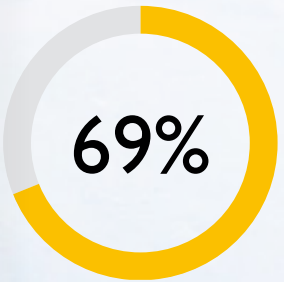




Linux
Professional
Institute

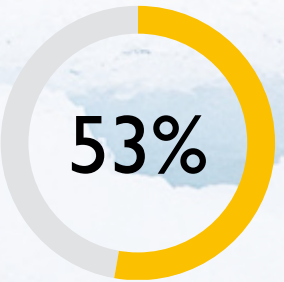
2022-2023

Annual Review



69% of hiring managers are more likely to hire someone with a certification

- Open Source Jobs Report 2022



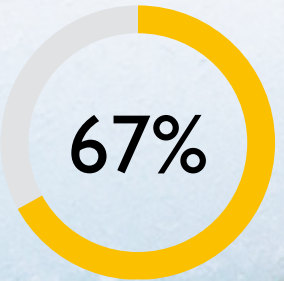
53% of hiring managers list vendor neutrality in their open source training provider as "very important" or "extremely important"

- Open Source Jobs Report 2022



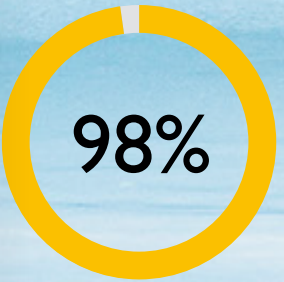
35% of certified candidates earned a pay increase of 30% or more

- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification IT Certification Report 2023



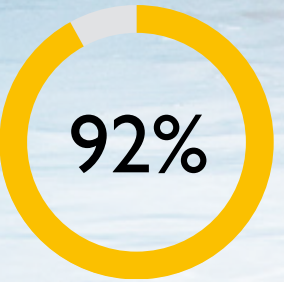
67% of hiring managers are seeking employees who can architect solutions based on open source software

- Open Source Jobs Report 2022



98% of organizations use open source software

- 2022 Software Bill of Materials and Cybersecurity Readiness Report



92% of candidates are more confident in their abilities after certification.

- Pearson VUE Value of IT Certification IT Certification Report 2023

Foreword



The Board of Directors of any non-profit membership organization has the goal of making the organization fiscally and legally responsible as well as moving it forward in a way that benefits their members. In the best of all possible worlds the board represents their membership in every form of diversity while also meeting the needs required by law and fiscal responsibility.

As one step the board passed a diversity policy which steers both the Nominating Committee (NomCom) and the rest of the organization in their work.

At the same time we are still struggling to have board members nominated and elected directly from LPI's membership. For the past two years we have attempted to have at least two members be nominated and elected to the board, but despite our encouragements for members to join the board, this did not happen. We are hoping to have one or two members elected this year. The LPI board would like, as much as possible, for the board, staff, and membership to reflect the diversity of our open source community, and our open source community to reflect the diversity of the wider community of the earth's population.

LPI Members should also act as advocates for the use of open source products. One program we instigated was the "Upgrade to Linux" program to try and capture Microsoft Windows 10 customers who cannot upgrade to Windows 11 without an investment in new hardware. This is not just LPI's program, but we are reaching out to partners world-wide to spread the word about an open source upgrade.

We should also be helping young people who are interested in a profession of open source software, hardware, and culture to learn about and experience open source in their lives. As part of this LPI is helping with the Linux Clubs program, to help young people to experience open source after school and in their communities around the world.

We may not be perfect yet, but we can strive to move toward perfection. Help us.

Pax Vobiscum,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon A. Hall".

Jon 'maddog' Hall
Chairman of the Board
Linux Professional Institute

Foreword



Welcome to the 2022 Annual Review for the Linux Professional Institute (LPI). This review represents a brief glimpse into what activities have been planned for 2023 as well as a snapshot of our activities and accomplishments as we, the LPI community, volunteers, partners, and staff, cooperate and collaborate in furthering our shared interest in LPI's mission to "promote the use of open source by supporting the people who work with it."

A major focus for LPI in 2023 will be to grow the size of our active community through volunteer programs and direct partnerships with like-minded businesses and other organizations. One of the promising new programs, that's currently in a "soft" launch, is the Clubs program where we encourage and assist teachers in adding open source topics to their computer science clubs, or in creating new open source-centric clubs. Follow <https://www.lpi.org/clubs>, for updates throughout the 2023 year. There's already a number of other volunteer opportunities, including Share Your Voice, which you can find [here](#). Lastly, if you have some ideas for other community programs, please contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.

2022 has also seen the beta launch of the Security Essentials program and certificate. The final launch and general availability is taking place in February 2023. This is the third Essentials-level certificate program with additional topics coming on 2023.

Finally, I am extending a personal thank you to the diligent staff and board members of LPI and our exceptional and enthusiastic volunteers and supporters for all of their help in creating an organization and credentialing that everyone can be proud of. Also, to the professionals that have placed their trust in the credentials that we develop and maintain, thank you for your continued support.

Thanks for reading this review and feel free to let us know how we're doing. Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "G. Matthew Rice".

G. Matthew Rice
Executive Director
Linux Professional Institute

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LPI & Community

Linux Professional Institute (LPI) extends our thanks to all of the volunteers, community members, and professionals who contribute to the world of open source. Your contributions of time, skills, and expertise are what make the creation and improvement of open source tools possible. From coding to documentation, from promotion to community management, your tireless efforts ensure that open source software remains up-to-date, accessible, and running at its best.

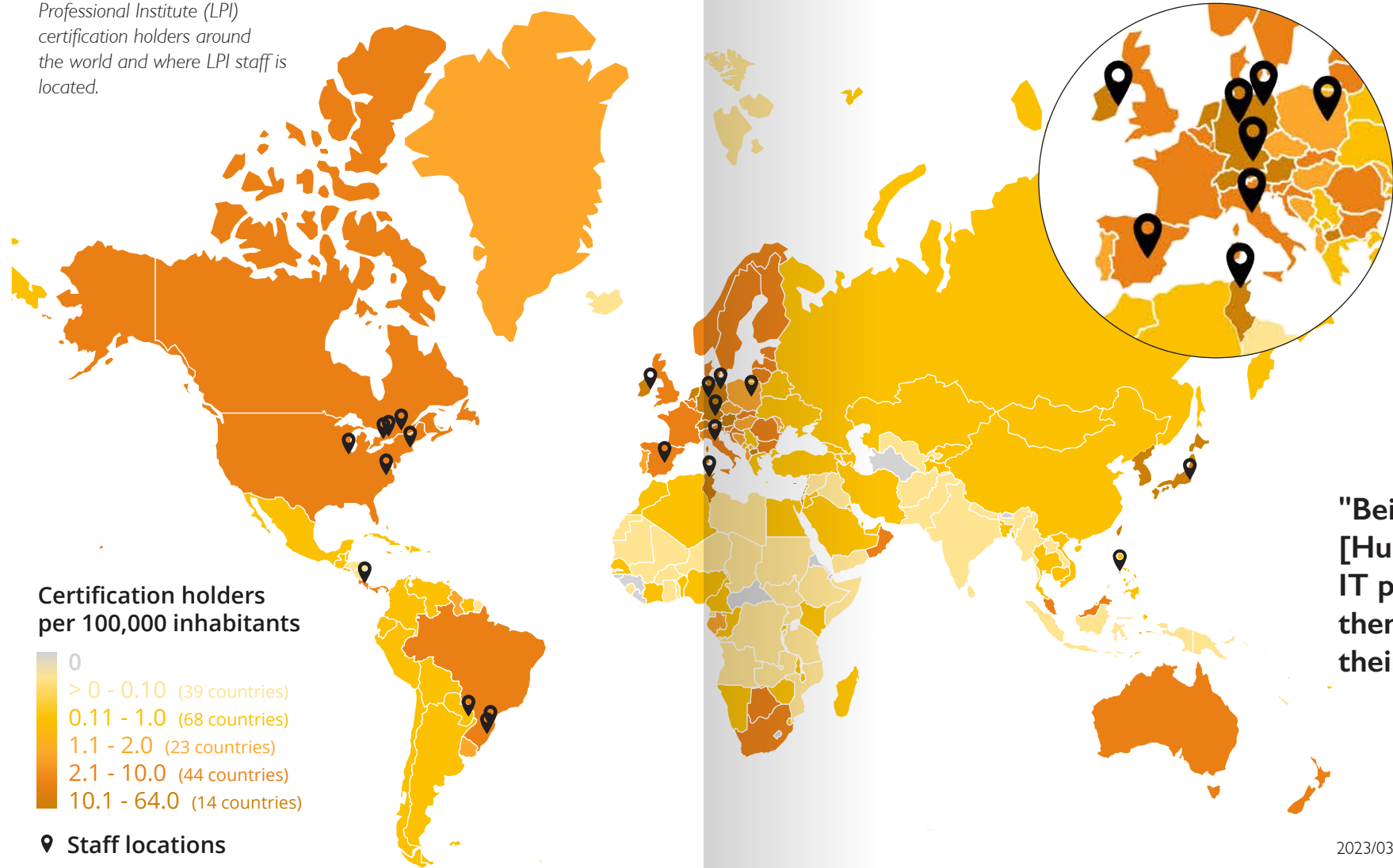
One of the many advantages of open source software is its accessibility. Free of cost and portable to virtually any hardware, this software belongs to everyone and can be used to internationally improve communities and careers. Volunteers and professionals such as yourself allow open source software to be compatible with a wide range of operating systems and hardware, have created accessibility functions for a diverse group of users, and have translated educational resources, among other valuable contributions. Your efforts improve access to technology for communities and professionals all over the globe - and with it, open knowledge, information, and development.

We particularly want to thank the volunteers who have given their time and support to Linux Professional Institute. You have translated content, shared your Linux and certification journeys to inspire others, supported us at events, and much more. Your feedback and engagement are crucial to LPI's success in providing certificates and certification tools that support the needs of open source professionals, allowing others to better hone their knowledge and create new opportunities in their careers.

In 2023, LPI will continue to expand its community activities and volunteer opportunities, and we look forward to your involvement. Becoming an LPI volunteer is a great way to acquire new skills, develop new connections in IT, and improve your resume. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to volunteer@lpi.org.

Thank you again for all that you do. The open source community would not be where it is today without your dedication, hard work, and passion. We are grateful for your efforts and look forward to what can be achieved together supporting the people who use, create, and foster innovation in the world of open source

Overview of the density of Linux Professional Institute (LPI) certification holders around the world and where LPI staff is located.



- [Share Your Voice](#)

Success stories help inspire other professionals by showing how Linux and open source can provide a source of passion and build skills that lead to new career opportunities. Share your experiences with open source certification to support others on their IT journeys.

- [Linux Clubs](#)

Start or assist a Linux Club in your school or community. Connect with other Linux users or support students in developing open source knowledge that can open up new opportunities in their future education, careers, and overall enthusiasm for technology.

For a complete list of our community programs, check out the spread on pages 20, 21, and www.lpi.org/community

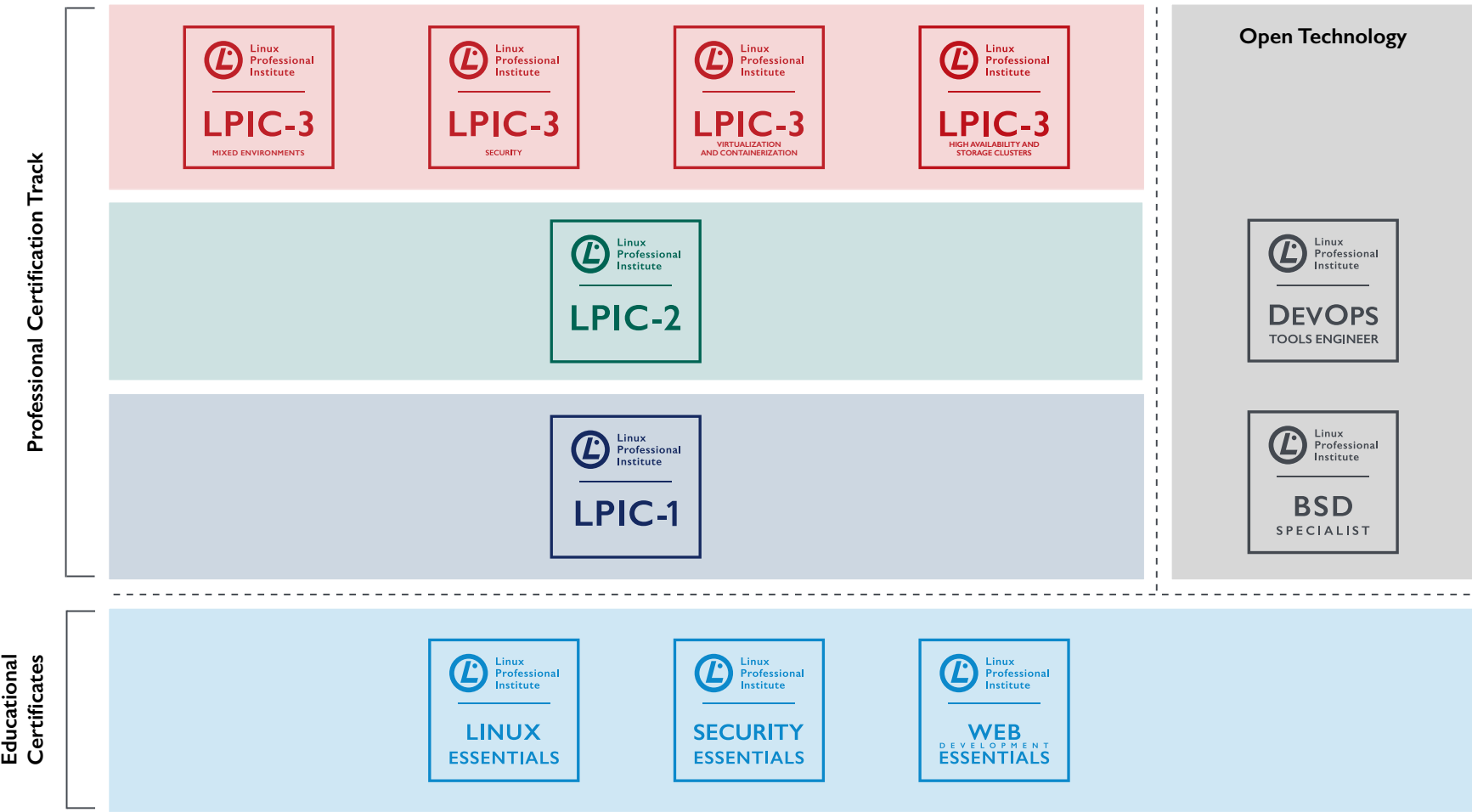
"Being an LPI Platinum Partner helps [Humano Formacion support] IT professionals in differentiating themselves from others to accelerate their careers and earn better salaries."

Jesús García
CEO of Factor Humano Formacion



Certifications

Linux and open source certifications provide a tangible measurement to employers of knowledge and capability, allowing professionals to stand out against other job applicants and receive fair compensation for their valuable skill sets. For self-employed Linux and open source professionals, certification clearly signals knowledge and professionalism to clients. Becoming certified can improve upon existing skills and create a more thorough understanding of Linux. Linux Professional Institute currently offers vendor-neutral Linux certification, BSD certification, and open source certification, as well as certificates in Linux, Web Development, and Security.



Online Exams

Linux Professional Institute now offers the complete LPIC-3 exam track and Web Development Essentials online via the [PearsonVUE OnVUE](#) testing system. Linux Essentials, LPIC-1 (101 and 102), and LPIC-2 (201 and 202) exams are also available. All exams can be taken in English and Japanese online, while Linux Essentials and LPIC-1 have been translated into additional languages. Web Development Essentials and Security Essentials will be translated into additional languages in 2023.

LPI exams have traditionally been held physically on-site, and therefore are dependent on external factors and the ability of candidates to travel. With online proctoring, candidates can write their exams at home or in the office to get certified.



Ready to schedule your Linux Professional Institute certification exam?

Take your exam from home

Simply choose “Online at my home or office” when presented with exam options.

[Learn more](#)

The advertisement features a background image of a desk with a laptop and a plant, and a large blue arrow pointing right with the text “OnVUE”.

Screenshot of <https://home.pearsonvue.com/lpi>, where candidates can schedule their exams in a test center or online.

During the online exam, a live proctor monitors candidates through the webcam on their workstations to provide a secure exam experience.

For more information, visit: <https://www.lpi.org/online-testing>.

Essentials Certificates



Linux Professional Institute Essentials certificates help individuals new to computer technology discover opportunities in IT. Studying for Essentials certificates (supplemented by free LPI Learning Materials) supports students, professionals, and enthusiasts in solidifying their knowledge, and in preparing for an internationally recognized credential to pave the way for a more robust career and education in technology.

Essentials certificates currently cover Linux, Security, and Web Development. LPI aims to expand development of the Essentials track to cover all major disciplines in IT, with a special focus on relevant, cutting-edge industry needs and open source technologies. Future Essentials releases include Open Source Essentials, and Internet-of-Things (IoT) Essentials. Further translations to Essentials exams and Learning Materials to be released throughout 2023.

[Start your Essentials journey](#)

"Like LPI, SmartCT believes that the future is open! By embracing open source in digital transformation, we are creating a world with infinite potential, one in which everyone can benefit from achieving sustainability and fairness."

Kris R. Villanueva Libunao
SmartCT Executive Director & Chief Sustainability Officer



Security Essentials

Linux Professional Institute released its latest exam in the Essentials series, Security Essentials, in Q1 of 2023. The release followed a successful beta launch, using candidate feedback to further strengthen the psychometric validity of Security Essentials exams.

LPI Security Essentials covers basic knowledge of IT security, with a focus on digital self-defense of an individual user. This includes a general understanding of the main threats directed against individual computing systems, networks, services, and identity, as well as approaches to prevent and mitigate the threats.

Knowledge of IT Security and common threats is an important first step for future System Administrators, Linux Engineers, and those in other IT-related fields. The Security Essentials certificate demonstrates to future employers and peers that the certificate-holder is knowledgeable in a core component of IT professional services and skillsets.

Exam objectives can be reviewed on the LPI website. Security Essentials can be taken in Pearson VUE test centers, remotely on the OnVUE platform, and at all events where LPI hosts exam labs. Learning Materials are currently in development, alongside additional exam translations in Japanese, Portuguese, German, French, and Spanish.

Exam code: 020-100
Languages available: English
Validity period: Lifetime

For more information: https://wiki.lpi.org/wiki/Security_Essentials_Objectives_V1.0



Exam topics

- 021: Security Concepts
- 022: Encryption
- 023: Device and Storage Security
- 024: Network and Service Security
- 025: Identity and Privacy



"With Security Essentials, we want not only to create awareness for [IT security] dangers, but also to provide guidance for the right ways to deal with them. We want to enable everyone to understand the basics of IT security."

— Fabian Thorns, Director of Product Development

Learning Materials

Linux Professional Institute Learning Materials break down objectives from LPI certification exams into 1-2 hour lessons. Each lesson includes relevant assignments and an answer guide.

The format of LPI's Learning Materials easily translates to classroom environments and provides structure for independent students.

Thanks to the efforts of more than 65 professionals from all over the world, free Learning Materials were made available for Linux Essentials, Web Development Essentials, and the entirety of the LPIC-1 certification. Further Learning Materials are currently in development for other certificates, such as Security Essentials.

The Learning Materials are available online at <https://learning.lpi.org/>



"Knowledge and continuous learning are the best investment for the development of your professional career."




Rodolfo Barzola
Founder and CIO of OS ENTERPRISE



Learning Materials


It is important to us that the knowledge required for Linux Professional Institute exams is accessible to as many people as possible. The best way to do this is to make study materials available in the native language of candidates. That is why LPI collaborates with many volunteers to translate our Learning Materials into as many languages as possible.

For Linux Essentials, Learning Materials are available in 13 languages, with more in preparation. Web Development Essentials have already been translated into 10 languages:

| |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Exam Code | 010 | 030 | 101 | 102 |
| English | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Bosnian / Croatian | ● | Q3/2023 | ● | Q2/2023 |
| French | ● | ● | ● | Q2/2023 |
| German | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Greek | ● | ● | Q2/2023 | Q2/2023 |
| Hungarian | ● | ● | Q2/2023 | Q2/2023 |
| Italian | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Japanese | ● | ● | ● | Q2/2023 |
| Polish | ● | Q3/2023 | Q4/2023 | Q4/2023 |
| Portuguese | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Romanian | Q2/2023 | Q2/2023 | Q3/2023 | Q4/2023 |
| Spanish | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Turkish | ● | Q2/2023 | Q3/2023 | Q3/2023 |
| Ukrainian | ● | ● | ● | Q2/2023 |


Authors

65




Lines

457619




Lessons

852



Commits

5779



Translations are a great first step into the LPI community:

if you know the technical background of one of our exams, and you want to translate the Learning Materials into your language, write an email to learning@lpi.org and join our network of contributors!

Membership Program

While studying for a new certification is recommended to keep skills up-to-date on the latest open source technologies, LPI Members now also have the option of accruing Professional Development Units (PDUs) as an alternative way to maintain the active status of their certification. This allows Members to use work and volunteer experience as proof of an understanding of recent changes and additions to Linux. Examples include publishing FOSS content, contributing to community projects, or working as an open-ource educator. To learn more about our LPI Membership Program, visit: <https://www.lpi.org/member>.

Additional benefits of the Membership Program include:



Discounts on LPI exams.



Subsidies for training materials, software, and hardware.



Membership certificate and usage of the LPI Membership logo for use online and in print.



Access to exclusive articles and webinars covering topics in technology and soft skills.

"Complementing LPI training and accreditation with industry-standard, vendor-neutral training and accreditation helps us prepare and become qualified for how the IT industry continues to evolve, advance, and innovate."

Thomas Erl
Best-Selling Author and CEO of Arcitura Education Inc.



find.lpi.org

Find a training partner

Learn Linux and other Open Source topics with a Linux Professional Institute training partner.

Discover 500+ Partners in more than 80 countries

In 2021, Linux Professional Institute implemented find.lpi.org to help open source professionals and organizations browse the global network of LPI partners. Community members can easily find relevant organizations for training and related needs. The site will offer filters for geographic location, language, course delivery method, exam topics, and terms chosen by the user. This tool also helps celebrate LPI partners and their role in supporting open source.

This year, LPI community members can opt-in to have their profiles searchable on find.lpi.org, helping certified open source professionals obtain new opportunities at potential employers. Members can add or update their profile at <https://people.lpi.org/profile>.

You can test find.lpi.org for yourself by following one of the partner categories linked below:

- [Channel Partners](#)
- [Academic Partners](#)
- [Training Partners](#)
- [Community Partners](#)
- [Members](#)

Partnership

Partner Programs



Linux Professional Institute

ACADEMIC PARTNER

Add value to your IT training program (Training Partner) and support undergraduate candidates at your school, college, or university (Academic Partner), with discounts on exams and complimentary courseware with options for co-branding.



Linux Professional Institute

TRAINING PARTNER



Linux Professional Institute

PUBLISHING PARTNER

Have published LPI exam material promoted to our partners in academia and IT training, and be featured on our website.



Linux Professional Institute

SOLUTION PROVIDER

Multi-level benefits for organizations offering Linux and open source system solutions and services.



Linux Professional Institute

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Opportunities for cooperative promotions at LPI events. Access to a joint marketing fund and discounts on exam. Designed for organizations with their own communities and partner groups.



Linux Professional Institute

CHANNEL PARTNER



Linux Professional Institute

HIRING PARTNER

Appear in LPI newsletters and gain access to our georeferenced member base (opt-in, no names displayed – filter by certification level).



Linux Professional Institute

MISSION SUPPORTER

Gain community access, value services, recognition, and marketing to our community of 500,000+ IT professionals (250k+ certified).

Linux Trainers

Linux Professional Institute actively supports the educators who help cultivate and guide our FOSS community. Linux Trainers can register first through their partner organization, and then have the option of applying to become an LPI Approved Trainer.

Approved Trainer

Trainers approved by Linux Professional Institute



- Access to all Member benefits
- Access to updates about certifications and materials
- Use of LPI Approved Trainer logo
- Welcome letter (includes link to downloadable certificate)
- Discounts available for their students
- Dedicated area on [discuss.lpi.org](https://www.lpi.org)
- Eligible to join the Academic Advisory Committee (AAC or AT specific)

10 Approved Trainers and counting!

For more information on the prerequisites for both stages of our Trainer Partnership, and how you can apply, visit us at <https://www.lpi.org/become-trainer>



"We believe that the Community Partner Program is the best way for us to work with LPI to spread open source knowledge and support students and teachers throughout the Netherlands."

Hans Blankendaal
Account Manager, ASC Praktijkleren

Volunteer Programs



Authors

Volunteer authors from many different regions of the world share their open source success stories, experiences, and tips with the readers of the LPI blog at <https://www.lpi.org/blog>.

Many volunteers around the world are involved with Linux Professional Institute. They are what makes LPI strong and firmly rooted in the community.



Booth Buddies

Our Booth Buddies act as important representatives of LPI and the Linux community. Booth volunteers provide assistance and support at community events. To help at community events, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.



Translators

LPI's translations are made possible through international volunteers. In 2022, thanks to community support, our website content was made available in seven languages. Our exams can now be taken in English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Chinese, and Spanish.

Translations are required for website content, technical articles, brochures, social media, our blog, news, and events. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, contact us at volunteer@lpi.org.

Volunteer Projects



Exam Development Team Members

The exam development team is always looking for additional help in creating, reviewing, and translating the exam content to ensure that questions are correct, current, and fair. Your contributions can help challenge and improve the experience of future Linux users taking our exam.

Contact us at volunteer@lpi.org to become involved in the future of LPI certification.



Join the Learning Materials Team!

Learning Materials Team Members

Learning Materials are continuously expanded and updated by a worldwide community of Linux and open source users. Volunteers are needed to help author, review, and translate the Learning Materials.

Contact us at learning@lpi.org to help improve freely available education in Linux.



Committee Members


LPI has a variety of committees that give community members the opportunity to collaborate on projects with like-minded individuals and provide LPI with important feedback and guidance. Committee members have the opportunity to propose new projects that can be supported by LPI.

For more information on how you can become involved, visit <https://www.lpi.org/committees>.


Events

Throughout 2022 - 2023, LPI continued to expand its engagement with developers in the FOSS community through events. LPI has experienced tremendous growth in virtual event hosting and partnership. Some successes include:


LPI supported 20 events from
May 2022 - March 2023:




Portugal




Paraguay




Argentina




Brazil




Germany




Argentina




Kosovo




Italy




Philippines




Spain




Brazil




United States



Singapore



Greece



Germany

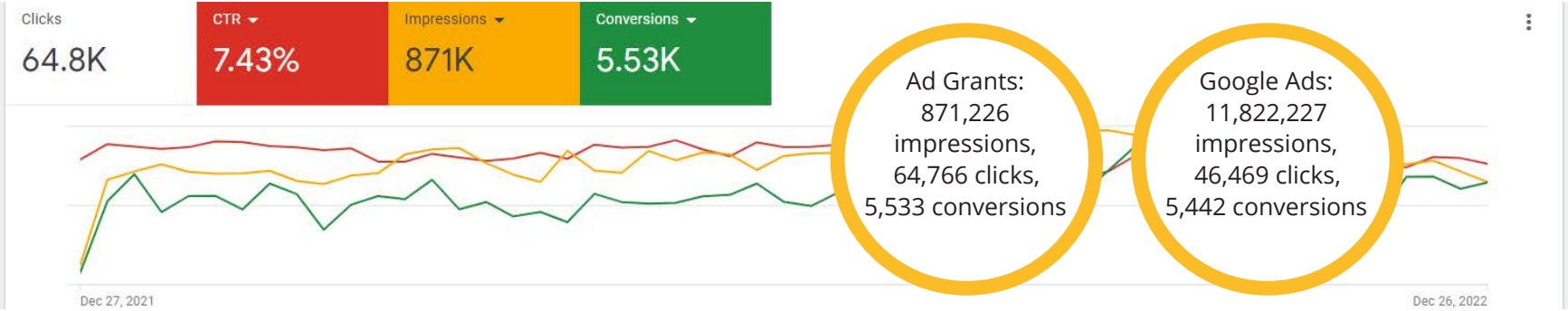
2022 Volunteer Spotlight

"Thanks to LPI, I was able to come closer to the community and contribute, so that communication was not a barrier between knowledge and the public in Brazil, especially those starting their careers in ICT."

Elayne Lemos is a DevOps engineer and volunteer for LPI translation and events. A fan of Linux and FOSS, Elayne fell in love with the terminal as a teenager and looks to use her knowledge and experience with software development and open source to contribute to 'good to society at large.' To read more about her experiences with open source and LPI, [check out her interview](#) with LPI editor Andy Oram.



Marketing and Social Media



Improved website translations with a strong team of volunteers and staff

Made exam objectives available in different languages on lpi.org

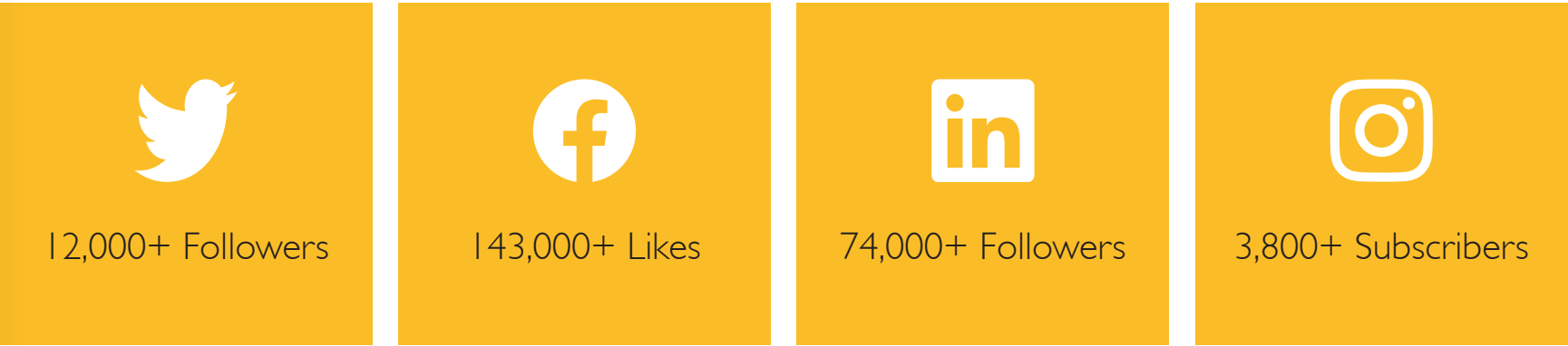
Launched the "Upgrade to Linux" initiative, initiated by Jon "maddog" Hall

Launched @LPiEurope and @LPiSEA channels as part of a global social media strategy

Started Open Marketing, inviting everyone at LPI to share ideas and work on it

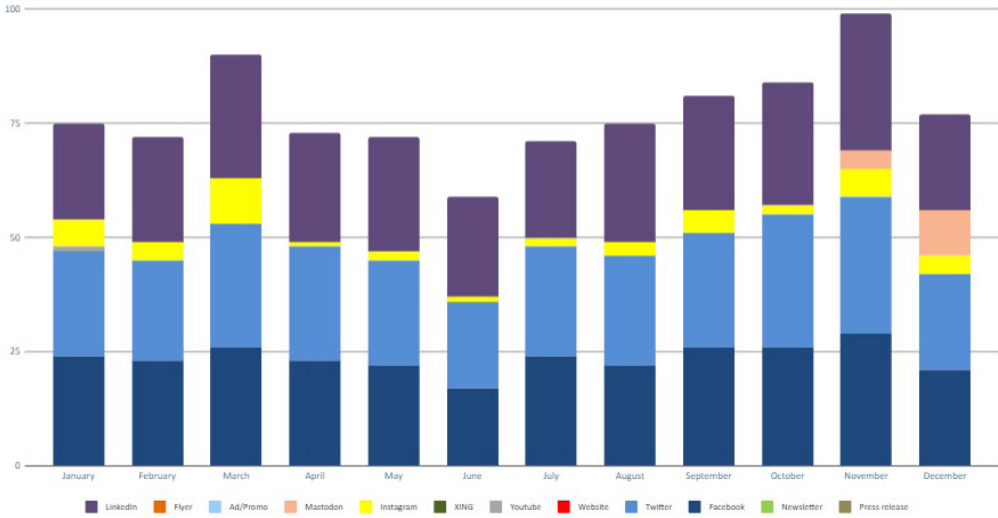
Increased the number of social media followers with organic growth

Marketing and Social Media



<https://twitter.com/lpiconnect> | <https://www.facebook.com/LPIConnect> | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/linux-professional-institute/> | https://www.instagram.com/lpi_org/

| Month | Posts |
|-----------|-------|
| January | 75 |
| February | 72 |
| March | 90 |
| April | 73 |
| May | 72 |
| June | 59 |
| July | 71 |
| August | 75 |
| September | 81 |
| October | 84 |
| November | 99 |
| December | 77 |



In 2022 Linux Professional Institute published 283 posts on Facebook, 292 posts on Twitter, 292 posts on LinkedIn, and 46 posts on Instagram.

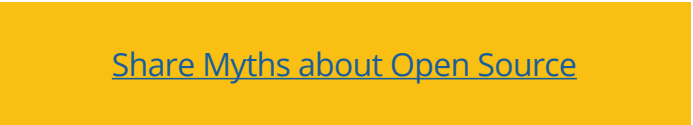
Upgrade to Linux



Upgrade to Linux (UTL) was launched in 2022 as an initiative by open source enthusiasts, including staff of Linux Professional Institute. Inspired by Windows 11 system requirements rendering swaths of hardware obsolete, UTL provides resources to help proprietary OS users keep their hardware - reducing e-waste and financial burdens for schools, governments, and organizations. The website offers How-Tos, recommended FOSS tools, communities, and other features such as testimonials and events.

Want to contribute? Check out: <https://www.upgradetolinux.com/about>.

Upgrade to Linux



"I consider LPI a pillar for good quality education paths in the Linux and F(L)OSS landscape."

Moreno Razzoli
CEO of Morrolinux , Linux Content Creator and Educator



Open Source Software Used at LPI



BigBlueButton

[BigBlueButton](#)

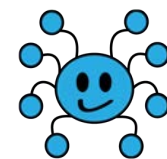
Conference software with a chatbox, optional video calling, recording, and screenshare.



Nextcloud

[Nextcloud](#)

Cloud storage. Securely share documents with your team.



[Mindmap](#)

Mind-map creation tool for visualizing and planning projects.



[OmegaT](#)

Translation Memory tool intended for professional translators. Includes auto-complete and extensive glossaries.



[Mailman](#)

Manages electronic mail discussion and e-newsletter lists.



[MariaDB](#)

Open source database management with options for high availability and cloud support.



[Discourse](#)

Forum management software. Used to run <https://discuss.lpi.org>.



[Odoo](#)

ERP platform that LPI operations rely on.



[OBS Software](#)

Streams meetings and webinars on platforms such as Facebook and YouTube.



[Bluespice](#)

A derivative of MediaWiki, the basis of Wikipedia. Wiki platform used at LPI to run our intranet operatives.



[Weblate](#)

Used for internal infrastructure and tools development.



[ASCIIDoc](#)

Text editor that converts AsciiDoc to formats such as PDF and HTML5. Simplifies software documentation.



[Docker](#)

Container management. Containers are a single package containing all libraries and dependencies needed to run software.



[Debian](#)

A distribution of Linux OS used throughout the internal infrastructure at LPI.



[OpenVPN](#)

Secure Virtual Private Network software.



[LimeSurvey](#)

Questionnaire and survey builder.



[Git](#)

Software for tracking changes in source code.



[GitLab](#)

An open source DevOps platform. Used for projects completed by our Product Development team.



[Drupal](#)

Content hosting software. Provides a back-end framework for 13% of all sites on the web - including lpi.org.



[Mastodon](#)

Ad-free open source social media platform.



[OpenProject](#)

Team project management software. Supports agile, classic, and hybrid project strategy tracking.



[Mattermost](#)

Chat client software for internal and partner communication.



[Hugo](#)

Static website generator. The world's fastest framework for building websites.

"Being an LPI Platinum Partner is a great asset for us to not only stay in touch with modern education for business development, but also provide a more complete professional training portfolio, especially focusing on open-source technologies worldwide."

Radek Havelka
ICTPro, Company Director

Open Source Software Used at LPI

Board of Directors

Linux Professional Institute would like to extend our thanks to the Board of Directors who guided our mission of elevating FOSS practitioners and bringing global equity through free software in 2022 and 2023:



Jon "maddog" Hall

Jon "maddog" Hall is the Chairman of the Board of the Linux Professional Institute. Since 1969, Hall has been a programmer; systems designer; systems administrator; product manager; technical marketing manager; author; and educator; currently working as an independent consultant.

Hall helped formulate some of the concepts of LPI and donated personal money to allow the first 200 tests to be administered for psychometric purposes. He has traveled the world speaking on the benefits of open source software. Hall received his BS in Commerce and Engineering from Drexel University, and his MSCS from RPI.



VM (Vicky) Brasseur

VM (aka Vicky) is a corporate strategist specializing in free and open source software in the business. She is the author of "Forge Your Future with Open Source," the first and only book to detail how individuals can contribute to free and open source software projects.

Vicky has been a moderator and author for opensource.com, an author for Linux Journal and FOSSlife, the Vice President of the Open Source Initiative, and is a frequent and popular speaker at open source conferences. She's the proud winner of the Perl White Camel Award (2014), the O'Reilly Open Source Award (2016), and two Open-source.com Moderator's Choice Awards (2018, 2019).



Dorothy Gordon

Dorothy is the current Chair of the Inter-Governmental Council for UNESCO's Information for All Programme. She is a member of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence expert working group on innovation and commercialization. Previously she served on the Global Commission on Internet Governance and worked for many years as a manager with the United Nations Development Programme.

As the founding Director-General of the Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT, she ensured that the backend systems ran exclusively on open source technology.

Board of Directors



Emmanuel Nguimbus

Emmanuel Nguimbus is a computer engineer with more than 12 years of experience. He is LPIC-3 certified and an LPI Approved Trainer. He is also the co-founder of open source projects: Teledocta, a digital health platform, and OpenStudi, a francophone eLearning platform for FOSS.

Emmanuel is a consultant in for several private and government open source projects. He is a member of private and public working groups, project teams, and monitoring and steering committees. Emmanuel became experienced with issues of training, management, entrepreneurship, strategy and governance.



Klaus Knopper

Klaus Knopper is an Electrical Engineer with a history of three decades of Unix (different brands) and especially Linux system administration, and a developer of customized Linux-based operating systems, passionate hardware+software tinkerer.

He is a regular professor for Software Engineering, IT Security and informatics in the programs of Business Informatics / Information Management (Bachelor + Master) in the faculty of Business Economics, and Vice President for Digitalization at the University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern / Germany. Also a self-employed software developer and consultant.

Board of Directors



Mark Phillips

Mark Phillips is an engineer with 40 years in Defense and Aerospace spanning Australia and the US. He has consulted in multiple countries including France, UK, Singapore, Canada, Sweden, and Germany.

Mark is an Engineering Fellow at Raytheon Missiles and Defense mentoring professionals and conducting fundamental and applied research into Defense and Aerospace. Mark is a graduate of the Royal Military College of Australia and has a Bachelor of Electrical engineering (Honors) from the University of New South Wales, a Masters in Engineering (Modelling and simulation) from Old Dominion University and is a Ph.D candidate in Engineering Management at Old Dominion University.



Uirá Ribeiro

Prof. Uirá Ribeiro is a Senior C-Level Executive with solid Information Technology background, Software Developer, and Internet Architect Engineer. As an educator, he has reached the top, as headmaster of a Brazilian University for more than 15 years.

He holds a Master in Informatics and Bachelor in Data Processing, among fifteen other IT certifications. He is the author of 11 books, published in English, Portuguese, Spanish, and Italian, as LPI Publishing Partner. CEO and founder of Linux Certification Edutech, for 15 years he has taught Linux online classes, with more than 14,000 certified students.



Michinori Nakahara

Michinori Nakahara spent over 33 years at IBM Japan in various leadership positions, including Manager of Linux business development, working closely with IBM's global partners. He then served as Chief Training Officer for a Tokyo-based open source software start-up. In November 2022, he was made Japan General Manager for AutoGrid Systems.

Nakahara has studied in both the U.S. and Japan, with extensive experience working with Japanese, US, and European IT companies. He has served on various committees and forums, and in organizations dedicated to Linux and open source education and policies.

Board of Directors



Thiago Sobral

Thiago Sobral has worked with Linux, Free, and Open Source software since 1998. He has worked with infrastructure to applications, covering networks, security and all the issues that come up in customer environments. He is a former employee of Conectiva, Red Hat, and SUSE.

Thiago is part of the Digital Law Commission in Sao Paulo, was a lecturer and trainer, created FOSS events, and participated in hundreds. Today he is Global Offering Manager for Open Source at IBM. He is heavily involved in various communities around the world.

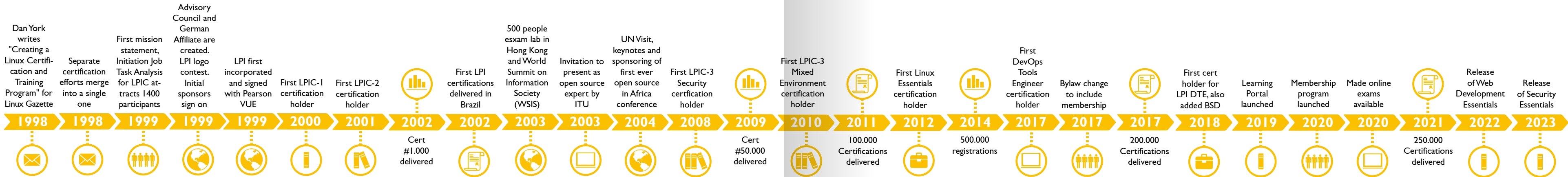


Ricardo Prudenciano

Graduated in Information Technology and post graduated in Computer Networks, Ricardo Prudenciano has 20 years of career experience with FOSS. With a focus on support and administration of systems and their services, Ricardo has worked in senior positions leading and coordinating teams. He has contributed to organizations small to large such as IBM, Telecom, and Vivo.

In the past 5 years, Ricardo has taught and mentored more than 41,000 students. He has published courses on Introduction to GNU/Linux, Shell Script Programming, and Preparations for LPIC Certifications.

History



How LPI filled the certification gap for FOSS

The spheres of certification and open source were long distinct. The strengths and importance of free and open source software were overlooked or cavalierly dismissed by commercial interests who drove certification programs, while the free communities welcomed anyone who could contribute code and claimed they could judge people by their contributions.

The entry of Linux into mission-critical applications and corporate environments in the late 1990s

changed the equation. These pages lay out the history of Linux Professional Institute from its first conception to the present.

Back in 1998, Apple released the iMac and Microsoft released Windows 98. Unix was still a force on server computers, but Microsoft Windows NT was threatening to make major inroads into the server space.

On the other hand, Linux was rapidly becoming a growing phenomenon with millions of users worldwide. Upstart companies, such as Red Hat and

SUSE, were attracting the attention of corporate users with their commercial packaging and support of Linux.

In the beginning...

In 1998, two separate community efforts were building momentum to try to address one of the perceived deep gaps in Linux support. If a company chose to deploy Linux, how would an IT manager be able to find qualified people to install, maintain, and support it? At the time, there were a large number of certification programs for Microsoft Windows systems, providing guidelines for companies trying to

understand someone's expertise with Windows. Could there be some similar kind of certification program for Linux?

Red Hat started to develop its own certification for its Linux distribution. Several other distribution vendors started to publicly discuss creating their own certifications. The fragmentation of these corporate efforts prompted some people within the Linux community to express concern that we might wind up with multiple small Linux certifications that wouldn't help advance the deployment of Linux as much as a common certification.

In October 1998, Dan York published in the Linux Gazette an article calling for a community Linux certification program, resulting in an active community discussion group. Dan would go on to write a series of articles that were noticed by Linuxcare, a startup offering Linux support. Linuxcare contacted Dan and employed him to build the certification program ultimately offered by LPI.

Meanwhile, a separate discussion led by Evan Leibovitch at the Canadian Linux Users Exchange promoted a similar initiative. Jon "maddog" Hall, President of Linux International, who knew both

Evan and Dan, introduced them, and they merged their efforts into a single project to create a community-based Linux certification program. The agreed objective was to take a different path from most IT certifications of the day, by being:

- non-profit
- neutral with regard to vendors, open source operating systems, and software distributions
- opposed to using certification as a tool to sell "official training"
- psychometrically-validated
- multilingual and globally accessible

History

History

Making it happen

By the spring of 1999, the certification effort caught the attention of Benoy Tamang at Caldera, a Linux distributor, who was considering launching their own independent certification program. Benoy paid for Dan and Evan to meet with Caldera and make a pitch for funding. The day before the pitch—April 4, 1999—Dan and Evan ducked into the single meeting room of the La Quinta Inn in Orem, Utah and designed the three-tier program now known as Linux Professional Institute Certification. (Although other LPI programs have since been added, the “LPIC” track remains functionally identical to the 1999 design.) Caldera liked what they saw the next day and decided to cancel their own certification program in favor of becoming LPI’s first corporate sponsor. Soon other sponsors, including IBM and SUSE, came on board.

With a structure and preliminary funding in place, a team needed to be formed. Dan and Evan were joined by community members Charles “Scudder” Mead and Tom Peters. Rounding out the initial team was Scott Murray, a psychometrician who would ensure that the effort’s exams could be scientifically validated and uphold a high standard of quality from the very start. These five were the original incorporators of LPI.

The non-profit was officially incorporated in the province of New Brunswick, Canada, because Canada was considered to be politically neutral and because New Brunswick was one of the few

jurisdictions that allowed virtual board meetings in 1999.

Many in the Linux community liked the program that the nascent LPI was proposing. As an example, Jon “maddog” Hall became the first Platinum Individual Charter Sponsor by contributing 1,000 USD of his own money so LPI could deliver its first 200 tests.



The community expands

During this time, the entirely volunteer LPI team expanded to include people working on many different aspects of the program. The team performed an extensive “job-task analysis” to ensure that the exams covered the appropriate topics.

Volunteers developed questions and ran them through beta-testing programs. Another group worked with VUE (later part of Pearson) to work out how to deliver the exams electronically through VUE’s network of testing centers. (The VUE offerings became indispensable in 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic ruled out in-person meetings.) Other volunteers worked on marketing and promotion, while yet others solicited donations and ensured the evolution of the organization’s operations. All of this happening through email lists and occasional conference calls.

Going global

After the first Level 1 exams were delivered in 2000, followed by Level 2 in 2001, LPI started gaining international acceptance and community support. Like-minded groups quickly helped create local presences around the world, first in Japan and then in Germany and Brazil.

The Pearson VUE collaboration was not LPI’s earliest effort at remote test delivery. Realizing that testing centers were not available in all parts of the world, and wanting to make LPI certifications as accessible as possible, the LPI team also developed a mechanism for delivering the exams on paper in a proctored setting. In October of 2002, Jon “maddog” Hall cooperated with 4Linux, an early supporter of LPI in Brazil, to deliver 101 paper exams in Sao Paulo while on a trip to Latin America.

In November 2003, LPI hosted more than 500 people at its exam lab at LinuxWorld Hong Kong,

History

the largest of many such events. LPI has since certified people in more than 190 countries and territories and delivered exams in nine languages.

Later in 2003, LPI participated in the first-ever United Nations World Summit on the Information Society with a delegation of 23 people, promoting open source and distributing thousands of Linux CDs to diplomats and NGOs. A partnership with L’Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) brought low-cost open source certification to some of the world’s least-developed economies.

More recently, LPI has launched new employment programs, continues to participate in open source conferences everywhere, and support its partners in local advocacy efforts. Expanding the program offerings, Level 3 was offered in 2007.

LPI launched the introductory Linux Essentials program in 2012 and DevOps certification in 2017. It began work with the BSD Certification Group in 2017, leading to the 2019 launch of the BSD Specialist program. Including BSD and DevOps in LPI certification began the path of extending Linux vendor-neutrality into support for a broader scope of IT skills and professions.

Over time, the LPI network of partners has expanded in both numbers and geographic reach, now numbering more than 700 partners in more than 190 countries and territories. In 2015, Network Development Group (NDG) released the first in a series of courses bringing LPI-focused education to

the thousands of institutions and millions of students in the Cisco Networking Academy.

Community governance

For its 20th anniversary in 2019, the LPI Board introduced Membership as part of a substantial change in the organization’s governance and direction. This change would enable LPI-certified individuals to become Members of LPI, elect its Board, and help shape its direction. Our first-ever Board election was held at its Annual General Meeting in June 2021. As part of these governance changes, LPI also introduced a Code of Ethics and committed to promoting professional conduct and personal development within its community of certified open source practitioners.

In 2019, LPI introduced a learning portal that offered the first in a series of free study guides that assists students and trainers alike. During the COVID-19 years in the early 2020s, LPI started offering at-home certification exams using Pearson’s OnVUE system.

LPI started the Upgrade to Linux initiative, a multi-stakeholder program designed to address the needs of users unable to upgrade their computers to Windows 11 (offering a path instead to “upgrade to Linux”). The project has attracted Linux vendors, groups, and community participation from around the world.

Also in 2022 the Essentials track tripled its offerings, with the Web Development Essentials and Security

Essentials certificates. New partnerships, certification programs, languages, accessibility initiatives, and free training materials are in the works.

LPI wants to thank everyone who has helped it grow from a couple of mailing lists into the world’s largest open source skills certification program. Special recognition is due to the companies Linuxcare and Starnix, for keeping Dan and Evan respectively on their payrolls while they worked on LPI during its early formation.

"We are proud to be associated with LPI and OUTCERT, whose joint commitment to the open source community in the Philippines is aligned with our goals as pioneers in game-changing initiatives."



Margery Oriel, iACADEMY CIO
External Linkages and Partnerships



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