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OSCC Newsletter covers the latest issues and updates related to Open Source Software in Malaysia. OSCC Newsletter is developed by Open Source Competency Centre, MAMPU. MAMPU, is the central agency responsible for leading change and modernisation in the public service. MAMPU's Open Source Competency Centre is first and single point of reference for support and guidance in the implementation of Open Source Software in the Public Sector. For more information visit <http://www.oscc.org.my> or contact@oscc.org.my

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MAMPU To Collaborate With Other Governments

Putrajaya 1 June 2009. In recognition of Malaysia's achievement in implementing the Public Sector Open Source Software (OSS) Master Plan, the governments of Saudi Arabia and Sudan had invited MAMPU for possible collaborations to implement their OSS initiatives. MAMPU had accepted the invitations and recently visited the two countries to discuss the collaboration initiatives.

Visit To Saudi Arabia, 25 – 26 May 2009

On 25th May 2009, a delegation from MAMPU headed by Tuan Haji Muhammad Rosli Bin Abd. Razak, MAMPU Director (BDPICT) officially visited King Abdul Aziz City For Science And Technology (KACST) in Saudi Arabia to conduct a preliminary discussion on their OSS initiative. In essence, the discussion was focused on the formation of the Smart Partnership between KACST, United National and Development Programme (UNDP) and MAMPU to help the Kingdom to establish a National Open Source Software Centre in their country.

Under the Smart Partnership, a number of OSS activities were proposed and KACST was advised to draw up the objectives and scope of their OSS initiatives for analysis by MAMPU. This heralds the initiation of a mutually fruitful partnership towards implementing OSS in Saudi Arabian Government agencies.



Tn Haji Muhammad Rosli Bin Abd. Razak (2nd from right), MAMPU Director (BDPICT) and two other MAMPU delegates with government officials of the King Abdul Aziz City For Science And Technology.

Upcoming Training

July 14 - 15, 2009

Linux Fundamentals

July 15th, 2009

Using MyNetwatch

To register, please visit:

<http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/9/15/>

Other Highlights

OSSRA

Open Source Software Reference Architecture is available for download from OSCC Portal.

For more information, please visit <http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/201/243/>

WAG

Web Application Guidelines is available for download from OSCC Portal.

For more information, please visit <http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/202/246/>

Visit To Sudan, 8 – 10 June 2009

A delegation from MAMPU headed by MAMPU Deputy Director, Madam Tan King Ing recently visited Sudan on June 8-10th 2009 on the invitation by the Nile Centre for Technology Research (NCTR) of Sudan. Sudan is seeking to adopt OSS in government agencies and educational institutions. MAMPU presented a paper during the OSS Workshop entitled “**Free and Open Source Software in Sudan: Freedom of Change and Strategic Vision**” to share its experience and knowledge in implementing the Public Sector OSS Master Plan.

The workshop concluded with an agreement by the National Information Centre (NIC) of Sudan, which is a government agency equivalent to MAMPU, to submit proposal on formal OSS policy to the Cabinet in Sudan.

Apart from the workshop, the MAMPU delegation also attended several meetings with Sudanese government agencies and universities to discuss possible collaboration activities on OSS. Based on these meetings, Sudan has expressed strong interest to collaborate with MAMPU and is keen to establish a formal agreement with MAMPU to pursue this agenda further.



MAMPU Delegation with Sudanese Minister of Science and Technology (2nd from right), Sudan government officials and workshop participant.

Unflagging Pursuit of OSS Vision

Putrajaya 15 June 2009. MAMPU continues to not only encourage but proactively inspire more Public Sector agencies to implement OSS by promoting the Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan through motivating talks, local and international collaboration activities (headline) and OSS showcase exhibitions in numerous events.

Resources

OSS Implementation Guidelines

OSS Implementation Guidelines is available for download from OSCC portal.

<http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/25/208/>

OSCC Mailing list

To subscribe to our mailing lists please visit

<http://lists.oscc.org.my/mailman/listinfo>

e-Marketplace

Government agencies can now post service requests and find service providers with the new e-Marketplace.

<http://knowledge.oscc.org.my/e-marketplace>

Knowledge Bank

Open Source Competency Centre, MAMPU's Knowledge Bank is a public Community of Practice area for Open Source Software Implementors.

For further information and to be part of the community, please visit

<http://knowledge.oscc.org.my>

These can be evidenced in the recent two conferences for which MAMPU was the co-organiser, namely the MSC Malaysia Open Source Conference from May 31 - June 3, 2009, and National ICT Conference from June 9-11, 2009.



MAMPU Director General Y.Bhg. Datuk Normah Bt Md. Yusof flanked by MAMPU Deputy Director, Madam Tan King Ing, CEO MDeC, Y.Bhg. Dato' Badlisham Ghazali, and OSCC MAMPU staff at the exhibition hall during the MSC Open Source Conference 2009.

The MSC Open Source Conference was organised by Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) in cooperation with MAMPU. The four-day conference had attracted a good turnout of over 650 local and international participants.

MAMPU Director General, Y.Bhg. Datuk Normah Md. Yusof was also present to give the opening keynote address on Malaysian Government OSS initiative. In addition, MAMPU Deputy Director General (ICT), Y.Brs Dr. Nor Aliah binti Mohd Zahri spoke on OSS Master Plan with paper entitled the "Catalyst for Modernisation". MAMPU Deputy Director, Madam Tan King Ing gave an inspiring talk on the roles and success of OSCC MAMPU in executing the OSS Master Plan. She had encouraged and motivated the public sector to contact OSCC MAMPU for OSS implementation guidance and assistance.

The National ICT Conference was jointly organised by National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) and MDeC in collaboration with MAMPU. The conference aims to bring together the public and private sectors in moving towards a Connected Government.

MAMPU, as the lead agency to implement the Connected Government initiative had exclusively revealed its strategies and action plans for deliberation at this Conference.

Upcoming Events

OSS Case Study Awards 2009

Please submit your OSS Case Study for the 2009 National OSS Case Study Awards which will be held in conjunction with MyGOSSCON 2009 on November 09. For submission and enquiry, please visit

<http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/194/128/>

OSS Opportunity Workshops

Registration is now open for agencies not implementing any OSS. A series of workshops will be held bi-months until November 09.

To register, please call 03-83191200 or email marketing@oscc.org.my

MyGOSSCON 2009

This inaugural and full-fledged Open Source Conference organised by MAMPU will be back this year in November 2009.

Further information will be available soon.



Y.Bhg. Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan, Chief Secretary to the Government of Malaysia being flanked by Y. Brs Dr. Nor Aliah Binti Mohd Zahri (MAMPU Deputy Director General (ICT)) at OSCC MAMPU's exhibition booth at the National ICT Conference at PICC.

Exemplary Initiative

Contributed by En. Abbas Abdul Wahab, Principal Assistant Director, National Physical Plan Division, Federal Department of Town and Country Planning

Federal Department of Town and Country Planning (*Jabatan Perancangan Bandar Dan Desa - JPBD*) had spearheaded the initiative to implement OSS way back in 2002 when the Government of Malaysia endorsed the paper "Proposal on OSS Implementation in the Public Sector of Malaysia".

According to En. Abbas Abdul Wahab, since the beginning of 2002, all new servers at JPBD headquarters were installed with Red Hat Enterprise Linux, a powerful OSS based server operating system. The Unix-like operating system was later upgraded to another OSS based operating system called FreeBSD.

JPBD had implemented several new servers over the period of two years, which include homepage server, webmail cum antivirus server, database servers and main farm servers. En. Abbas further commended the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (*Kementerian Perumahan Dan Kerajaan Tempatan*) on their OpenOffice.org implementation in early 2009, as well as the enthusiasm to expand the use of OSS, particularly, in desktop computers in all the departments under its wing.

In addition, En. Abbas plans to introduce and promote three popular OSS solutions for use in JPBD, namely the Ubuntu operating system, OpenOffice.org, and Quantum Geographical Information System (QGIS) for Desktop computers. In JPBD, GIS is an essential and mission-critical tool for effective town and country planning activities. Quantum GIS or QGIS,

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is a multi-platform, Open Source GIS that enables smooth migration from Windows to Open Source platform. QGIS also has an international community and active forum at <http://forum.qgis.org>.

The beauty of QGIS is that both the Windows and Ubuntu versions look exactly alike thus no re-learning is required when users migrate from the Windows to Ubuntu platforms. The QGIS Ubuntu version running on a computer with the Ubuntu operating system integrates well and should prove to be comparatively faster as both were designed on Open Source making the system responsive and "light" when it concerns data analysis.

In line with the Public Sector OSS Master Plan, MAMPU alongside JPBD encourages all Public Sector agencies to take advantage of what Open Source solutions has to offer.

It's Over 500 Now

The number of Public Sector agencies adopting OSS continues to increase. The recently published record shows that 505 agencies have used OSS. The number represents 69.7% of the total agencies in Malaysia. Many agencies already took the initiatives to contact MAMPU for their latest update on OSS implementation.

To date, 1,603 OSS implementation are recorded with total savings exceeding RM 48.5 million. A total of 295 agencies have used OpenOffice.org that saved the Malaysian Government over RM 18.8 million in licensing fee alone.

MAMPU is encouraging agencies who have not implemented OSS to contact OSCC MAMPU for support and assistance in their OSS implementation. Full information on OSS implementation status is available at: <http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/227/139/>.

All public sector agencies are requested to check the accuracy of the above published record and to contact OSCC MAMPU for updates on their latest OSS implementation. In particular, agencies who have implemented OSS but are stated otherwise in the above published record are strongly encouraged to contact OSCC MAMPU for updates.

To update, please contact OSCC MAMPU Marketing Department at marketing@oscc.org.my or call 03-83191200. Alternatively, please download and send in the completed feedback form via email or fax 03-83193206. The feedback form is downloadable from the above URL.

OSS Opportunity Workshop – 18 June 2009

OSCC MAMPU has recently conducted its third OSS Opportunity Workshop on 18 June 2009, which attracted a turnout of 16 public sector agencies. The workshop kicked off with the presentation of Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan by MAMPU Principal Assistant Director, Encik Omar Bin Yaakop.

As with the first two workshops, participants were presented with the MyMeeting application before they were split into groups for round-table discussions with facilitators from OSCC MAMPU. Agencies were also given the opportunity to share the challenges and barriers that deterred them from implementing OSS. Agencies not implementing any OSS are required to provide feedback to MAMPU on a proposed date for their OSS implementation.

You are welcomed to submit your article for publication in the next Newsletter. For more information, please visit <http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/252/294/> or call 03-83191200.

Editorial Board

1. Y. Brs Dr. Nor Aliah Binti Mohd Zahri (MAMPU Deputy Director General (ICT)) – Advisor
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