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Ksplice: Update without rebooting

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Today, every OS in the world requires regular reboots in order to be up to date and secure. Since reboots cause downtime and disruption, sysadmins are forced to choose between security and convenience.

Until Ksplice. Ksplice is new technology that can patch a kernel while the system is running, with no disruption whatsoever. We use this technology to provide Ksplice Uptrack, a service that delivers important security and bugfix updates to your systems. (It's free for Ubuntu Desktop and Fedora, and is also a free feature of Oracle Linux Premier support.)

In this talk, we'll very briefly provide an overview of how Ksplice can dramatically reduce the pain associated with large-scale installation maintenance, which is why it is used at 700+ customer sites, on 100,000+ customer systems, including at Brookhaven National Lab.

More importantly, we'll provide a detailed look into how the Ksplice technology works and how the Ksplice Uptrack service works, at a technical level primarily targeted at system administrators and developers, but largely accessible to the average Linux user as well.

Summary

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