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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Catherine Vissiere
Sun Microsystems Australia
(02) 9844 5278
0416 190 456
catherine.vissiere@sun.com

SUN SUPPORTS LOCAL LINUX COMMUNITY

Significant contributions to the developer community acknowledged

SYDNEY – 5th December, 2003 – Sun Microsystems today announced the nine winners of the *linux.conf.au* 2004 Regional Delegate's program.

Recognising and rewarding outstanding contributions to the Linux and Open Source developer community, the winners are:

- **Dan Treacy (NSW)** – Significant contributions to the ComputerBank Project (initiative to supply free GNU/Linux systems to low income individuals, community groups and disadvantaged schools) in New South Wales
- **Robyn Manning (SA)** – As well as contributing to the local ComputerBank Project, Robyn was actively involved with the Teen Challenge Centre in Murray Bridge after it was burnt down in 2002
- **Ben Minton (NT)** – Dedicated service to the Darwin Linux Users Group to new and experienced users, by sharing information related to Linux and the Open Source movement
- **Robert Stanford (Qld)** – Active involvement with Linux Terminal Server Project (LTSP) to run thin client computers in a GNU/Linux environment (<http://www.ltsp.org/>)
- **Tim Stebbing (Tas)** – Active member of Tasmania Linux Users Group
- **Frederic Schutz (Vic)** – Founded a Linux User Group in Geneva in 1999; and makes significant contributions to the Debian project (a version of Linux - see <http://www.debian.org/>)
- **Matthew Palmer (NSW)** – In addition to contributing to the Debian project, Matthew is a frequent presenter at Linux User Groups.
- **Paul Bryan (ACT)** – Adapted Linux to work on work on old SPARC 1+ and 1985 Atari System
- **Ben Jensz (WA)** – Remote member of Perth Linux Users Group

The total package is worth AU\$15,000 and all nine winners will receive return airfares to Adelaide, accommodation, a professional conference registration, and a ticket to the conference dinner.

Winner Robyn Manning said of the opportunity, “with the Open Source community there is always something new to learn, so I’m looking forward to meeting like-minded people, seeing new presentations on key technologies such as IPv6 and developing an understanding of the latest Open Source issues.”

Sun Microsystems is sponsoring the Regional Delegate Program 2004 for a second year, signifying its ongoing commitment to the Australian Linux and Open Source community. *Linux.conf.au* is a national annual conference taking place 12-17th January in Adelaide.

The winners, representing each Australian state and territory, will enjoy an intensive speaker program with the some of the best known Linux kernel developers from across the globe. Each local Linux User Groups selected winners based on their outstanding contributions to Linux innovation.

“The scope and breadth of the projects we are seeing in the developer community reflects the growing acceptance of Open Source in Corporate Australia,” said Duncan Bennet, Director, Infrastructure Solutions and Software at Sun Microsystems.

“The *linux.conf.au* 2004 Regional Delegate program presents nine people, who have made significant contributions to the Linux and Open Source community, with the opportunity to discuss new technology methods and emerging issues as the industry gains momentum. Congratulations to all the winners,” he said.

The national winner will be selected from the group of nine finalists and announced at the conference on 14 January 2004 by Mr Duncan Bennet at the main conference opening.

Sun Microsystems brings a comprehensive systems approach to Linux by providing Java(tm) technology, x86-based hardware, Red Hat and SuSE Linux. Seven of its

products are available on Linux today – Application server, Directory server, Web server, Active Server Pages, Studio, Grid Engine and Message Queue - with plans to deliver more in the near future.

For more information on the conference visit: <http://lca2004.linux.org.au/rdp.cgi>

About Linux.Conf.Au

Linux.Conf.Au is Australia's national Linux conference - it will be held at The University of Adelaide from Monday January 12 to Saturday January 17, 2004. This event is run by Linux Australia with help from Linux SA. IBM is the Penguin sponsor of Linux.Conf.Au 2004.

About Sun Microsystems, Inc.

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