FreeNX: Focus Areas

(We are addressing these gaps)

- Make a Free and Open Source Software implementation of remote GUI access for Linux efficient (“Working with a Free Linux remote desktop must be even better than the best proprietary solutions”)
- Must be even more efficient than MS Windows RDP protocol (“Linux remote desktop across a 40 bits/sec dialup link must be usable even from Portland/Oregon to Berlin/Germany”)
- Make remote GUI-ing work seamlessly even across OS platforms (“Use a Windows program remotely from a Linux desktop, use a Linux app from Windows”)
- Provide everybody access to her own personalized desktop env & own private data (“From any place on the globe, over any link, to any system you have access to, even from a booted Knoppix CD”)
- Leverage ubiquitous wireless networks to integrate big-fat server computing with notebooks, thinnest clients and smallest mobile devices for everybody

FreeNX: Challenges

(What we need getting solved)

- Make distros ship better packages of FreeNX and “NX Core Libs&Utils”
- Core NX technology developed by commercial company, NoMachine, but released under GPL; however, good X11 & NX Knowhow are very rare on this planet --> this greatly limits useful contributions from FOSS community to NX core development
- Leverage enormous potential of NX to help accomplish (partial or complete) Linux desktop migrations which would not happen without NX (“Fat Linux desktop servers dishing out FOSS applications to Linux and Windows workstations – Linux workstations gaining access to 'not-yet-ported' Windows programs via NX”)
- Make (Free)NX work more seamlessly: printing, file sharing, device sharing (generic USB, serial), smartcard authentication
- Make KDE and Gnome “NX aware”: need to modify their behaviour if running remotely in NX session
- Find common ground to cooperate and integrate results of NX achievements with other projects (esp. LTSP and Skolelinux)

FreeNX: Dependencies

(projects and needs from each)

- NoMachine.com:
  - GPL'd NX Compression Core Libraries and Utilities are developed by NoMachine.
  - their compiled NX code can be used on commandline to build peer-to-peer NX sessions
  - We basically “leech” their code (+ do not contribute back) by using a relatively thin layer of shell code to glue their components together and make up a working NX “server”
- Interop with other FOSS project's:
  - Other project's code used: OpenSSH, Samba, rdesktop, VNC, CUPS, esound....
  - we currently provide a remote NX service to usability profs from OpenUsability.org so they can inspect “bleeding edge” KDE & Gnome app code (these people usually don't compile every night new CVS code, or do they?)
  - need more manpower/developerstest & development hardware; access to competing proprietary solutions for benchmark comparisons etc. (+ need a good webmaster too!)
- Sponsors:
  - planning for a (possibly week-long) face-to-face FreeNX developer workshop next spring (attendance limited to about 1 dozen people)
  - help overseas developers f.e. with airfare to attend

FreeNX: Follow on Meetings

(list of orgs and topics)

- FOSDEM 2006 ?
- LinuxTag 2006 ?
- LWE 2006 in Boston ?
- IRC in #nx on Freenode.net
- http://freenx.berlios.de/