



Fastdeploy

**An open source solution for
automating operating system
installation and application
deployment.**

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Fastdeploy : What is it?

- It installs operating systems automatically.
- It offers a Web interface to provision systems.
- It is “agnostic” about which operating systems it can deploy automatically.
- It runs from any Linux variant or UNIX-like OS (Windows, very likely, will work too).
- Wheel reinvention is almost non-existent: It uses PXE to netboot and adapts to each OS' installer semantics (Kickstart, Preseed, Windows unattend files, etc.).
- It supports pre-/post-installation scripts and software profiles (“Web server”, “Mail Server”, etc.).

Fastdeploy : What it is not

- A binary imaging solution (Ghost, Systemimager, Altiris Acronis, etc.)– though it may support that in the future.
- A systems management solution a la SMS, LANDesk, Tivoli, HPOV, etc.

Illustration: Configuring a new server for automated deployment

Welcome to FastDeploy Automated Operating System Deployment

Deploy / edit a system

- RedHat Enterprise Linux 4
- CentOS 4.4**
- CentOS 5
- Debian 3.1
- Fedora Core 4
- Fedora Core 5
- Fedora Core 6
- Ubuntu 6.10 Server
- Windows 2003 Standard
- Windows XP Professional


Manage deployed systems

- List / Edit Systems
- Create Standard System Profile

Manage FastDeploy

- Create / Edit Windows install images
- Create / Edit Users and Groups
- Edit Configuration

General Options | **Install Tasks** | Software Selection

 **CentOS 4.4**

Enter hostname *

Enter domain name *

Enter system MAC address *

Network Addressing * ->Pick a network address type

Enter admin password *

Confirm admin password *

Choose language * ->Pick a language

Choose timezone * ->Pick a timezone

Choose your CPU type * ->Pick a CPU type

Choose your hard drive * ->Pick a hard drive type

Email notify after server is installed? Yes (Notify me)

* Denotes required field

Illustration: Fedora Core 6 automatically installing

```
Welcome to Fedora Core
```

Package Installation

Name : glibc-common-2.5-3-i386
Size : 64088k
Summary: Common binaries and locale data for glibc

Status:

54%

	Packages	Bytes	Time
Total :	359	572M	0:06:25
Completed:	12	14M	0:00:09
Remaining:	347	558M	0:06:16

2%

```
<Tab>/<Alt-Tab> between elements | <Space> selects | <F12> next screen
```

Fastdeploy: Why would you use it?

- To avoid/eliminate hands-on operating system installations; no inserting CD/DVDs; no sitting at a console responding to questions.
- To truly automate a critical piece of the IT infrastructure: setting up and configuring new servers and workstations.
- To enhance the responsiveness of you and your IT team to requests for new or redeployed hardware.

Fastdeploy: Who could use it?

- Any IT department that wants to automate server OS and software installs.
- Computer shops and integrators that want to pre-load OSes.
- Dedicated server providers that are constantly deploying and redeploying operating systems to servers.
- Consultants who want to bring an automated deployment environment with them into their client's business; e.g., a customer who wants you to setup 3 servers and 10 workstations for them.
- Data centers, colocation providers, telco and datacom service providers that want to offer a value-added service for customers.

Fastdeploy: What do you need to install and run it?

- Some kind of reasonably fast machine probably with a lot of disk space (300GB+ for all supported OSes).
- Linux, Solaris, xBSD or perhaps Windows running as the OS.
- A configurable DHCP server available locally; ISC, Windows DHCP server, etc. A Cisco IOS based router or switch and even an OpenWRT, DD-WRT etc based WRT54g can do the job on a network.
- A modern TFTP server implementation like atftpd or tftpd-hpa. The TFTP server bundled with Windows RIS or TFTP32 will also work.
- A reasonably fast network backbone. Fast Ethernet is acceptable, but GigE is better.

Fastdeploy: Learning more

- Our website: <http://www.fastdeploy.com>. Forums, a Wiki, and contact info aplenty.
- Email: info@fastdeploy.com
- Chat/IM: serverminds (AIM)
- And, yes, Serverminds does provide full commercial support, implementation, custom programming, etc. services for Fastdeploy.