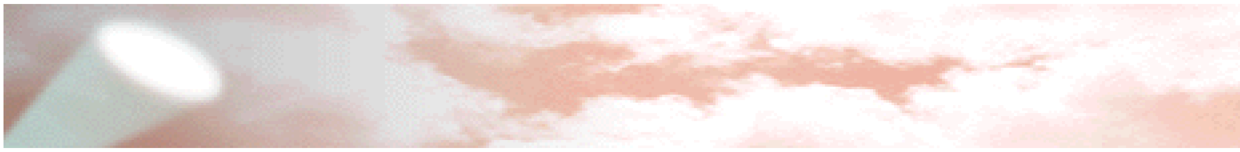

Enhanced Binary Compatibility Package

by Anthony Brooks

SunSoft has enhanced the Binary Compatibility Package (BCP) so that it is more robust than ever. BCP allows SunOS 4.1 application binaries to run on SunOS 5 and offers an automatic mechanism to support migration. Since SunOS 5 is an integral part of the operating environment, this feature makes end user migration transparent.

With the next release of SunOS 5, the restriction for an application to run under BCP to be dynamically linked is lifted. BCP will support statically linked applications in the same manner as in the past. The Static Binary Compatibility Package (SBCP) leverages the existing Binary Compatibility Package. The same BCP guidelines still apply. For complete information on those guidelines see the *Solaris Porting Guide* published by Prentice Hall.

BCP is primarily used at large end user sites with an installed base of internally developed Solaris 1 applications. This enhancement adds support if the internally developed applications at large end user sites did not follow the Solaris 1 guidelines for dynamic linking. Automatic support for statically linked applications is yet another example of how SunSoft is committed to making migration fast and easy.