

SCO v. Open Source: A Timeline

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2003		
	Jan 23	At the annual LinuxWorld convention, IBM expresses its intent to move its operations away from SCO-licensed AIX and toward open-source Linux.
SCO files \$1 billion lawsuit against IBM, alleging that IBM contributed SCO-licensed source code to Linux.	Mar 6	
When SCO CEO Darl McBride is asked to produce evidence of copyrighted SCO code in the Linux kernel, he refuses, claiming that if he produces evidence the Linux source code will quickly be doctored to eliminate the offending lines.	April	
SCO begins sending letters of warning to large corporations using Linux, threatening lawsuits if licensing fees are not paid to SCO.	May	
The Wall Street Journal reports that Microsoft has purchased an SCO Unix license and the rights to an undisclosed patent, for an undisclosed fee.	May 19	
SCO announces that it is revoking IBM's AIX license, and increases the amount of the suit to \$3 billion.	June 16	
	Aug 4	Redhat files suit against SCO, stating: "SCO's claims are not true and are solely designed to create an atmosphere of fear, uncertainty and doubt about Linux, [...] SCO's campaign is designed to both slow the growth of Linux and to reverse its failing fortunes by convincing Linux users they need to pay SCO a license fee to use the lower-cost Linux operating system."
	Aug 6	SuSE announces its support of the Redhat suit in a press release.
	Aug 7	IBM files suit against SCO, alleging that SCO software violates four IBM patents.
	Aug 8	Oracle announces its support of Linux, in a statement by the Vice President of the Linux Program Office, "Oracle has seen nothing to date that has caused us to question our tremendous commitment to Linux as a customer, promoter, supporter, and developer."
SCO's lead attorney, Mark Heise of Boies Schiller & Flexner, tells the Wall Street Journal that SCO plans to claim in court that the GPL is invalid.	Aug 15	
An SCO presentation in Las Vegas displays slides of alleged SCO copyrighted material in the Linux source code.	Aug 18	Linux developers trace the code in question to material that has been in the public domain since 1979.
SCO files a motion to dismiss Redhat's lawsuit.	Sept 15	
	Sept 26	IBM files additional claims against SCO, including allegations of GPL violations on the part of SCO.
SCO files a motion to dismiss IBM's countersuit.	Oct 24	
	Dec 5	SCO is given 30 days to produce the alleged infringing code.
SCO releases another warning letter to Linux customers, including a list of files in the Linux kernel alleged to infringe on SCO intellectual property.	Dec 22	The same day, Linus Torvalds claims authorship of those files.

SCO

IBM, RedHat