



Technical Education Services Course Specification

Course Number: RH3200

Course Title: RedHawk Linux Real-Time Programming

Course Duration: 5 Days

Purpose:

The iHawk™ Series is Concurrent Computer Corporation's high-performance PCI-based computer platform for real-time data acquisition, simulation, and industrial systems applications. The software interfaces include methods for controlling and scheduling processes, managing memory pools, communicating between processes, performing I/O, synchronizing processes, and optimizing process performance. Real-time application engineers need to understand what tools are available for these purposes and how to use them effectively on a Concurrent system. The primary goal of this course is to provide the student with instruction and “hands-on” experience to achieve this level of knowledge.

Intended Audience:

This course is intended for software engineers who develop real-time applications on Concurrent systems using the RedHawk™ Linux® operating system.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course students are able to:

- Describe the special system functions contained in the RedHawk Linux operating system that support Real-Time applications.
- Explain how to optimize RedHawk Linux to provide Real-Time scheduling policies that enhance response from application processes.
- Explain methods to effectively manage processes running on a shared-bus, multiprocessor system.
- Create and use shared memory regions for inter-process communication between different parts of a Real-Time application.
- Describe the process synchronization tools available under RedHawk Linux and use them in a Real-Time application environment.
- Describe the POSIX interface capabilities available under RedHawk Linux and explain how to use them to support a Real-Time application.
- Write Real-Time programs using the rich set of features that RedHawk Linux provides.

Prerequisites:

- C Programming Language - Students need to be able to read C language source code and understand C language syntactical constructs.

- Linux System Capability - Students need to understand and be able to use basic Linux system commands.
- Linux Programming Capability - Students should understand standard Linux tools used to create programs or have comparable experience.

Course Topic Outline:

I. Real-Time Overview

- A. Real-Time Applications
- B. RedHawk Linux Real-Time Support
- C. Kernel Tuning and Building
- D. Process Access Privileges

II. Process Management

- A. Basic System Architecture
- B. Process Creation under RedHawk Linux
- C. Process Priority Classes
- D. Scheduling Administration
- E. Real-Time Signal Processing using POSIX Calls

III. Memory Management

- A. Physical Configuration
- B. Resident Processes
- C. Shared Memory Support Techniques
- D. POSIX Message Queues

IV. File and Device I/O

- A. POSIX Clocks and Timers
- B. POSIX Synchronized I/O
- C. POSIX Asynchronous I/O
- D. Real-Time Device I/O

V. Process Synchronization

- A. POSIX Counting Semaphores
- B. Rescheduling Control Variables
- C. User-level Spin-Locks
- D. Client-Server System Calls

VI. Program Optimization

- A. Compiler Optimization Options

- B. Compiler Warnings
- C. Process Dispatch Latency
- D. Shielded Processor Model
- E. Increasing Determinism Considerations

VII. Thread Programming Overview

- A. Concurrent Programming Considerations
- B. Basic Thread Management
- C. Thread Types and Scheduling
- D. Thread Synchronization Techniques
- E. Thread Program Development

VIII. Real-Time Services Overview

- A. Overview of the Frequency-Based Scheduler
- B. Overview of the Performance Monitor Utility
- C. Data Recording Programming Interface

Laboratory Exercises:

Students are provided with the opportunity to perform hands-on exercises for topics presented and may consist of two basic types:

- Review exercises are fill-in type questions that require the student to review the material presented to respond. These questions reinforce the important points presented in each topic.
- Hands-on exercises provide the student with experience in using the commands, utilities, calls, and techniques from the material allowing the student to better understand what he or she has learned.