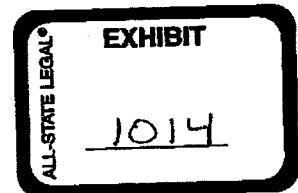


# **EXHIBIT 5A**

Joseph A. LaSala, Jr.  
Senior Vice President  
General Counsel and Secretary

Novell

VIA FAX AND CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



June 6, 2003

Mr. Darl McBride  
President and CEO  
The SCO Group  
355 South 520 West  
Suite 100  
Lindon, Utah 84042

Re: Letter of June 6

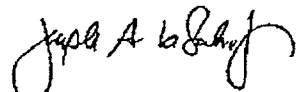
Dear Mr. McBride:

I have received your letter to Jack L. Messman with respect to "Novell's May 28, 2003 Press Release."

For your information, Novell has today issued a press release with respect to Amendment No. 2. A copy is attached for your ease of reference.

Your letter contains absurd and unfounded accusations against Novell and others, coupled with a veiled threat to publicly state those allegations in a SCO press call to be held today at 11:00 am EST. Novell continues to demand that SCO cease and desist its practice of making unsubstantiated allegations, including the allegations contained in your letter of June 6, 2003.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph A. LaSala, Jr.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 6, 2003**

**Novell Statement on SCO Contract Amendment**

PROVO, Utah – June 6, 2003 – In a May 28<sup>th</sup> letter to SCO, Novell challenged SCO's claims to UNIX patent and copyright ownership and demanded that SCO substantiate its allegations that Linux infringes SCO's intellectual property rights. Amendment #2 to the 1995 SCO-Novell Asset Purchase Agreement was sent to Novell last night by SCO. To Novell's knowledge, this amendment is not present in Novell's files. The amendment appears to support SCO's claim that ownership of certain copyrights for UNIX did transfer to SCO in 1996. The amendment does not address ownership of patents, however, which clearly remain with Novell.

Novell reiterates its request to SCO to address the fundamental issue Novell raised in its May 28 letter: SCO's still unsubstantiated claims against the Linux community.

**About Novell**

Novell, Inc. (Nasdaq: NOVL) is a leading provider of information solutions that deliver secure identity management (Novell Nsure<sup>TM</sup>), Web application development (Novell exteNd<sup>TM</sup>) and cross-platform networking services (Novell Nterprise<sup>TM</sup>), all supported by strategic consulting and professional services (Novell Ngage<sup>SM</sup>). Novell's vision of one Net – a world without information boundaries – helps customers realize the value of their information securely and economically. For more information, call Novell's Customer Response Center at (888) 321-4CRC (4272) or visit <http://www.novell.com>. Press should visit <http://www.novell.com/pressroom>.

###

Novell is a registered trademarks; Nsure, exteNd and Nterprise are trademarks; and Ngage is a service mark of Novell, Inc. in the United States and other countries. \* All third-party trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

**Press Contact:**

Bruce Lowry  
Novell, Inc.

NOV 000043059