

Press release

Trends and sales opportunities in business IT

Univention Summit 2014: Paradigm shift and perspectives for the open cloud

Bremen, 16th January 2014 +++ More than 200 partners and customers seized the opportunity to find out more about and discuss innovations, trends and sales opportunities at this year's Univention Summit in Bremen. Topics such as clouds, migration and technologies such as SAML (Security Assertion Markup Language) were the focus of many of the presentations. For example, former IBM CTO Günther Dueck appeared as a guest speaker with a presentation entitled "Beyond Cloud" explaining cloud computing as a principle which extends far beyond IT and outlining the disruptive changes which can result from it. Keynote speaker Arno Lehmann from Bacula Systems also gave a speech on the topic "Manchmal ist die Cloud keine Option" (Sometimes a cloud is not an option). In addition, Univention partners reported on how they market UCS successfully and deploy it in actual projects. To round everything off, Univention (www.univention.de) then presented the 2014 roadmap, introducing the further development of the Business Server and the App Center, which will be expanded into a marketplace in the future. Univention Corporate Server (UCS) users will then be able to locate corporate applications there conveniently as well as buy them directly.

Revolutions in the field of mobile systems, the reduced significance of Microsoft Windows and the secret service scandal uncovered last year combined with repeatedly doubled new customer figures at Univention are clear signs for Peter Ganten, Managing Director of Univention GmbH, of a gathering paradigm shift in IT. "The recipe for success for years – concentrating on cooperation with a single manufacturer – suddenly doesn't apply anymore", he emphasised in his speech. Instead, open strategies, e.g., the use of open standards and Open Source software, are becoming ever more important. He added that it is Univention's task to support the customers and partners in these changes by means of transparency and ensuring that control of their IT remains in their hands. One important aspect here is the intensive further development of UCS guided by customer feedback. The Feature Wall in the exhibition area offered the summit visitors the perfect opportunity to submit their suggestions and ideas for new and existing features.

In addition to the main sponsors, Bacula Systems, IBM, SEP sesam, Open-Xchange and Boston Server & Storage Solutions, another eight partners presented their software solutions in the

exhibition area. Univention also had a booth there to demonstrate the latest versions of its solutions UCS 3.2 and UCS@School for the operation and administration of IT in schools.

On Friday, 17th January the visitors to the summit have the possibility of attending a range of talks by experts on all aspects of UCS and have the option of exploring the technical or business aspects in more detail in small groups. In addition, the Linux Professional Institute (LPI) will be offering the new version of the examination for the supplementary qualification of “Univention Certified Professional” (UVCP) for the first time on the same day.

About Univention

Univention is a leading European provider of Open Source products for the cost-efficient operation and effective administration of IT infrastructures. The core product is the Linux infrastructure solution Univention Corporate Server (UCS). UCS is a modern enterprise Linux distribution with integrated Open Source solutions for identity and infrastructure management, which makes efficient, centrally controlled administration possible even in challenging environments. The core product is complemented by a range of solutions based on UCS for the cross-platform management of thin clients, support for Linux desktops and an integrated virtualization solution. Thanks to the supplied connectors, for example for Microsoft Active Directory, these components integrate seamlessly in existing infrastructures and allow simple migration. A large number of software producers offer optimised packages for operation with UCS, which can be integrated seamlessly in the UCS management system. UCS is thus the optimal Open Source integration platform for IT infrastructure operation and management.

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