



March 31, 2005

Notice: Red Hat RHEL 2.1 on x86(IA32) EOL Customer Communication

Dear Cadence Customer:

Each computer hardware manufacturer offers multiple hardware architectures and levels of operating systems. New versions of the operating systems are released periodically. Cadence must adjust its support policies to keep up with this natural progression to be synchronized with the workstations and servers our customers are using.

To that end, Cadence will end support for the RHEL 2.1 OS * on the x86 (IA32) hardware platforms and RHEL 3.0 will become the baseline Red Hat OS for all new Cadence releases beginning January 1, 2006 for the x86 (IA32) hardware platforms.

Existing RHEL 2.1 releases on X86(IA32) and releases up to Dec 31, 2005 will not be affected by this change for the lifecycle of the releases. However, no new product enhancements (beyond bug fixes) will be released on RHEL 2.1 after January 1, 2006. We will continue to provide you with all scheduled update releases and the same level of software maintenance you have today.

Cadence is committed to continuously enhancing our product quality and customer support and to working with our computing platform partners to ensure that our products run on a variety of UNIX-, Linux-, and Windows-based systems.

We strongly encourage you to move to RHEL 3.0 OS as soon as possible. For more information about Cadence products on the Red Hat Linux platform, please visit our support website at www.cadence.com/support or contact your local Cadence account manager.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss an appropriate transition plan, please contact your Cadence account manager.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. E. Noneman".

Mark Noneman
VP, Enterprise Quality
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.

* - This action will also effectively end compatibility of new Cadence releases beginning January 1, 2006 with Red Hat consumer editions RH 7.2, RH 7.3 and RH 8.0.