Dice Inc.

The DICE Report*
July 2004

With Linux dominating the news recently, it's no surprise that the job market for Linux professionals continues to grow. Job postings requesting Linux on Dice.com are up 190% since June of last year to 2,243. 32% of these Linux jobs are located in California, while New York and New Jersey follow with 14% and 6% respectively. Thus far in 2004, Linux professionals who responded to the Dice Salary Survey reported earning an average salary of $67,000, which is 6% higher than the overall technology average. Other skills seeing strong increases this month are ASP, rising 40%, and security clearance, up 35%.

While all of the Top Tech Metro Areas reviewed in the Dice Report saw an increase in their job listings, Silicon Valley, Los Angeles and Chicago all posted double digit percentage gains this month. Meanwhile, Dallas job postings increased 48% to become the sixth largest metro area this month.

For the second month, the Dice Report highlights the results of Dice.com's online polling feature to reveal Dice users' opinions on trends and topics facing the industry. In July, 41% of Dice users feel that Windows and Unix can do anything that Linux does, and that 38% say although Linux is an excellent server choice, its not ready for the desktop.

For past issues of The DICE Report, visit Marketplace Trends at http://about.dice.com.

DICE MOST WANTED (skills searched for by employers the most)	1. Java 2. C 3. Oracle 4. Unix 5. SAP

Tech Topic Poll Results: How much faith do you have in Linux?	41% It can do anything Windows or Unix can do 38% Linux is an excellent server choice, but not ready for the desktop 13% It has niche uses, but it's best used sparingly 9% I don't believe in open source. No Linux for me, thank you

Tech Stud: (hot job or skill of the month)
Demand for ASP skills continued to climb, increasing 40% from last month.

Tech Dud: (job or skill that has recently declined the most)
Windows 2000 skills dropped 5% this month.

Top Tech Skills (skills most in demand based on jobs posted on dice.com*)

Operating Systems	1. Unix 7,406 2. Windows 7,225
Databases	1. Oracle 7,182 2. SQL 5,779
Programming Languages	1. ASP 7,717 2. C, C++ 7,073

Top Tech Metro Areas (based on jobs posted on dice.com*)

New York (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	6,303
Washington D.C. (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	4,789
Silicon Valley (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	4,519
Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	3,245
Chicago (Chicago and Suburbs)	2,103

Available Tech Jobs: 47,942   (number of jobs posted on dice.com as of 07.01.04)

Average Salary: $ 63,091
Contract: $ 84,078
Permanent: $ 61,908

Consultant Countdown   (number of contract vs. permanent positions on dice.com as of 07.01.04)
Permanent: 30,174
Contract: 21,535

*Please note that data reflects public information posted by dice.com users and customers. For example, 7,406 jobs posted on dice.com as of July 1, 2004 describe Unix as a skill needed for the position advertised. A single job posting may reflect more than one skill, location and type of position (permanent vs. contract), therefore total figures for these attributes may be greater than total jobs posted. ©Dice Inc. 2004