

Market Requirements Document

Feature Name: SUSE Linux

Version: 1 **Date Submitted:** 01/17/05

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Description of the Problem

Objectivity products currently run on a variant of Linux marketed by Red Hat. Many government customers, both here and in Europe, have preferred to run SUSE Linux.

Description of the Requested Feature

This document is the formal request to support SUSE Linux in addition to Red Hat Enterprise Linux.

Part of an existing feature or does it require another feature, if so, which one?

Additional platform.

How is this problem being solved now, and why isn't that acceptable?

Our products don't currently support SUSE, making it unavailable to some prospects.

What languages must support this capability?

- C++, Java and SQL++

Which platforms must be supported?

- The SUSE port must interoperate with all other supported platforms.
- The hardware platforms should be determined based on feedback from users. At least IBM, Intel and Sun should be supported.

Do any competitors already have this feature?

- IBM DB2
- Oracle 10g

Customers who require this feature

- The NSA recently certified SUSE on IBM platforms.

Revenue at risk, or which could be won

- In early 2004, Red Hat claimed 1.5 million Linux licenses. Debian claimed 443 thousand and SUSE claimed 296 thousand. However, SUSE was gaining market share rapidly in Europe. Mandrakesoft Linux was strong in 2001/2, but its market share appears to be declining.

When is this required?

- Release 10.

Additional Notes

1. We will also need:

- Updated marketing collateral.
- Release Note.
- New QA material.

2. We may have to license SUSE from Novell. Or, we may be able to obtain it via IBM.