

Linux PCs fail to sell in SA retail outlets

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PCs loaded with Novell's Suse Linux operating system are to be withdrawn from Dion stores in Johannesburg after only two months of being offered for sale.

Almost a year ago Novell SA MD Stafford Masie said the company was looking to sell affordable Linux PCs through major retailers and supermarkets. And earlier this year Novell's OEM business manager Garry Hodgson told Tectonic the OEM side of the Linux business was doing well.

At the consumer-end of the business, however, the company appears to be faring less well with consumers being nervous of spending their money on something they are not familiar with.

According to Tony Calvario, MD of Incredible Solutions, the company that supplies Dion and a number of other retail outlets across the country with computer stock, the sale rate of the Mecer Celeron 2.8 loaded with Suse Linux Pro 9.3 did not meet expectations.

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