

Re: OpenVMS Alpha V8.2 distribution

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.vms/2005-02/1230.html>

johnhreinhardt_at_yahoo.com

Date: 02/15/05

Date: 14 Feb 2005 20:28:07 -0800

John Santos wrote:

>

> *I'm getting mine by borrowing it from work :-)*

>

Unfortunately I haven't worked for an employer with OpenVMS since 2002 so that avenue is out. I paid somewhere around \$250 on Ebay for the Alpha 7.3-2 OS and the Q4CY2003 SPL and \$30 for the Alpha 7.3-1 CD from www.openvmshobbyist.org . I'd gladly pay \$50 or so for a couple of CD's from them with everything (except the bazillion DECwindows versions) that the Hobbyist License covers plus documentation.

> *It's perfectly all right to beg or borrow a copy. Stealing is frowned upon.*

>

> *Conventional wisdom is that putting a copy of it up on the Internet so*

> *people can download it is also right out.*

I've also got the means to furnish downloads on the web if some sort of way could be found to verify that a hobbyist was downloading. But I can see the legal implications on that could be prohibitive.

> *I don't know if there has been an actual post from someone at HP or if*

> *it is "obvious" (in the legalese sense of "obvious") from the hobbyist*

> *license agreement that this is illegal, but I wouldn't chance it. If*

> *it were okay, I think HP would put it up on their own web site if it*

> *were okay, so people downloading it would have some assurance they were*

> *getting the real thing and not a hacked trojan horse version or an*

> *obsolete beta.*

I think it's more the economics of charging \$1K for 40 odd CD's a year as opposed to whatever the cost of keeping up a download area. I note that from the cover letter, etc on my SPL that you CAN download

comp.os.vms: Re: OpenVMS Alpha V8.2 distribution

portions of the SPL if you have a password that is furnished with the SPL – however that password expires quarterly so usually by the time things make it to Ebay the password is long past usable.

John H. Reinhardt