

*The Digital Rosetta Stone*

**News**

Last updated May 7, 2006 10:18:06 PM

EDT

**OpenDocument ratified by ISO**

The OpenDocument file format (ODF)

was ratified by the International

Organization for Standardization (ISO)

and the International Electrotechnical

Commission (IEC).

More...

**Unipage - standards-based single-**

**file web archive format**

Unipage

is a new spin on saving a

complete web page in a single file that

has all the referenced images and

stylesheets and such like embedded in

it.

More...

**PDF Forward Compatibility Issues**

A couple of interesting articles on

pdfzone.com highlight the perils of

digital preservation.

More...

**Virtual Machine File Format**

**Competition**

Virtualization is the latest hot

technology, and the main players are all

trying to get their file formats to be the

standard.

More...

**WhatIsThatFile.com**

WhatIsThatFile.com

is a new site to help

identify files based on the name rather

than the contents.

More...

**Battle Lines in the Document Format**

**Wars**

Both Microsoft and the OpenDocument

camp are forming alliances to promote

their respective formats.

More...

**Determining a character set**

I recently had a couple files that were

mostly US-ASCII but had a few strange

bytes in them. To help figure out what

characters they should be, I made an

online utility to

reverse map from bytes

to character sets

.

**Tags vs. Categories**

After reading a very interesting post

from Ari Paparo on

the differences

between Blink.com and Del.icio.us

, as

well as my own experience with adding

information, I decided to switch from

complicated hierarchical categories to

flat tags.

More...

**Sun to offer online conversion of**

**MSWord to OpenDocument**

Sun

announced

an online service to

**Search**

Search

**Browse**

All Files

Site Map

What's New

**Information**

File Extensions

File Formats

**Unicode**

:

Characters

,

Fonts

,

Blocks

MIME Types

Character Sets

**Resources**

Books

Development Tools

Software

Web Sites

Index By Tag

**Image Conversions**

Common

- convert between

standard image types

SVG to raster

- convert vector

SVG images to PNG, JPEG or

TIFF images.

Identify

- detailed information

about an image

Metadata

- view metadata for

standard image types

**Text Conversions**

CharSet

- character set (aka

Code Page) conversion

UTF

- change UTF encoding

unix2dos

- Unix to Windows/MS-

DOS text files

dos2unix

- Windows/MS-DOS to

Unix text files

More text conversions...

**Document Conversions**

PDF to Text

- extract text from

an Adobe Acrobat PDF file

PowerPoint to Flash

- convert

from Microsoft PowerPoint

(.PPT) to Flash (.SWF)

**Online Tools**

HexDump

- view contents of a

binary file

Strings

- find text in a binary file

RegEx

- regular expression

tester

Hash

- calculate hash functions

IPLocation

- geographic location

from IP address

Label

- label and envelope

printing

More tools...



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convert files from MSOffice/MSWord's

proprietary formats to the new

OpenDocument format. This is actually

from November 2006 and I haven't seen

anything else about it. It sounds like it is

primarily to promote their new grid

computing initiative and that there may

be a cost associated with it. I am

working on a similar service, which will

be free (at least for smaller files). Via

Richard MacManus

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**Grant for the Global Digital Format**

**Registry**

The Harvard University Library got a

grant from the Andrew W. Mellon

Foundation to make a Global Digital

Format Registry.

More...

More News...