Inside

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

Boosting The Local ICT Industry

Putrajaya 29th May 2009. OSCC MAMPU had recently conducted the third OSS Industry Participation Plan (IPP) Workshop from 5th May to 6th May 2009 to enhance the synergy between the public and private sectors in boosting the local ICT industry towards a more vibrant and sustained growth in the face of the current economic condition.

Specifically, the main objectives of this two-day Workshop are to:

1. Enhance cooperation between OSCC MAMPU, business & OSS Communities in the implementation of the Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan.
2. Review roles and contributions of all stakeholders in Public Sector OSS Segment.
3. Identify the needs of all stakeholders in growing and sustaining the OSS ecosystem.
4. Sustain and increase the pool of OSS providers.
5. Establish a platform for networking and experience sharing on OSS among the business and OSS Communities.

The workshop was chaired by MAMPU Deputy Director, Madam Tan King Ing with participants from the Public and Private Sectors, and IPTA. Some of the participants include MOSTI, MOHE, UPM, Red Hat Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd, Multimedia Development Corporation (Mdec), Oracle Corporation Malaysia, and IBM Malaysia.

Madam Tan King Ing (MAMPU Deputy Director), OSCC MAMPU Staff and Participants from industry after the third IPP Workshop on 6th May 2009

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.

Upcoming Training

June 2ⁿᵈ – 3ʳᵈ, 2009

Intro. To OpenOffice.org

June 17ᵗʰ , 2009

Using MyMeeting

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/

In essence, the workshop aims to synergise the Smart Partnership between the Public Sector, business and R&D communities by leveraging their skills and resources in achieving the Phase II OSS targets.

The Smart Partnetship Framework explicitly introduces the Industry Participation Plan which emphasises three important areas:

1. OSS Human Capital Development
2. OSS Technical Support and Implementation
3. OSS R&D.

The desired and expected outcomes, driven by discussions and perspectives of the participants are as follows;

1. Enhanced Industry Participation Plan with input from stakeholders.
2. More responsive business and OSS communities with regard to Public Sector needs.
3. Better understanding on the Phase II Strategies of the Public Sector OSS Master Plan and its current status.
4. Ability to share experiences and to contribute their expertise to the Smart Partnership.

The workshop also featured MAMPU's ongoing project to establish the Panel of OSCC MAMPU Products Service Providers, which is expected to be operational by the end of 2009.

In addition, MOSTI/MDeC had presented the details of the funding opportunities or grants offered to eligible parties. These funding opportunities are made available through the collaborative efforts of MAMPU and MOSTI to help develop the local ICT industry.

Numerous resolution were made in all the three areas of the Industry Participation Plan. Highlights of the resolution include:

- Formation of the OSS Alliance among industry players to achieve OSS Charter under PIKOM
- Provision of template for improvement on e-Marketplace.
- Sharing of OSCC MAMPU helpdesk summarised report to the public.
- Promotion of available OSCC MAMPU resources.
- Organisation and participation of "code fest" event.
- Collaboration of promotional and awareness activities for MOE.

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.

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

Registration now open for OSS Opportunity Workshop

OSCC MAMPU is calling public sector agencies to register for the OSS Opportunity Workshop. The workshop is held bi-monthly to continously encourage, assist and support public sector agencies in their OSS implementation.

Target Group

The Open Source Software (OSS) Opportunity Workshop is specifically designed for and targeted at public sector agencies who have not implemented OSS based on MAMPU's record. Registration is also open to agencies who have implemented OSS although their places are subject to availability.

Objectives

- Ensure that 100% of Public Sector Agencies adopt OSS, which is one of the targets of the Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan Phase II;
- Enhance the knowledge of OSS by providing latest and relevant OSS information to Public Sector Agencies;
- Understand the challenges and barriers faced by these agencies in OSS implementation;
- Provide and equip agencies with the necessary information and skills to overcome the challenges and barriers to OSS implementation.
- Develop the growth and implementation of OSS in the Public Sector.
- Stimulate and enhance the growth of local ICT industry.
- Serves as a platform for sharing of knowledge and experience.

Capacity

The one-day OSS Opportunity Workshop is limited to 24 persons.

Eligibility

All public sector government agencies and public institutes of higher learning (IPTA) are eligible, preferably, I.T personnel who can make decision or strong recommendation to adopt OSS in the organisation.

Registration and Enquiry

Public Sector agencies who have not used OSS are now encouraged to register for the upcoming OSS Opportunity workshop which is scheduled to be held on 18th June 2009. For registration and enquiries, please contact marketing@oscc.org.my or call 03-83191200. Please register early as registration will be closed when full.

Session outline

There will be four (4) sessions for each workshop:

Session 1: Introduction to Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan and assistance available for all Public Sector Agencies.
Session 2: Presentation, demonstration and installation guide on OSCC MAMPU products.
Session 3: Round-table or grouped discussions on OSS implementation at agencies.
Session 4: Presentation by each group on conclusion.

Expected outcome

Public Sector Agencies who have not implemented OSS are expected to adopt and move forward with any appropriate OSS in lieu of proprietary software in their organisations.

Previous Workshop updates

To date, two (2) OSS Opportunity Workshops have been successfully held by OSCC MAMPU, and were attended by 42 personnel from 33 public sector agencies. Unknowingly, many of the participating public sector agencies have been implementing OSS. In a survey to rate the effectiveness of the workshops, public sector agencies had given the ratings of "good to excellent" for all the four (4) sessions. Both the OSS Opportunity Workshops had acquainted Public Sector Agencies with MyMeeting during the second session of workshop in which demo and installation guide were presented.

Encik Omar Bin Yaakop, MAMPU Principal Assistant Director, MAMPU and OSCC Staff, and delegates from Public Sector Agencies after the second OSS Opportunity Workshop on 13th April 2009

In an effort to achieve the objective of the Malaysia Public Sector OSS Master Plan Phase II, OSCC MAMPU has been striving to assist and support all public sector agencies to adopt OSS. The workshop enables OSCC MAMPU to identify the challenges or barriers that deter agencies from implementing OSS in their organisations. Full information on OSS implementation at each agency are published fortnightly on OSCC MAMPU's portal at http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/227/139/ from which agencies are able to check the accuracy of MAMPU's record.

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.

Participants of the first and second OSS Opportunity Workshops

The first and second workshops were attended by 16 and 17 public sector agencies respectively as follows:

First OSS Opportunity Workshop on 17 March 2009:

1. *Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Pulau Pinang (PERDA)*
2. *Jabatan Mufti Negeri Selangor*
3. *Jabatan Kerja Raya Negeri Selangor*
4. *Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Negeri Selangor*
5. *Lembaga Lebuhraya Malaysia (LLM)*
6. *Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya*
7. *Majlis Perbandaran Kajang*
8. *Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Seberang Perai Selatan*
9. *Majlis Perbandaran Sibu*
10. *Majlis Daerah Hulu Selangor*
11. *Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Negeri Sarawak*
12. *Perbadanan Tabung Pembangunan Kemahiran*
13. *Perbadanan Perpustakaan Awam Selangor*
14. *Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Seberang Perai Tengah*
15. *Perbendaharaan Negeri Johor*
16. *Lembaga Perlesenan Tenaga Atom (AELB)*

Second OSS Opportunity Workshop on 13 April 2009

1. *Lembaga Maktab Mahmud*
2. *Yayasan Perak*
3. *Perbadanan Taman Negeri Perak*
4. *Kementerian Belia dan Sukan*
5. *Lembaga Penggalakan Pelancongan Malaysia*
6. *Lembaga Pembangunan dan Lindungan Tanah (PELITA)*
7. *Pejabat KDYMM Sultan Kedah*
8. *Akademi Seni Budaya dan Warisan Kebangsaan (ASWARA)*
9. *Jabatan Ukur Dan Pemetaan Malaysia (JUPEM)*
10. *Majlis Agama Islam Negeri Johor*
11. *Lembaga Penasihat*
12. *Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Negeri Sabah*
13. *Lembaga Pelabuhan Johor*
14. *Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Negeri Johor*
15. *Lembaga Kemajuan Johor Tenggara (KEJORA)*
16. *Yayasan Pembangunan Keluarga Darul Takzim*
17. *Jabatan Latihan Khidmat Negara (JLKN)*

Epitome of OSS Implementation

The Solid Waste & Public Cleansing Corporation (Perbadanan Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal Dan Pembersihan Awam)(PPSPPA) has set to revolutionise its entire ICT facilities with OSS. In essence, PPSPPA is committed to replacing and adding new ICT hardware and software in the year ahead to accommodate its massive OSS deployment at headquarters and all state branches in Peninsular Malaysia. The ICT hardware and software include 1,000 PCs installed with ubuntu, printers, other peripherals, networking set-up, etc.

PPSPPA is in the midst of installing and setting up a centralised server at headquarters for use by all states branches in Peninsular Malaysia. A total of eight (8) servers running on Red Hat Linux Operating systems will be installed to accommodate all applications and ICT facilities. In an effort to protect their networks and improve connectivity, Endian Firewall has already been installed on one of the server. Specifically, it is an open source Linux distribution that specializes on Routing/Firewalling and Unified Threat Management.

Some of the planned or implemented OSS include:
- SquirrelMail installed in the server.
- Open LDAP Directory Server
- Internet Access Control through LDAP Application Server.
- OSCC MAMPU's MyNetWatch, MySpamGuard, MyWorkSpace, MyMeeting and MySurveillance.
- OpenOffice.org

For desktop application, PPSPPA is beginning to deploy OpenOffice.org for its 220 users at headquarters, and over 500 users at all states branches. Training will be conducted in-house for the above massive OSS deployment exercise.

2009 OSS Case Study Awards

OSCC MAMPU is calling for submission of OSS Case Studies for the 2009 National OSS Case Study Awards, which are open to ALL Public Sector Agencies including Public Higher Education Institutions (IPTA) and Polytechnics. The awards are classified into three (3) groups;

Group 1: Public Sector Agencies other than IPTA & Polytechnics;
Group 2: IPTA & Polytechnics; and
Group 3: IPTA & Polytechnics Students.

Submissions of the OSS Case Studies are encouraged for knowledge sharing purpose. Please do not resubmit the OSS Case Studies submitted in 2008. The best OSS Case Studies will be eligible for the Final National OSS Case Study Awards 2009 which will be held in conjunction with MyGOSSCON 2009 in November 2009.

Please submit enquiries and the case studies, to casestudy@oscc.org.my or call 03-83191200. If the case study files are too large to be sent by email, please provide a link. All OSS case study submissions will be compiled and uploaded to OSCC MAMPU's website. Selected case studies may also be compiled into a publication.

Further information including templates and sample case study are available at: **http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/194/128/**

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.

Cool Certification With COOOL

Putrajaya. In a continuing response to the increasing number of OpenOffice.org migrations amongst public sector agencies, OSCC MAMPU recently launched the first Certified OpenOffice.org and Linux desktop (COOOL) certification programme on the 18 - 22 May 2009.

In essence, the COOOL certification is launched for the benefit of all public sector agencies. It is approved by the OSS Certification Steering Committee. It will provide agencies with a solid technical skills in OpenOffice.org and Linux Desktop. Specifically, it focuses on the common features and use of OpenOffice.org (OOo), troubleshooting, word processor, spreadsheet, presentation tools and the linux desktop usage.

Successful candidate will obtain the certification issued by MAMPU that sets them apart from other office suite users.
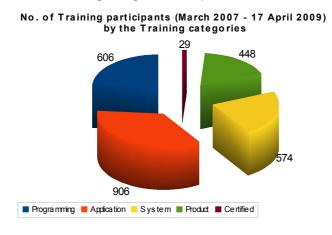
Entry Requirements:

Candidates interested to register for the certification must have completed either the Linux desktop & OpenOffice.org or Introduction to OpenOffice.org course offered by OSCC MAMPU. The certification programme requires candidates to attend a four-day preparation course followed by one-day examination.

COOOL will benefit agencies who need to support implementation of OpenOffice.org, which involves usage of advanced editing, functionalities and analyses.

Agencies are welcomed to join the OSCC-Discuss or OSCC-Training at http://lists.oscc.org.my for updates.

As of April 2009, 4,532 personnel of public sector agencies have been trained by OSCC MAMPU. The breakdown of participants into training categories is depicted below:

No. of Training participants (March 2007 - 17 April 2009) by the Training categories

Programming	Application	System	Product	Certified

Full details on training courses are available at:
http://training.oscc.org.my

The 2009 MSC Malaysia Open Source Conference

MAMPU and MDEC have jointly organised the MSC Malaysia Open Source Conference which will be held for three days at Berjaya Times Square, Kuala Lumpur from 31 May - 3 June, 2009.

The conference incorporates a "Quadruple play" of 4 crucial stakeholders consisting of government, businesses, developers and community in envisioning open source's contribution to the IT industry and socio-economy.

It is positioned as International forum for sharing and exchanging ideas on technical advancements, applications, development and business cases on open source, and its positive impact in meeting challenges of the current economic climate.

In addition, it features renowned speakers from prime Open Source Enterprises such as Mozilla, Google and Red Hat and also the developer community such as Ubuntu, BSD, Fedora, PHPs, etc .

The objective of this conference:

- Provide exposure and knowledge on the importance of Open Source in enhancing competitiveness by giving freedom of choice in software usage with lower total cost of ownership, hence benefiting businesses and society at large. Over 30 session tracks are made available.
- Share amongst the open source community on new directions and latest innovations by the subject matter experts, thought leaders and industry gurus.
- Provide a platform for conference participants to actively interact, share and exchange views, ideas, and tools on the latest trends and issues of Open Source.
- Provide a platform for networking and learning.

The conference is organised for:

- Business executives from MSC Malaysia and Non-MSC Malaysia Status companies
- Open Source developers, communities, inventors, evangelist, researchers, strategist
- Government officers
- Students and general public

The Conference invites developers, designers, systems administrators, community leaders, innovators, CTOs and CIOs, evangelists and activists, researchers, strategists, and entrepreneurs to lead and contribute during all conference sessions, tutorials and discussions.

For further enquiry, please visit:

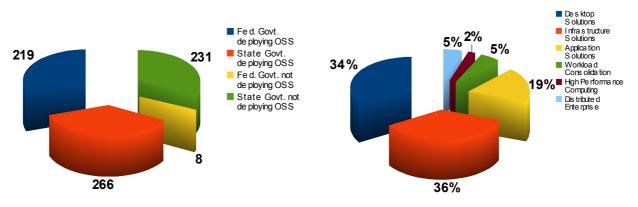http://www.mscmalaysia.my/article/open+Source+Convention/Package

Online registration for OSCONF 2009 is now closed. Please register onsite at Berjaya Time Square & Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur on 31st May 2009, 8 a.m to 5 p.m.

Latest OSS Adoption Trend

Year 2009 looks more promising for increase in OSS implementation amongst public sector agencies. To date, 485 public sector agencies have implemented OSS based on MAMPU's database. This figure constitutes approximately 67% of the 724 public sector agencies as listed in MAMPU's database. The database is updated and published fortnightly.

Currently, there are 1,554 OSS implementation with total known savings of over RM 48 million. For OSS implementation by solution areas, Infrastructure solution constitutes the largest proportion, i.e. 35.6% of the total OSS implementation. The breakdown is shown below:

Statistics of OSS Implementation amongst Agencies

- Fed. Govt. deploying OSS
- State Govt. deploying OSS
- Fed. Govt. not deploying OSS
- State Govt. not deploying OSS

Statistics of OSS Implementation by solution Areas

- Desktop Solutions
- Infrastructure Solutions
- Application Solutions
- Workload Consolidation
- High Performance Computing
- Distributed Enterprise

The Malaysian Public Sector OSS Master Plan Phase II will end in approximately nine (9) month before moving on to Phase III of self-reliance. The onus is on the 239 public sector agencies who have not implemented OSS to implement at least an Open source solution.

To ensure that all public sector agencies adopt OSS within Phase II of the Master Plan, OSCC MAMPU is urging agencies who have yet to implement OSS to contact OSCC MAMPU for supports and assistance in their OSS implementation.

A more detailed OSS Implementation for Public Sector Agencies is available at: http://www.oscc.org.my/content/view/227/139/.

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

To update, please contact marketing@oscc.org.my or call 03-83191200 ext 826. 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.

Wondrously Portable

Latest OSS technology has brought about revolutionary changes in running computer programs. This is the promise of PortableApps.com, the portable software library.

PortableApps.com is an exciting project of compilation of free and open source portable computer applications programs that run off your portable USB Flash/Thumbdrive.

That's right ! You can have a full office suite (OpenOffice.org), the popular Mozilla Firefox browser and the extremely versatile media player VLC right off your USB Flash/Thumbdrives without installing on the computer.

Many other applications are also available from the PortableApps.com website, including games, PDF reader, the Clamwin Anti-virus program, file archivers, multi-protocol chat program etc. All are available at no cost and without restrictive licensing.

Just plug-in your drive to any MS Windows computer and select to run PortableApps.com from the Autorun list.

How to Get Started?

All you need to do is to navigate http://portableapps.com/suite and download the installer for Windows. You can then begin by downloading additional applications from the PortableApps.com website and begin installing on your USB Flash/Thumdrive.

While a 2GB drive may suffice, a 4GB will allow you plenty of room to store applications and data. You can also save data back into the USB drive, therefore making it an ideal data/application drive on the go.

Full instructions are on the website. Give it a spin, it's free in both price and freedom.

MyWorkSpace - MAMPU's OSCC Products Update

MyWorkSpace is a web-based email collaboration suite. Users can read, send and organize email messages, manage and share calendars, contacts, tasks and notes with the standards compliant components from the Horde Project.

Features:

- Public and shared resources (address books, notepads, calendar, task lists).
- Translated into 41 languages including right-to-left scripts and unicode support.
- Customizable portal screen including applets for weather, quotes, etc.
- Synchronization with PDAs, mobile phones, groupware clients. Integrated user management, group support and permission system.
- User preferences with configurable default values.
- Strong integration, e.g. address book lookups in meeting planning, task due dates in calendar.
- Platform independent: works on any web server with PHP support i.e Linux, Windows, Solaris, Mac OS X Server.
- Secure, reliable and scalable solution

Government agencies implementing MyWorkSpace are:

1. *Lembaga Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Selangor*
2. *Kementerian Luar Negeri*
3. *Pejabat Setiausaha Negeri Kerajaan Perlis*
4. *Institut Integriti Malaysia*
5. *Polis Diraja Malaysia, Cawangan Khas*
6. *Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat*
7. *MAMPU*
8. *Jabatan Mineral & Geosains*
9. *Bahagian Hal Ehwal Undang-Undang, JPM*
10. *CEDEC, USM*

All public sector agencies are encouraged to download MyWorkSpace for free at: http://myworkspace.oscc.org.my. For further enquiries, please contact our helpdesk at 03-83191201 or email helpdesk@oscc.org.my

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.   11

Vietnam Mandates Open Source For All Government Staff

The deployment of Open Source in the governments are prevalent in 2008. Government agencies all over Europe are adopting, and in many cases, mandating Open Source software and standards. In addition, governments in Africa, Asia, North & South America, and all over the South Pacific were exploring and implementing Open Source in 2008.

On January 2009, the government of Vietnam has mandated Open Source for both local and federal government staff by 2010, and Open Source on all government servers by the end of June 2009. This is the instruction issued by Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communications.

Specifically, the decision was announced by Le Doan Hop, who reportedly asked agencies to "increase the number of documents and information" that they exchange with the approved open source applications. The endorsed OSS are OpenOffice, Mozilla ThunderBird, Mozilla FireFox, and Unikey, a Vietnamese typing program.

Three (3) explicit timelines have also been set by Ministry of Information and Communications for this radical transition:

1. By Jun. 30, 2009:

    All government servers must be open source software.
    All staff must be trained to use the Open Source Software.
    Half of staff must be able to use the software proficiently.

2. By Dec. 31, 2009:

    70 percent of national and state agencies must use open source desktop software.
    70 percent of IT staff must be trained to support it, and 40 percent able to use the software in their own work.

3. Dec. 31, 2010:

    All staff must use open source software in their jobs.

This massive transition plan will be implemented with assistance from I.T Associations. PC vendors were requested to install open source software, rather than "cracked" commercial software, on the systems they sell. Further information are available at http://english.vietnamnet.vn/tech/2009/01/822425/

Editorial Board

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.