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## Covalent Technologies expands Apache offerings

By CAROLYN DUFFY MARSAN  
Network World, 08/14/00

*SAN FRANCISCO* - Covalent Technologies this week will unveil five products that are designed to make the open source Apache Web server software robust enough for enterprise environments.

Covalent will announce the products at the LinuxWorld conference in San Jose. The new products are the result of a \$5 million venture capital investment made late last year by Granite Ventures. Covalent used the money to rev up its product development efforts and to hire a new management team, including president and CEO John Jack, who joined the firm Aug. 1. Covalent founder Randy Terbush, one of the original developers on the Apache project, remains on staff as chief technology officer.

For the past two years, Covalent's flagship product was Raven SSL, an encryption add-on for Apache that has attracted more than 1,600 customers, including Federal Express, AT&T and Hewlett-Packard. Over the next three months, Covalent will add the following products to its roster:

- Nettrust, a packaged Apache Web server that includes a graphics-driven installer, Secure Sockets Layer add-ons and extensions for Java and Perl.
- Raven Conductor, a module that lets SNMP-based systems manage Apache devices on a network.
- A module that provides virus-scanning services to data served on Apache Web servers.
- An intrusion-detection module that lets network managers monitor data served by an Apache Web server to quickly detect any defacing of Web sites.
- A module that provides gateway credit card services and works with offerings from VeriSign and CyberSource.

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Pricing wasn't available for the five new products, although Raven SSL sells for \$495 per server.

Covalent also will formally launch its 24-7 support offering called Apache1st for companies that use Apache in production environments, and the firm will add a professional services organization.

"We are proponents and advocates of the open source movement," Jack says. "By creating products around that core value offering - the open source Apache - we make Apache more enterprise-ready to interoperate and integrate into today's business environments."

Future product plans include Vignette offerings and modules that will handle integration between Apache and application servers from BroadVision.

A product of the open source movement, Apache is the most popular Web server software on the Internet. Introduced in 1995, Apache powers more than 63% of the world's Web servers. It competes against Microsoft's Internet Information Server and iPlanet's Web server. Apache's development is led by the Apache Software Foundation.

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