

# aiming for a better future



## **"A UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE..."**

**RESIDENTIAL WORKSHOPS in GNU/LINUX at a peaceful mountain retreat in one of the most unspoilt regions of central France.**

The Centre is designed to provide an environment conducive to supplementing existing IT skills levels, and increasing awareness of the principles of free/open-source software through hands-on use of the GNU/Linux operating system.

The training style is based on proven methods. Research confirms that studying in an area of rural calm, free from pollution and city stress, opens the brain's receptors to learning processes.

This enhances rapid generation of an individual's ideas while at the same time transposing these ideas into the team effort. The LCO-France method encourages and speeds up the learning process.

To stimulate learning, trainees work together in small groups of two to four on projects designed to test their innovative capabilities.

Each participant is allocated a user account on the system and can securely open their own desktop on any networked Linux workstation within LCO, during their stay.

This method allows teams to research, evaluate, develop and create a solution through combined effort. Throughout these processes, guidance and supervision is available.

The training at LCO is geared for groups of no more than six to eight participants at any one time, and includes food, refreshments and comfortable relaxed accommodation.

### ***How can we provide all this for so little?***

It is all down to low overheads. Our location, specially selected for its calm seclusion.

LCO France's Linux Corps occupies an historic 160 year old former hotel and adjoining annex at the heart of the tiny village of St Alyre d'Arlanc. The building was renovated internally after acquisition in 2003 and visitors are encouraged to make full use of the homely environment to enhance their learning experience.

At Linux Corps, the team appreciate that the absorption speed of technical knowledge differs from person to person. Some are able to take in information straight away, others may need to go over certain points in their own time. For this reason, the Linux laboratory facilities at the Centre are available for use 24/7.

As with all forms of intensive learning, regular break periods refresh the body and help the mind to absorb the flow of knowledge more effectively.



**LCO France is one of only four accredited Novell Practicum Test Centres in France. This facility enables those who have reached a certain level of knowledge to sit an on-line examination under regulated conditions to achieve Novell certification of their skills.**

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## Where is Linux Corps?

St Alyre d'Arlanc is a small village, set in a sheltered valley at an altitude of 860 metres. It's surrounded by tiny hamlets interspersed with pine and birch forests. The whole region is a place of outstanding natural beauty.

It lies almost at the heart of the Livradois-Forez nature park, a quarter of a million acres of the Massif Central range of extinct volcanic mountains, that cut across the centre of France. Here lies the province known as Auvergne, one of the most romantic regions of France.

The nearest cities are Clermont-Ferrand, St Etienne, Lyon, Thiers and Vichy and there are many smaller towns such as Arlanc, Ambert, Brioude, Issoire and Le Puy en Velay within a 15-40 minute drive.

## Accommodation

Throughout your stay at LCO France, you will be treated as if you were family and friends. You'll have use of all the public rooms. During the day make yourself at home in the Cybercafe or the Linux Lab - and in the evening, if you feel the need for a break away from the keyboard, you might want to listen to music, relax with a bottle of wine, or watch a film in the spacious salon. Accommodation is on full board basis.

At LCO, we believe that meal times are a way to socialise with others and discuss events of the day. Throughout your stay you'll enjoy a healthy breakfast, a light lunch and an evening meal made from local produce and home-grown organic vegetables each day. Tea, coffee and cold drinks will be available throughout the day.

The guest rooms, each individually decorated, and some of which have been kept in the french style, are all comfortable. Most offer views out across the village, the church square, the local pub and provide a glimpse of Auvergne life. At night the lack of noise from the almost traffic-free road that runs through the village will ensure you sleep blissfully.

At most no more than a dozen steps from your room, a corridor leads to modern tiled and thermostatically controlled showers, plus wc, all recently constructed as part of the major modernisation to the ancient barn.

## Training Facilities.

LCO France's IT infrastructure demonstrates a broad range of server/system configurations and desktop applications for GNU/Linux and open source technology.

The Linux laboratory, the cybercafe and LCO's private network are combined into one three layer network, firewall protected from external attack and currently connected to the web via a bi-directional satellite link through a dedicated firewalled gateway server.

The server room houses the gateway server, which functions alongside an update fileserver that regularly checks for new releases, patches and upgrades. The server room also houses an LTSP server and a dedicated router/hub.

The Linux Lab offers workbenches for building and configuring GNU/Linux desktops/servers and for use when alpha testing software.

The eight networked workstations in the Linux laboratory run SuSE Linux and allow trainees to teamwork, share files, access the Internet and the LCO reference libraries.

## Other Services.

The team at LCO-France have a broad hands-on awareness of Information Technology and Electronic Engineering plus a valuable understanding of Network Technology. In addition, theres a background in Travel and Tourism, so they are able to assist in many ways.

Long term advocates of GNU/Linux (the FREE and Open Source system), their work is always to generic standards.

Advice and assistance is offered to the local community in use of the GNU/Linux system, and the Internet on request.

## Contact Us.

**Address : LCO-France, Le Bourg, St Alyre d'Arlanc, Puy-de-Dome, 63220, FRANCE**

- **Telephone/Fax :** 0473 72 47 11 - (International : +33 473 72 4711)
- **Skype:** lcofrance
- **e-mail :** [info@lcofrance.org](mailto:info@lcofrance.org)