

"Now What?" for the Open Source Noob

Dru Lavigne
SCALE, 2009

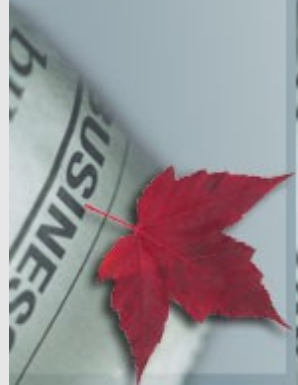


Outline

Why open source?

Transitioning to open source

Discovering Community



Why Open Source?

Traditional answer:

- It's free! (you get what you pay for)
- It's legal! (you're contributing to piracy)
- It's cool! (sure, if you're a geek)
(...or a guy)



Why Open Source?

Better answer:

- Get your feet wet in IT
- Hone your technical and soft skills
- Add experience to your resume
- Add to your career satisfaction

Plus, the software is pretty good too...



Why Open Source?

But open source is more than just software...

Instead of pushing LAMP, I prefer AMP:

- Anonymity (gender, race, age don't matter)
- Meritocracy (build a body of work)
- Peer collaboration (think mentorship)

Social networking understands this....



Why Open Source?

Open source is 2-fold:

1. The software itself
2. The associated community

Sometimes you just want the software,
so let's start with that.....

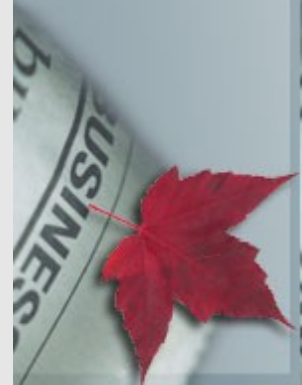


Transitioning to Open Source



This rarely works with software!

“Ubuntu Causes Girl To Drop Out of College”



Transitioning to Open Source

Why?

Open source is not a religion, a way of life, a fight against evil monopolies, a panacea for all software woes...

It is a TOOL, and you need to choose the best tool for the job *and* for the person who needs to get the job done.



Transitioning to Open Source

Recommendation #1:

Start with applications on the platform the person knows best.

For Windows users:



OpenDisc

High Quality Open Source Software for Windows

COLOURS 

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About

OpenDisc is a high quality collection of open source software (OSS) for the Microsoft Windows operating system.

The two main goals of the project are:

- To provide a free alternative to costly software, with equal or often better quality equivalents to proprietary, shareware or freeware software for Microsoft Windows.
- To educate users of Linux as an operating system for home, business and educational use.

The majority of programs featured on OpenDisc are also available on Linux.

OpenEducationDisc

The OpenEducationDisc is a modification of the OpenDisc format by Teachers and Computer Specialists with a passion for education. The purpose of it is to provide students with the software that they need to complete school work at home. Most students don't have jobs and it is unfair to ask for them or a parent/guardian to buy expensive software to get the best out of their education. Hence everything is free and we encourage you to make copies of this CD and lend it to you friends.

The project was started in 2007 by Mr. Kemp, a Computing Teacher in London, UK. It is now thriving in schools across the globe and was the 2006/2007 winner of the [Teach First School Projects Competition](#).

DOWNLOAD

OpenDisc
08.10 .ISO image file
.MD5 verifier

OpenEducationDisc
09.01 .ISO image file
.MD5 verifier

downloads hosted by
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SUPPORT

The easiest way to support the ongoing volunteer development and distribution of OpenDisc is a

Trinidad and Tobago Computer Society

"networking local computer users!"

admin[at]ttcsweb.org

 Google Search

WWW www.ttcsweb.org

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- Wiki
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TTCS OSSWIN CD

Version 1.98 available February 3rd, 2009 with OpenOffice.org v3.0.1 and more!

[Changelog](#) | [Features](#) | [Screenshots](#) | [List of software on the CD](#) | [Download](#)

[View TTCS OSSWIN related posts on our Wordpress blog!](#)

You can also [subscribe to TTCS OSSWIN CD RSS feed!](#)

What is the TTCS OSSWIN CD?

The TTCS OSSWIN CD is a collection of over 100 [Free/Open Source](#) software for home and business users using the Microsoft Windows 98SE/Me/2000 and XP operating systems.

You can use your web browser to read detailed information about each program on the CD: what the program does, its key features, useful related websites, view a screenshot, find links to the program's website and to download/install the program from the TTCS OSSWIN CD.

The web-based interface allows you to quickly browse the variety of software organised into the following categories:

TTCS OSSWIN CD - Table of Contents

- [What is the TTCS OSSWIN CD?](#)
- [Key features](#)
- [Screenshots/screencast](#)
- [How can I get the TTCS OSSWIN CD?](#)
- [Download the TTCS OSSWIN CD](#)
- [Hardware and Software Requirements](#)
- [List of software on the CD](#)
- [How is the TTCS involved in this project?](#)
- [What is Open Source Software?](#)
- [Warranty \(or lack thereof\) and disclaimer of liability](#)
- [Got questions/comments/suggestions about the TTCS OSSWIN CD?](#)
- [TTCS OSSWIN CD blog/RSS feed](#)

Open Source Windows

A simple list of the best free and open-source software for Windows.

Basics Page 2

Free and open-source software is good for you and for the world. This is the best Windows software that we know of. No adware, no spyware, just good software.

Web Browsing



Mozilla Firefox

The premier free, open-source browser. Tabs, pop-up blocking, themes, and extensions. Considered by many to be the world's best browser.

[Download Page](#)

Video Player / Video Podcasting



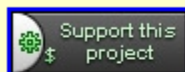
Miro

Beautiful interface. Plays any video type (much more than windows media player). Subscribe to video RSS, download, and watch all in one. Torrent support. Search and download from YouTube and others.

[Download Page](#)

IM - Instant Messaging

The OSSwin project: Open Source for Windows!



(24/12/2005): OSSwin now also has a separate [games](#) page. Go check it out and please promote the organization of an Open-Source-only LAN-party in your neighbourhood!

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Graphics Instant Messaging Internet Voice chat IRC clients Mail & News Media Players (audio) Media Players (video) Media Players (codecs)
MC303 utilities Networking tools NTP clients Office tools Operating Systems PostScript viewers Programming Remote access Sciences and
Math Security, Privacy, Protection,... Server software SCP (SecureCoPy) clients Stream Downloaders Text editors Utilities Video
capture/processing VJ Software Web browsers Webcam Web editors Webgrabbers X-servers Others

Please also report broken links to the [osswin-users](#) mailinglist, and if you really like this list and want to keep me motivated, then just send me something from my wishlist which can be found somewhere [over here](#).

Cheers,
Bart Vandewoestyne

Audio editing tools

- [CDex](#) [GNU GPL]
- [Ogg Vorbis](#)
- [Musepack](#) [GNU LGPL, BSD]
- [Audacity](#) [GNU GPL]
- [CD-DA X-Tractor](#) [GNU GPL]
- LAME [GNU LGPL]:
• [Official site](#)



Downloadpedia
The Software Encyclopedia

menu

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- Open Source CMS
- Free Software
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- Best Free
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- Best Open Source
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- Best Software

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Open Source Windows

The promise of open source software is best quality, flexibility and reliability. This is the updated list of the best open source software. The only way to have TRUE "Open Source Windows" is to have all equivalent native Windows programs uninstalled and removed.

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Most Popular
- 2 Address Book
- 3 Audio Tools
- 4 Databases
- 5 Content Managers
- 6 Content Management Framework
- 7 Developer Tools
- 8 Emulators
- 9 P2P
- 10 File Transfer
- 11 Games
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- 13 Photo Tools
- 14 Instant Messaging
- 15 Security
- 16 Remote Desktop
- 17 Screen Capture
- 18 System Administration Tools
- 19 Video/Multi-Media Tools
- 20 Wikis

[\[edit\]](#)



ListOfOpenSourcePrograms

List Of Open-source Programs (LOOP) for Microsoft Windows Operating Systems

What is the LOOP list?

This is a list of the best open-source applications that run on Windows. Feel free to edit this list and add any programs that meet the criteria below. The purpose of this list is to demonstrate the quality of open-source applications and advocate the open source software development model. To learn more, read the [FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Instructions:

Tell all your non-Linux friends and family about the LOOP list. On this list they will find free, high-quality replacements for the software that they have purchased/pirated. Once they become familiar with these new applications, introduce them to your favorite Linux distribution, such as Ubuntu. Then help them convert to Linux, using the same applications that they became familiar with on Windows.

Rules for adding programs to the LOOP list:

1. Must be open-source.
2. Must run natively on Microsoft Windows operating systems.
3. Only include the best application for each specific purpose. In rare cases, up to three applications may be listed.
4. Include the names of the top three proprietary applications that provide similar functionality, if known.

Desktop Applications

Contents

- 1. [Desktop Applications](#)
 - 1. [Communication](#)
 - 2. [Engineering](#)
 - 3. [Educational](#)
 - 4. [Financial](#)
 - 5. [Games](#)
 - 6. [Productivity](#)
 - 7. [Management](#)
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- 2. [Server Applications](#)
 - 1. [Content Management](#)
 - 2. [Database](#)
 - 3. [File Server](#)
 - 4. [Messaging](#)
 - 5. [Security](#)
 - 6. [Web](#)
- 3. [FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- 4. [Links to similar projects](#)
 - 1. [Windows](#)
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 - 2. [Creative Commons](#)

Transitioning to Open Source

For Mac users:



FreeSMUG Free OpenSource Software Mac User Group

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you are here: home → fsuite cd

navigation

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- Tutorial
- Video
- OS X Portable Apps
- FSuite CD**
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Login Name

Password

log in

Forgot your password?

New user?

active users

FreeSMUG Suite CD

by Gand — last modified 2008-06-20 12:50 AM

OSX FOSS collection CD. Download high quality Free and Open Source Software with one click.

We release a CD with the most useful free open source software applications packaged for Mac OSX. Is something like <http://theopencd.org/>, the [Ubuntu i86 live CD](#) or [Software for Starving Students](#).

FSuite CD - 0806 (Jun 2008)

This CD include the installers of the applications listed in release chart. Choose Intel or PPC accordingly your hardware.

Download Intel:

- [FSuiteCD_0806-Intel.dmg](#) (679,6 MB)
- [FSuiteCD_0806-Intel.dmg.torrent](#) - Use [torrent client](#) for fast download (keep file seeding).

Download PPC:

- [FSuiteCD_0806-PPC.dmg](#) (683,3 MB)
- [FSuiteCD_0806-PPC.dmg.torrent](#) - Use [torrent client](#) for fast download (keep file seeding).

Source CD - 0806 (Jun 2008)

This CD include only applications source code.

- [FSuiteCD_0806_Source.dmg](#) (384,1 Mb)

Torrent: [FSuiteCD_0806_Source.dmg.torrent](#)

news & releases

RSS

[Transmission](#)
1.50 released
2009-02-14

[Portable Adium](#)
1.3.2 r4.0 released
2009-02-14

[Miro 2.0](#)
released
2009-02-11

[NeoOffice 2.2.5](#)
Patch 7 released
2009-02-10

[NeoOffice 3.0](#)
Early Access 2 Patch 1 released
2009-02-10

More news...

February 2009

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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Open Source Mac

A simple list of free, open-source software for Mac OS X.

Basics Page 2

Free and open-source software is good for you and good for the world. This is the best free Mac software that we know of.

Also see - [Open Source iPhone \(new!\)](#)

www.zmanda.com/Opensource_backup
Ads by Goooooogle

Web Browsing



Mozilla Firefox

The premier free, open-source browser. Tabs, pop-up blocking, themes, and extensions. Considered by many to be the world's best browser.

[Download Page](#)



Camino

Based on the same Mozilla foundation as Firefox, Camino is a more native OS X app. Fast and simple.

[Download Page](#)

Video Player / Video Podcasting



Miro

Beautiful interface. Plays any video type (much more than quicktime).

The Original DarwinPorts : Open Source on Mac OS X

Sunday the 15th of February, 2009

This is a full weekly mirror of the **main Darwin Ports repository** at: darwinports.opendarwin.org
Navigate this site by choosing a category on the right, and then selecting a portfile.

Download Darwinports 1.6

[Download](#)

- We're back! At long last, a new web server has been acquired and installed and we should be set for the next few years of hosting the DarwinPorts project. Thanks for your patience.
- Adding RDFa to DarwinPorts at the Yahoo! Open Hack Day. **September 13, 2008** Shouts out to the Yahoo search team. You all rock! **HackDay entry** is here: developer.yahoo.net/hackday/
- After a holiday weekend server outage, we're back online. Thanks for the patience. The upcoming server upgrade should help in this regard. Your contribution will really help to keep this resource online and available.
- Campaign to upgrade the **DarwinPorts hardware** seeks to raise \$3000 toward a new server for this site
- Apple has posted source for Darwin 9 at www.opensource.apple.com/darwinsource/10.5/
- Thanks **Oracle** for the mention on how to use DarwinPorts to get **gqlplus** all set up and working nicely.
- What is old is new again: the **DarwinPorts dependency handling script** still works like a charm with only minor modification and is **also stored locally**.
- **4260+** ports are in the repository now.
- Fixed a problem with the regular updates on the XML feed for the subversion repository at: darwinports.com/xml/.
- We'd like to spotlight work that **Elias Pipping and Markus Weissman** are doing to enable the ports system to build ports for a variety of platforms or architectures and then put them into one binary by means of **lipo**
- New category added for **gnustep**
- Switching to the MacPorts repository:
edit /opt/local/etc/ports/ports.conf and replace
rsync server rsync.darwinports.org



Digg on MacOSX

[Download](#)

Download the Darwinports Installer version 1.6

How to Install Darwinports

Other Helpful Sites

- [MacOSForge](#)
- [Debian Packages](#)
- [MacPorts - SVN](#)
- [Freshports - FreeBSD](#)
- [Fink Package List](#)
- [RPM for MacOSX](#)

Port Categories

Transitioning to Open Source

For other platforms (this space is starting to explode, expect more in the near future):



Pick a PC. Any PC.

The PortableApps.com Platform

Download Now

- ClamWin Portable
- CoolPlayer+ Portable
- KeePass Portable
- Mines-Perfect Portable
- Mozilla Firefox, Portable Edition
- Mozilla Sunbird, Portable Edition
- Mozilla Thunderbird, Portable Edition
- OpenOffice.org Base Portable
- OpenOffice.org Calc Portable
- OpenOffice.org Draw Portable
- OpenOffice.org Impress Portable
- OpenOffice.org Math Portable
- OpenOffice.org Writer Portable
- Pidgin Portable
- Sudoku Portable
- Sumatra PDF Portable

Documents
Music
Pictures
Videos
Explore
Backup
Options
Search
Help

PortableApps.com (P:) 630.5MB free of 986MB

Convenient

Now you can carry your favorite computer programs along with all of your bookmarks, settings, email and more with you. Use them on any Windows computer. All without leaving any personal data behind.

Open

PortableApps.com provides a truly open platform that works with any hardware you like (USB flash drive, iPod, portable hard drive, etc). It's open source built around an open format that any hardware vendor or software developer can use.

Free

The PortableApps.com Suite and Platform is free. It contains no spyware. There are no advertisements. It isn't a limited or trial version. There is no additional hardware or software to buy. You don't even have to give out your email address. It's 100% free to use, free to copy and free to share.

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As Seen In...

Updated January 29, 2009

What is a
PORTABLEAPP
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What's New

- Feb 12 [Notepad++ 5.2](#)
- Feb 10 [FileZilla 3.2.1](#)
- Feb 04 [Mozilla Firefox 3.0.6](#)
- Feb 03 [Miranda IM 0.7.14](#)
- Feb 02 [PNotes 4.5](#)
- Jan 20 [BPBible 0.4 Rev 2](#)
- Jan 17 [WinMerge 2.10.4](#)
- Jan 16 [AbiWord 2.6.6](#)
- Jan 15 [GIMP 2.6.4](#)
- Jan 15 [Toucan 2.0.4](#)
- Jan 15 [7-Zip 4.64](#)

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Open Source iPhone Software



Yes! Open source exists on the iPhone. While the phone OS may be closed, you can still run free and open software. Here's a list of the best open source on the iPhone. Updated often as new apps come out!

Mobile Web



WordPress

WordPress is the cleanest and most popular blogging service. This app lets you create and edit content on your blog with support for offline use.

[Download Page](#)



Funambol

Funambol delivers over-the-air backup and synchronization of your iPhone contacts.

[Download Page](#)

Money Management



FreshBooks

[project management software](#)

Agile Software
Project Mgmt Tool.
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Free 10-User
Version.
www.rallydev.com

[Project Time Tracking](#)

Easily Track
Employee
Time/Expenses
Towards Projects.
Try It Free Now!
www.replicon.com/free

[Amanda Commercial](#)

PalmOpenSource.com

The PalmOS Open Source Portal

"The basic idea behind open source is very simple. When programmers on the Internet can read, redistribute, and modify the source for a piece of software, it evolves. People improve it, people adapt it, people fix bugs. And this can happen at a speed that, if one is used to the slow pace of conventional software development, seems astonishing...
...The Open Source pages exist to make this case to the commercial world." - *Introduction to Open Source* - www.opensource.org

Forums

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- * [Open Software](#)
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Quick Access

PalmOS Software:

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[IR / Beaming utilities \(5\)](#)

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old computers or hardware emulation

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Graphics related utilities

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DOC, Text and HTML viewers/editors

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calculators and currency converters

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[System \(55\)](#)

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[Clocks \(12\)](#)

Clocks, timers and alarms

[Programming Libs \(35\)](#)

Libraries for the programmer

[Science \(16\)](#)

Scientific / engineering utilities

[Travel / Navigation \(18\)](#)

Navigation, GPS and mapping software

[Desktop \(38\)](#)

Misc. desktop applications for your Palm

[Security \(13\)](#)

Security related tools

[Sound & Video \(18\)](#)

sound, midi, and video players

[Education \(2\)](#)

Educational tools

- [Geordi](#) - An environment for nomadic systems administration which provides a useful interface for UNIX systems administration "in the field", away from traditional console systems. (v 0.57.61) ([2002-10-26](#), [Hit: 2519](#)) [Details](#)
- [Linux on Palm Tungsten E](#) - A port of Linux to the Tungsten. Currently a boot loader is available and the kernel is under work. GPL (v BETA0) ([2005-04-01](#), [Hit: 3724](#)) [Details](#)
- [Minibar](#) - A bartending application. It currently includes a database of over 450 mixed drinks spanning a wide range of recipes including cocktails, cordials and assorted shots. GPL (v 3.0) ([2003-04-19](#), [Hit: 3271](#)) [Details](#)
- [PalmCounter](#) - Four counters. One of them can be "connected" to the hardware pageup and pagedown buttons for easy and quick counting. ([2003-11-16](#), [Hit: 2196](#)) [Details](#)

Buy Books



[Palm OS Cobalt Programming](#)



[The developer's guide](#)



[Instant Palm OS Applications](#)

* [Bluetooth USB Adapter](#) - \$31

Transitioning to Open Source

Recommendation #2:

Find open source equivalents to your favourite applications.

You don't have to necessarily wade your way through Sourceforge:





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- internet & networking
- multimedia & audio
- security & privacy
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Find open source software alternatives to well-known commercial software

Find alternatives for iTunes -> Amarak or Banshee

Or check-out Photoshop, Autocad, Visio, Dreamweaver or Norton Ghost on your own.

Recently added commercial software: Citrix, ACDSee and iMovie.

Our mission is to provide easy access to high quality open source alternatives to well-known commercial products. And remember that open source software is also a freeware alternative.

News - Open Source Alternatives RSS

PostBooks added to osalt.com

PostBooks is an open source business software package that offers a total solution for managing your business, including fully-integrated accounting, CRM and ERP modules. Designed for businesses looking for an alternative to - or a growth path from - commercial desktop accounting packages such as Quickbooks and Peachtree, PostBooks rivals sophisticated commercial ERP platforms, offering higher quality at a much lower cost.

PostBooks, like most ERP applications, is organized by functional areas, or modules, described below. These modules are highly interconnected and integrated, but you can customize which modules - even which individual tasks - each of your staff is authorized to use.

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1. Dia
 2. OpenOffice Draw
 3. Gimpshop
 4. Quanta Plus
 5. InfraRecorder
 6. Cinelerra
 7. StarUML
 8. Avidemux
 9. Partition Image
 10. Kivio

- Top 10 Commercial
1. Visio
 2. Photoshop
 3. Dreamweaver





Connect to people through the software you create & use.

Search Projects

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or register your project (free).

Search People

GO

or create your profile (yep, free).

"From finding exciting new projects to checking up on the status of my own, there is no place like Ohloh."

Garrett J. Woodworth, Project Manager, CakePHP

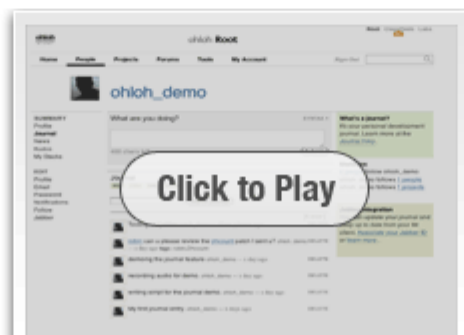
Grok Open Source

Learn what people are using and contributing to. See what's going on inside an open source project. Follow what your friends are coding — [SIGNUP NOW](#).



Let your Dev Flow

Ohloh Journaling lets you keep people up-to-date on what you're coding. Tag your messages with projects to include more people in your discussion — [SIGNUP NOW](#).



Toot your Horn!

Increase awareness of your open source projects through our open directory. Promote yourself directly through our metric-backed developer profile — [SIGNUP NOW](#).



Enterprise Open Source Directory

Latest Updates: Jan 26, 2009

Many projects with new releases, e.g. **GlassFish**, **RedHat Enterprise Linux**, etc. A number of new candidates to look at, e.g. **GLPI**, **VirtualBox**. Lots of traction in the Open Source world!

Open Source Solutions

Browse the [Software Directory](#) for rated enterprise open source solutions, explore [case studies](#), read the [EOS blog](#) and participate in the [forums](#).

Open Source Community

Contribute ratings and comments on hundreds of enterprise-class projects, track project popularity, submit case studies and suggest new enterprise-ready projects.

Software Categories

Operations

- Operating Systems (Server & Client)
- Graphical User Interfaces (Client)
- Communication Infrastructure
- Security
- Web Servers
- System Management and Operations
- Miscellaneous

Application Development

- Databases and File Systems
- Application Server
- Portal Server
- Programming Languages
- Frameworks
- Components for Application Development
- Development and Test Environments
- Web Services
- Middleware/ Enterprise Integration
- SOA (Service-oriented Architecture)
- Rules Engines

Add an EOS Listed Badge

If a project is listed in the EOS Directory, check the project listing page to add this ratings badge to your project site.



EOS News (Blog)



1. [Is Open Source more cost effective? Is Alfresco 96% cheaper than Sha ...](#)
10 Jan, 2009
2. [Can open source companies be successful in 2009 and 2010?](#)
05 Jan, 2009
3. [Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year](#)
24 Dec, 2008
4. [Open Source Year 2008 in Review - More Adoption, Success, Innovation ...](#)
21 Dec, 2008
5. [Do Excellence, Enterprise Readiness and Popularity go together in Op ...](#)
07 Dec, 2008

Success Stories



Wonderbox

Paris-based Wonderbox needed to revamp its web presence, e-commerce and CRM systems to handle rapid growth in orders. ; Proven open source solutions delivered a new web front-end, CRM capabilities, a call center and

Transitioning to Open Source

Recommendation #3:

Once comfortable with the applications, try a transition to an open source operating system.

Live CDs allow you to “try before you fly”:



Linux CDs and DVDs from FrozenTech
The Latest Distros, Affordable Prices



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199	Kanotix	503	719	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
92	NimbleX	200	200	Desktop		Home W DW
89	PCLinuxOS	299	685	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
52	Knoppix	700	700	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
46	GoblinX	302	302	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
40	Damn Small Linux	48	48	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
36	MEPIS	693	693	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
33	Puppy Linux	60	60	Desktop		Home W DW
31	Ubuntu	699	3553	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
15	FreeSBIE	596	596	Desktop, OS Replacement		Home W DW
15	Gentoo	50	1815	OS Replacement, Rescue		Home W DW
10	dyne:bolic	444	444	Clustering, Desktop, Media Production		Home W DW
10	Ultimate Boot CD	121	186	Diagnostics, Rescue		Home W DW
9	SLAX KillBill Edition	188	188	Desktop		Home W DW

Transitioning to Open Source

Recommendation #4:

Once ready for a full install, start with a user-friendly operating system:





Search



Ubuntu Server available on Amazon EC2

Beta programme now open

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[latest news \(RSS feed\)](#)

About Ubuntu

Ubuntu is a community developed, Linux-based operating system that is perfect for laptops, desktops and servers. It contains all the applications you need - a web browser, presentation, document and spreadsheet software, instant messaging and much more.

[Learn more about Ubuntu](#) - [Take the desktop tour](#)

Desktop Edition



[Learn more](#)

Server Edition



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The Ubuntu promise

- Ubuntu will always be free of charge, including enterprise releases and security updates.
- Ubuntu comes with full commercial support from Canonical and hundreds of



Press Room

[Redmonk and Ubuntu survey: results are in!](#)
4th Feb, 2009

[Canonical Announces Update for Ubuntu 8.04 Long Term Support Release](#)
27th Jan, 2009

[Canonical launches U.S.-based shop.ubuntu.com in time for holiday season](#)
18th Nov, 2008

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PC-BSD is a free operating system with ease of use in mind. Like any modern system, you can listen to your favorite music, watch your movies, work with office documents and install your favorite applications with a setup wizard at a click.

PC-BSD News

Current Release

PC-BSD 7.0.2 (1

[Mailing List](#)

Get PBI file

www.pbidir.com

Provider of enterprise servers for open source corporate sponsored PC-BSD

About PC-BSD

Simplicity, Security, Speed - Your desktop is ready!

PC-BSD is a complete desktop operating system, which has been designed with the "casual" computer user in mind. It offers the stability and security that only a BSD-based operating system can bring, while at the same time providing a comfortable user experience, allowing you to get the most out of your computing time. With PC-BSD you can spend less time working to fix viruses or spyware and instead have the computer work for you.

Installing the system is simply a matter of a few clicks and a few minutes for the installation process to finish. Hardware such as video, sound, network and other devices will be auto-detected and available at the first system

Transitioning to Open Source

What if you can't find an equivalent application to get the job done or need help with your open source transition?

You can wait a few months to see if an application or another user becomes available

Or, you can discover community....



Discovering Community

Rule #1:

Realize that every community is different.

It may take a while to find the best fit for your personality and skill set.

Start with the one that matches your interest or your need.



Discovering Community

Rule #2:

Don't take yourself too seriously.

Realize that online communications lack visual cues.

Realize that a community is a mix of different cultural norms.



Discovering Community

Rule #3:

You don't have to stay!

Stick around long enough to gauge your comfort level or to get your immediate need met.

Feel free to shop around for a better fit.



Discovering Community

Rule #4:

It's okay to lurk quietly, especially in the beginning.

Lurk on mailing lists and/or channels.

Read mailing list and forum archives.



Discovering Community

Rule #5:

Help others and set a good example.

Once you find your community, be prepared to help others find their place within it.

Blog your experience, answer questions on forums, mailing lists, greet IRC newcomers, speak up when someone is harassed, etc.



Discovering Community

Rule #6:

Find (or create) a local community.

Become involved at schools, community organizations.

Google for local programs.

Mentor.

Talk about open source.



Encouraging Others

Join a (or several) local user group(s).

Participate in mailing lists/forums in your area of interest.

Attend conferences and bring (even if you have to make) business cards and a pen.



Discovering Community

Rule #7:

You don't have to become a geek!

Or write code.

Find a niche that suits your temperament, time constraints, and talent.



Discovering Community

Why bother?

Rule #8:

Participation is a win:win

Community is an *opportunity creator* for skills, relationships, and new ideas.

This is the real value of open source.



Contact

Blog: <http://blogs.ittoolbox.com/unix/bsd>

Open Source Business Resource:

<http://www.osbr.ca>

Contact: dru@osbr.ca

