

COMPARATIVE REVIEW

NOVELL SUSE LINUX ENTERPRISE SERVER 11

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Our annual excursion to the calm and balmy shores of *Linux* comes at the perfect time for us. The stresses and strains of the previous comparative – featuring a record number of participants on the shiny new *Windows 7* platform – are gradually fading to a glorious, if rather painful memory, while the prospect looms of the *XP* comparative in the spring, which promises an even larger field of products to slog through. Sandwiched between these two behemoths, the *Linux* test provides a welcome moment of respite.

With far fewer products available for the *Linux* platform than for most others we test on, we always expect a quiet month, but it appeared from the start that our choice of distribution would make for an even smaller test than anticipated. Although *Novell's SUSE Linux* is one of the most well funded and heavily marketed commercial server distributions, and its most recent edition (version 11) was released some nine months prior to the test deadline, it still presented enough of a challenge to put off entries from several of those normally expected to take part in our tests. The two largest security firms, *Symantec* and *McAfee*, were unable to provide products supporting the platform, although *Symantec* promises a new edition with full support due for release very soon.

Several others also decided not to take part due to timing issues and new releases pending.

Another major vendor also opted to skip this test, again with a significant upgrade to its *Linux* product close on the horizon but not quite ready for testing. This decision marks something of the end of an era: *VB* has been running *VB100* comparative reviews since January 1998, more or less every two months, with a total of 67 sets of results published so far – this month's test will be the first time that *Kaspersky Lab* has not submitted a product. A sad day indeed.

However, some nine products did make their way to us in time for the test deadline, with most of the remaining regular participants present and no further surprises. Small numbers do not necessarily make for a simple test of course, and previous experience of *Linux* tests has led us to expect all manner of opaque and confusing installation procedures, unusual and esoteric implementation and incomplete, inadequate and even well-hidden documentation. Hoping for a smooth and simple test (but as always prepared for the worst), we settled ourselves into the test lab for what was guaranteed to be an interesting month.

PLATFORM AND TEST SETS

Novell's acquisition of the *SUSE* distribution, announced in 2003 and finalized in early 2004, brought *SUSE* to the highest level of commercially supported *Linux* flavours. Always among the market leaders in Europe, it now stands as one of few likely challengers for *Red Hat* in the business sector. Successive releases have brought ever greater stability, completeness of vision and ease of use. The slick installer and the advanced *Yast* configuration tool bring most tasks involved in setting up and running a system, desktop or server within the grasp of even the most modest administrator. The platform has long been a favourite in the *VB* lab, with the fully open source variant *OpenSUSE* running on many of the servers that support our test networks. The more sober server edition is also the platform of choice for our anti-spam test network, and is selected by default if solution providers have no preference. So the task of preparing the test systems was a straightforward one. Installing and cloning systems was a fast and easy process, and few adjustments were required beyond pointing a few network shares to the right places and sharing the storage areas for the test sets ready for on-access testing. A client system, running *Windows XP SP3*, was set up with these shares mounted as network drives, with the standard set of scripts to run the on-access tests, and things were ready to go.

Putting the test sets in place proved similarly free from problems. The latest additions to the *WildList* were reasonably unremarkable, with yet more *Koobface* and *OnlineGames* variants continuing to dominate the list, and the old guard – the reams of *Netsky* and *Mytob* variants which once held sway over the list – continuing to decline. The most significant items on the list remain the complex *W32/Virut* strains, of which yet another new variant was added in recent months; as usual, our automated replicator churned out several thousand examples ready to challenge the products' detection abilities to the utmost.

Elsewhere in the test sets everything was much as normal. The trojan set was slightly larger than usual thanks to a longer than average gap since the last test and some further expansion of our sample-gathering efforts. Meanwhile, the *RAP* sets were kept to a reasonable size thanks to a notable decrease in the number of incoming samples over the Christmas and New Year period, when most of the samples were taken in (probably due to various labs taking time off over the festive season); numbers quickly climbed back to previous levels a few weeks into 2010, with many sources providing extra large bundles to catch up with backlogs.

The speed sets were left largely unchanged, other than a little cleaning of inappropriate files which had slipped in, and the clean set had a fairly average number of additions,

On-demand tests	WildList viruses		Worms & bots		Polymorphic viruses		Trojans		Clean sets	
	Missed	%	Missed	%	Missed	%	Missed	%	FP	Susp.
Alwil avast!	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	8	99.39%	1640	92.60%	0	0
Avira AntiVir	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	373	98.32%	0	0
CA Threat Manager	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	959	92.00%	11632	47.52%	0	0
eScan	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	1719	92.24%	0	0
ESET Security	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	707	96.81%	0	9
Frisk F-PROT	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	4442	79.96%	0	0
Quick Heal	1	99.99996%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	2715	87.75%	0	0
Sophos Anti-Virus	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	1604	92.76%	0	3
VirusBuster	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	193	89.10%	2461	88.90%	2	0

most of which were popular freeware utilities and some software provided free with magazines and hardware acquired by the lab in recent months. A dedicated set of *Linux* files was also compiled for the speed tests, taken from the /bin, /sbin, /etc, /opt and /usr folders of one of the test machines. As usual for the speed tests, scanning speeds using both default settings and ‘full’ settings were recorded – where necessary, settings were increased to include all file types with no size limit, scanning archives internally to the highest available depth. A product’s times were counted in the full column if files with non-standard extensions were detected and, for the archive set, if at least four of the eight archive types checked were scanned to a depth of at least four levels. Thanks to the fair number of compressed files in the *Linux* speed set, this was treated in the same way as the archive set for this month’s test.

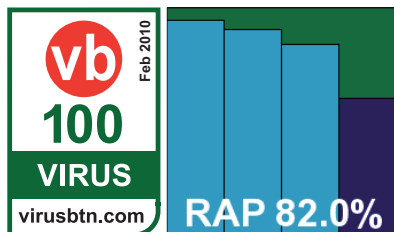
With everything set up and more or less in order, we got down to business.

Alwil avast! for Linux 3.2.0_rc

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	99.39%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	92.60%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

Alwil’s product was provided as a selection of RPM installer files, along with some instructions on compiling and installing the *Dazuko* filtering

module required by the on-access scanner. Several steps were required, but thanks to the clear instructions



everything ran through smoothly and we were soon underway with our first run through the tests.

Running of scans from the command line and operation of the on-access guard proved logical and simple, following pretty simple and predictable formats, and with decent speeds across all sets, results were gathered in pleasingly short order. Detection rates were as excellent as ever, with scanning speeds even more impressive in both modes. No problems were encountered in the WildList or any of the clean sets, and *Alwil* is duly awarded another VB100 for its collection.

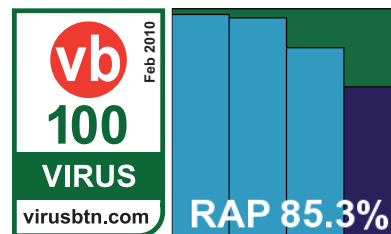
Avira AntiVir Linux Server Professional 3.0.5

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	100.00%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	98.32%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

Avira’s *Linux* solution uses the *Dazuko* filter module in a slightly different fashion, but provides it pre-compiled and ready to go with just a minor tweak

required to one of the set-up scripts. Installation is well automated and lucid, and documentation is similarly clear. Operation and control of the product is thus straightforward, and with good speeds throughout, testing once again took little time or effort.

Some truly superb detection figures were achieved, nearing perfection in the trojans set and pretty impressive in the RAP sets. With the WildList and clean sets causing no difficulties, *Avira* also comfortably earns another VB100.

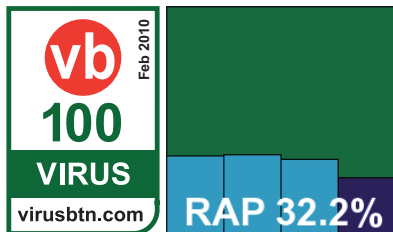


On-access tests	WildList viruses		Worms & bots		Polymorphic viruses		Trojans	
	Missed	%	Missed	%	Missed	%	Missed	%
Alwil avast!	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	8	99.39%	1453	93.44%
Avira AntiVir	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	373	98.32%
CA Threat Manager	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	959	92.00%	11632	47.52%
eScan	5	99.48%	4	99.81%	0	100.00%	1360	93.86%
ESET Security	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	751	96.61%
Frisk F-PROT	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	4448	79.93%
Quick Heal	1	99.99996%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	9204	58.48%
Sophos Anti-Virus	0	100.00%	3	99.86%	0	100.00%	1612	92.73%
VirusBuster	0	100.00%	0	100.00%	193	89.10%	2444	88.97%

CA Threat Manager 8.1.5379.0

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	92.00%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	47.52%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

CA's product has a rather more involved and complex set-up procedure, but ample instructions were provided and the product was up and running without



much ado. A GUI is provided, accessible from a built-in web server, which closely resembles that seen in numerous *Windows* tests over the last few years. This proved to offer all the functions required, but not in great depth and without the finer control provided by command-line and configuration file set-ups – the preferred method of more serious *Linux* admins, particularly at the server level. A command-line tool for on-demand scanning is provided, but seemed unwilling to work for us without deeper research, so we mostly made do with the GUI. This proved a rather frustrating path, as the interface was flaky in the extreme, with around one click in five (and sometimes as many as one in three) producing a page error and requiring a refresh of the browser and a retry at configuring. Nevertheless, we got there in the end, with the only lasting problem being an apparent lack of archive scanning on access despite options to enable it in the interface – a problem we have noted many times previously with the *Windows* version of the same product.

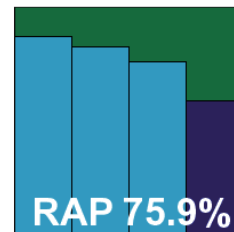
Speeds were as excellent as we have come to expect from CA's remarkably quick engine, and while detection rates

in the trojans and RAP sets were rather disappointing, no problems were encountered in the WildList set and no false positives turned up in the clean sets, thus qualifying CA for a VB100 award.

eScan for Linux File Servers 3.3.-3.sles11

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	100.00%
ItW (o/a)	99.48%	Trojans	92.24%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

The *Linux* version of *eScan* is another complete and professional server package, again with a web-accessible GUI as well as a desktop interface for running on-demand scans, but where possible we went with the command line to enable better automation of tasks. Installation was fairly



painless, with a set of RPM installers to run and the on-access protection provided on *Samba* shares with some small additions to make to the *Samba* configuration file. All of this is clearly documented in an accompanying PDF manual.

Scanning speeds were not the fastest, partly thanks to some very thorough default settings, but detection rates seemed generally good. However, on checking the results we found a number of unexpected misses in the WildList and worms and bots sets, with files not spotted on access but easily noted on demand. Deeper analysis showed that the on-access scanner is set to ignore files larger than 2048KB by default – presumably to mitigate slowdowns caused by the thorough scanning. Retrying the speed tests with the limit disabled resulted in numerous problems, including the scanning engine daemon shutting down and disabling all access to the *Samba* share. Since several samples in

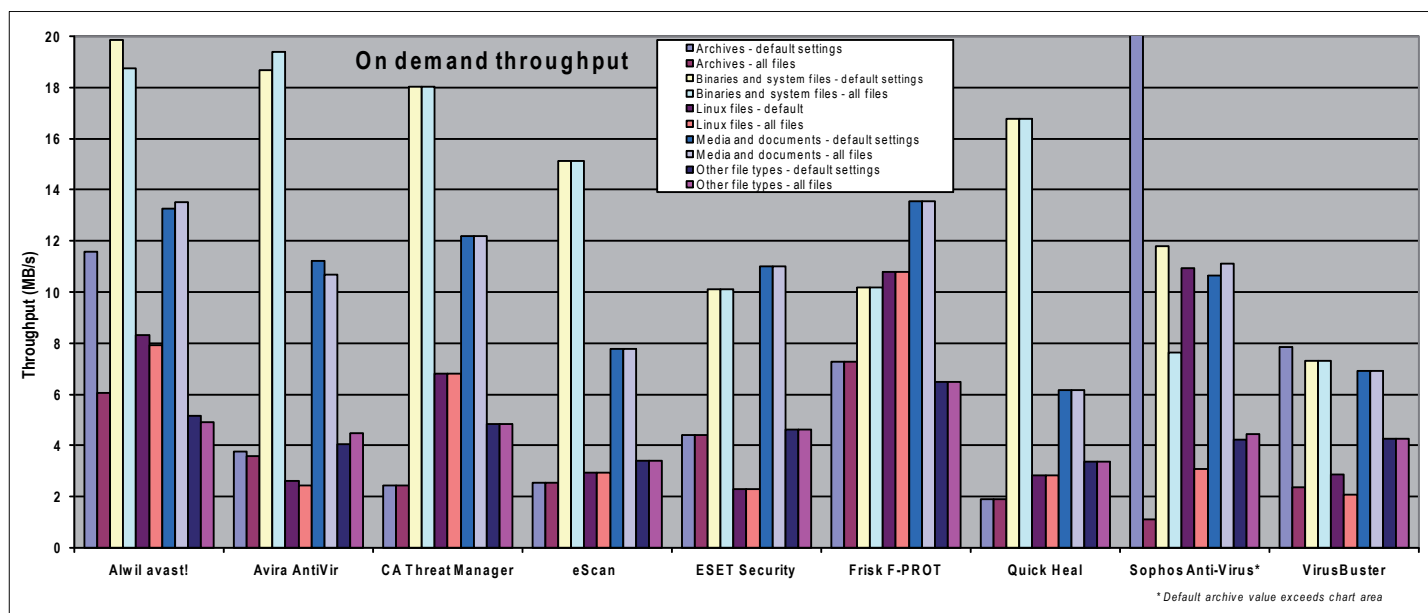
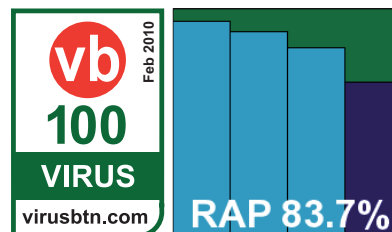
On-demand throughput (Time = s; Throughput = MB/s)	Archive files				Binaries and system files				Linux files				Media and documents				Other file types			
	Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files	
	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put	Time	Thr. put
Alwil avast!	251	11.59	479	6.07	248	19.84	263	18.74	422	8.31	443	7.92	265	13.26	260	13.50	210	5.14	221	4.91
Avira AntiVir	769	3.78	808	3.60	264	18.66	254	19.40	1340	2.62	1438	2.44	313	11.20	328	10.68	267	4.05	242	4.47
CA Threat Manager	1200	2.42	1200	2.42	273	18.04	273	18.04	514	6.83	514	6.83	288	12.18	288	12.18	223	4.85	223	4.85
eScan	1135	2.56	1135	2.56	326	15.12	326	15.12	1198	2.93	1198	2.93	452	7.77	452	7.77	317	3.41	317	3.41
ESET Security	658	4.42	658	4.42	488	10.09	488	10.09	1533	2.29	1533	2.29	319	11.02	319	11.02	233	4.64	233	4.64
Frisk F-PROT	399	7.29	399	7.29	483	10.19	483	10.19	325	10.79	325	10.79	259	13.54	259	13.54	167	6.49	167	6.49
Quick Heal	1517	1.92	1517	1.92	294	16.76	294	16.76	1246	2.82	1246	2.82	568	6.17	568	6.17	320	3.38	320	3.38
Sophos Anti-Virus	32	91.54	2606	1.12	418	11.79	644	7.65	321	10.92	1139	3.08	330	10.63	316	11.11	255	4.24	244	4.43
VirusBuster	370	7.86	1238	2.35	674	7.31	674	7.31	1226	2.86	1689	2.08	506	6.93	506	6.93	254	4.26	254	4.26

the WildList – including a nasty W32/Bagle worm – were larger than 2MB and thus ignored in the default setting, eScan is denied a VB100 award this month.

ESET Security for Linux 3.0.15

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	100.00%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	96.81%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

ESET also offers some nice simple install scripts – not as straightforward as some, but still fairly easy to operate. On-access scanning can be provided either using the *Dazuko* module, allowing full system protection,



Archive scanning		ACE	CAB	EXE-ZIP	JAR	LZH	RAR	TGZ	ZIP	EXT*
Alwil avast!	OD	X/√	X/√	√	√	X/√	X/√	√	√	√
	OA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Avira AntiVir	OD	2	X/√	√	X/√	X/√	X/√	√	√	√
	OA	2	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
CA Threat Manager	OD	X	√	X	√	√	√	√	√	√
	OA	X	X	X	1	X	X	X	1	√
eScan	OD	√	√	8	√	√	√	8	√	√
	OA	√	√	8	√	√	√	8	√	√
ESET Security	OD	√	√	√	√	√	√	5/√	√	√
	OA	√	√	√	√	√	√	5	√	√
Frisk F-PROT	OD	5	5	5	5	√	5	2	5	√
	OA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Quick Heal	OD	X	√	X	√	X	√	X	√	√
	OA	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	√
Sophos Anti-Virus	OD	X	X/5	X/5	X/5	X/5	X/5	X/5	X/5	X/√
	OA	X	X/√	X/7	X/√	X/√	X/√	X/7	X/√	√
VirusBuster	OD	2	√	√	X/√	X	√	√	√	X/√
	OA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	√

Key: X - Archive not scanned; X/√ - Default settings/thorough settings; √ - Archives scanned to depth of 10 or more levels; [1-9] - Archives scanned to limited depth; EXT* - Eicar test file with random extension; All others - detection of Eicar test file embedded in archive nested up to 10 levels

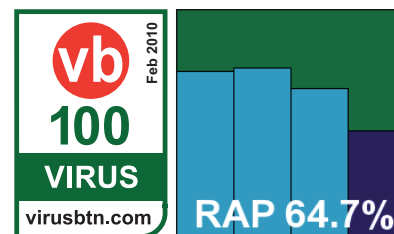
or on *Samba* shares only; for simplicity we opted to use this method, and again it proved simple to set up and configure.

On-demand scanning speeds were pretty reasonable, and on-access overheads not too heavy, despite some pretty intensive default scanning levels. Detection rates were quite excellent, with the only problem encountered in the RAP sets, where a couple of files caused the engine to trip up with a segmentation fault error message. With these moved out of the way, RAP scores proved just as impressive as those in the main sets, and the clean sets threw up only a few (fairly accurate) warnings of potentially unwanted adware-type products (mostly toolbars included 'free' with some of the trialware products added this month). With no full blown false positives, and the WildList handled with ease, *ESET* earns another VB100 award to add to its impressive haul.

Frisk F-PROT AntiVirus for Linux FileServers 6.3.3.5015

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	100.00%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	79.96%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	0

Frisk's Linux product, like its *Windows* versions, is simple in the extreme, with most of it quite happy to run from wherever the initial zip is unpacked, but a Perl installer script is provided to simplify the set-up process.



Again, the choice of *Dazuko* or *Samba*-based on-access protection is offered, and again we opted for the *Samba* method as all on-access tests were being run from a *Windows* client. Everything was up and running fairly simply despite a lack of clear documentation.

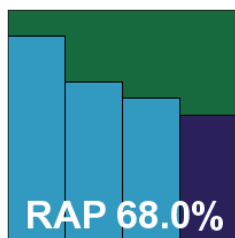
On-demand scanning speeds were excellent, and on-access overheads were not bad either. Detection rates proved decent, if not overwhelming. The clean sets and the WildList presented no difficulties, and as a result *Frisk* also earns itself another VB100 award.

File access lag time (Time = s; Lag = s/MB)	Archive files				Binaries and system files				Linux files				Media and documents				Other file types			
	Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files		Default settings		All files	
	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag	Time	Lag
Alwil avast!	1366	0.26	1366	0.26	1406	0.06	1406	0.06	3806	0.17	3806	0.17	919	0.06	919	0.06	506	0.08	506	0.08
Avira AntiVir	2094	0.51	2094	0.51	1275	0.03	1275	0.03	4366	0.33	4366	0.33	917	0.06	917	0.06	512	0.09	512	0.09
CA Threat Manager	759	0.05	NA	NA	1439	0.06	1439	0.06	5646	0.69	NA	NA	1493	0.30	1493	0.30	763	0.32	763	0.32
eScan	683	0.03	1882	0.44	1399	0.06	1414	0.06	9456	1.78	9865	1.89	1846	0.45	1954	0.49	990	0.53	997	0.53
ESET Security	1187	0.20	1187	0.20	1961	0.17	1961	0.17	4237	0.29	4237	0.29	1041	0.11	1041	0.11	617	0.18	617	0.18
Frisk F-PROT	977	0.13	977	0.13	1555	0.09	1555	0.09	4950	0.49	4950	0.49	932	0.07	932	0.07	492	0.07	492	0.07
Quick Heal	669	0.02	NA	NA	1420	0.06	1420	0.06	4432	0.34	NA	NA	1163	0.16	1163	0.16	587	0.15	587	0.15
Sophos Anti-Virus	619	0.00	1842	0.42	1434	0.06	1469	0.07	3860	0.18	4044	0.23	943	0.07	940	0.07	584	0.15	584	0.15
VirusBuster	634	0.01	NA	NA	1726	0.12	1726	0.12	4997	0.51	NA	NA	956	0.08	956	0.08	537	0.11	537	0.11

Quick Heal for Linux 11.00

ItW 99.99% **Polymorphic** 100.00%
ItW (o/a) 99.99% **Trojans** 87.75%
Worms & bots 100.00% **False positives** 0

Quick Heal's product was one of few to have dependencies, in the form of a compatibility library for some older C++ code, but this presented little problem. *Dazuko* was the on-access filtering method of choice, with again a slightly different implementation, but it proved no problem to set up and get running. This needs to be done manually before the installer script is run, but with it in place everything else runs like clockwork, with helpful and descriptive comments and instructions provided.



As ever, *Quick Heal* sped through the tests, with some superb times recorded in the on-access tests, the protection barely registering. This effect may have been helped by a lack of archive scanning on access – something which seemed impossible to activate in the rather minimal configuration system. Detection rates were pretty good on demand, although a notable difference between on-demand and on-access scores hinted at either wildly different settings or some stability issues with the on-access implementation. Further investigation and re-tests showed

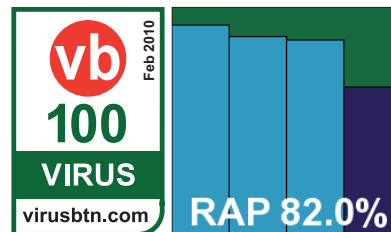
more variations in detection and speeds, with the protection appearing rather unstable on access. The fast speeds recorded may be a side effect of this uncertain application of scanning to files being rapidly accessed.

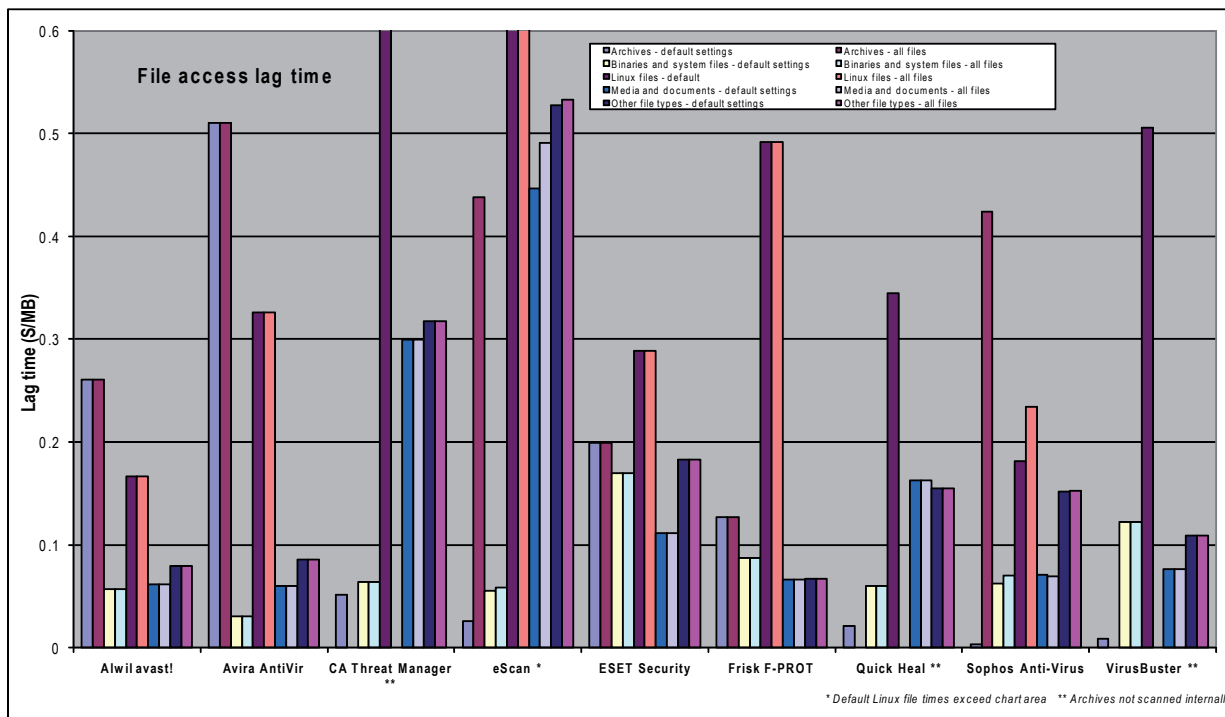
Elsewhere, a fairly steep decline was observed across the RAP sets, although with a solid starting point the overall average was decent. The clean sets were handled accurately, but in the WildList set a single sample of W32/Virut, from the latest strain added to the list, went undetected both on demand and on access, and *Quick Heal* does not quite make the required grade for VB100 certification this month.

Sophos Anti-Virus for Linux 6.7.3

ItW 100.00% **Polymorphic** 100.00%
ItW (o/a) 100.00% **Trojans** 92.76%
Worms & bots 100.00% **False positives** 0

Sophos's product had one of the slickest installation processes, running smoothly and cleanly through the required steps, including the selection and implementation of its own 'Talpa' on-access hooking set-up. With everything set up and operational in double-quick





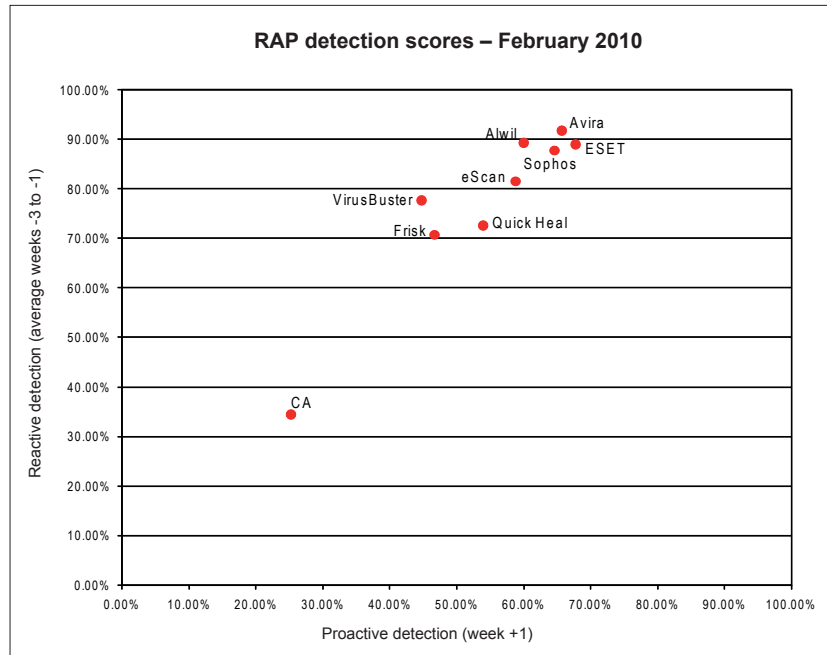
time, testing sped through thanks to pleasantly sensible and standardized command-line options for the on-demand scanner, and a slightly more fiddly but well-documented control system for the on-access component.

Scanning speeds were not bad in either mode, and detection rates proved very solid throughout the sets. However, a few anomalies were observed in the on-demand scan; relying on extension lists to decide whether or not to scan files, it appeared that at least one viable executable extension had been missed off the list. When testing and replicating

samples, we endeavour to capture copies of each sample with all the extensions it uses while spreading, to check for just such errors. With several pieces of malware using this extension to conceal spreading files from less sophisticated users, *Sophos* is lucky to have covered this month's WildList without issues. As it is, several samples in the worms and bots set – all of which had been retired from the WildList in recent months – went undetected with the default settings.

A VB100 award is earned, but we hope to see the error fixed promptly.

Reactive And Proactive (RAP) detection scores	Reactive			Reactive average	Proactive	Overall average
	week -3	week -2	week -1		week +1	
Alwil avast!	94.22%	90.30%	83.54%	89.35%	60.07%	82.03%
Avira AntiVir	97.38%	95.60%	82.51%	91.83%	65.76%	85.31%
CA Threat Manager	34.79%	35.10%	33.48%	34.46%	25.24%	32.15%
eScan	86.89%	82.04%	75.68%	81.54%	58.81%	75.86%
ESET Security	94.25%	89.98%	82.76%	89.00%	67.81%	83.70%
Frisk F-PROT	72.93%	74.11%	65.19%	70.74%	46.68%	64.73%
Quick Heal	88.42%	68.03%	61.43%	72.62%	53.99%	67.97%
Sophos Anti-Virus	91.69%	86.57%	85.04%	87.77%	64.62%	81.98%
VirusBuster	85.69%	78.49%	68.81%	77.66%	44.77%	69.44%



CONCLUSIONS

This month we saw some products with tricky and esoteric installation and control systems among a field dominated by a pleasant level of clarity and good design. We saw slow scanning times and heavy on-access lags, although most products were reasonably lightweight and nimble. We saw some disappointing detection rates alongside some highly impressive scores. Having expected a high pass rate – perhaps even a clean sweep – we saw problems with false positives, missed polymorphic samples in the WildList set, and an unfortunate default setting causing products to miss the required standard for the award. All in all, a bit of a mixed bag.

A few interesting trends and patterns were noted. Unlike most of our tests on the *Windows* platform, where on-demand scores are almost invariably higher than those recorded on access, we saw several

products doing less well with their on-demand scans. This, of course, is due to the way the products are operated, with command-line scanners often defaulting to less thorough defaults than graphical ones, giving the operator more freedom and control to design scans as required. In the *Linux* context, the concept of ‘default’ is perhaps a little less exact than in most of our tests, although of course all scanners have their own list of automatically enabled options.

The RAP tests produced some interesting results once again, with most products taking up familiar positions in the RAP quadrant. As our automation systems improve we are slowly increasing the size of the RAP sets, as well as fine-tuning their correlation with prevalence and telemetry data and thus their relevance, and hopefully this will continue to increase the value of the data provided.

We also hope soon to implement a long-planned series of improvements in the polymorphic and worms-and-bots sets, as well as the redesign and rebuilding of our clean, speed and false positive sets. Much of this should be in place in time for the next test – for which we expect a vastly expanded field of products, including a number of newcomers.

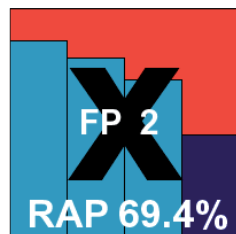
Technical details:

All products were tested on identical systems with *AMD Athlon64 X2 Dual Core 5200+* processors, 2GB RAM, dual 80GB and 400GB hard drives. Test systems were running *Novell SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11*, 32-bit edition, with *Linux Kernel 2.6.27.19*. On access tests were performed from clients running *Microsoft Windows XP, Service Pack 3*, accessing network shares exported using *Samba 3.2.7*.

VirusBuster SambaShield for Linux 1.2.1_3-1.2.2_4

ItW	100.00%	Polymorphic	89.10%
ItW (o/a)	100.00%	Trojans	88.90%
Worms & bots	100.00%	False positives	2

As the name hints, *VirusBuster's SambaShield* provides protection for *Samba* shares, which is just what is required for our test. The set-up process is simple and quick, with a nice installer script putting things in place and making the required tweaks to the *Samba* configuration file. Some rummaging around is subsequently required to find the scanner and other components. With these located, some fairly logical controls are provided for the on-access scanner, while the on-demand portion seemed less deeply configurable.



Testing zipped along nicely, and scanning speeds were pretty good in general, although slower than many at handling the large number of small files in the *Linux* speed set. Detection rates showed further improvements to those noted in recent months, with a reasonable decline across the RAP sets. The WildList, with its many tricky Virut samples, was handled with aplomb, but in the clean sets a couple of files – one from *Roxio* and another from an *AOL* set-up CD – were alerted on as trojans, thus spoiling *VirusBuster's* chances of a VB100 award this month.