administrators, etc.

Thai Windows is the easiest solution for many people because they can acquire a copy very inexpensively through the black market. This makes the usual economic argument about the cost of Linux (free) vs. Windows (big money for a real licensed copy) used in the USA unimportant. However, with Windows you do not get source code, updates are infrequent, and Microsoft never uses full disclosure for security vulnerabilities. This means your machine is easier to hack into by malicious people. As a student, linux is a way to have a Unix-like environment, which has been the favorite of programmers for 25 years. Linux uses X windows, so it is possible to run an application on one machine and see the display on another machine. So you can run a big database program, a large computation, or something like that on a big server, but control it with a nice GUI on your local workstation. Windows does not have that ability. Linux is open source, so you can look at the source to any part of the system. This means if you want to change something or learn how it works you are premitted to. In the USA and Europe, you can now go to jail for reverse-engineering windows.

These BSD operating systems are all good open source operating systems. However, fewer people use them. This means getting help for installation, configuration, and such will be more difficult. Most documentation for these systems assumes you are familiar with Unix already. To be fair, the BSD machines have superior behavior under heavy network load, but worse behavior under heavy disk load. Their virtual memory system is also better in a worst-case situation, but worse on a lightly loaded workstation.

Red Hat is the most popular linux distribution. SuSE is the most popular linux distribution in Europe. Debian is a popular distribution among technical users. Slackware is the oldest distribution still in common use, and is the basis for the BLCD. Any of these distributions will work on any machine that BLCD runs on. However, these distributions are much harder to install and usually require more resources than BLCD does. They provide more options, and have more packages. This means they are necessarily more complex to install and configure. BLCD is designed to be easy to install so you can start using it right away without a lot of special technical skill. Also, BLCD comes with Thai documentation for the installation process.