



#### **Open Document Format**

It's Your Information ... Make the Choice to Ensure It Stays That Way

**ODF ALLIANCE** 





Imagine if:

• your government forced you to buy a word processor from a specific vendor so that you could interact with it electronically

• important historical documents were no longer readable because the vendor whose software created them arbitrarily changed the format used to save the document; or

• in times of emergencies, government agencies could not communicate efficiently because they used different word processors that used proprietary, non-standard formats or a format dictated by one vendor.



### What Is ODF?

- XML-Based specification for displaying and storing data files
- Only available open, vendor-neutral, standardized format for office applications
- Provides perpetual access to documents, independent of the applications that created them
- Approved by OASIS in May 2005 and continues to be advanced in OASIS
- Approved by ISO/IEC as international standard in May 2006
- ODF v1.1 incorporating accessibility enhancements approved Oct 2006



### ODF Is An Open Standard

- Developed, maintained and controlled by an open standards organization with cross industry and open source community involvement
- Published without restrictions or royalties
- Freely available for adoption by industry
- Available in multiple competing interoperable implementations on multiple platforms



### **Benefits of ODF**

- Access
- Choice
- Innovation
- Interoperability
- Lower Cost
- Emergency Management
- Archive Friendly





#### **ODF** is an example of a bigger change



#### **Old Style**

Information is closely linked to the application that created it.

Control is with the software developer *not* the customer.

#### New Style

Information is represented using a real open standard not under the control of a single vendor, and multiple applications can create and access it interchangeably.

Control is with the customer *not* the software provider.



#### We started to see this in the 1990s



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The OpenDocument Format: It's Your Information



#### The trend will accelerate in the 2000s



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### About the Alliance

- Mission: Educate on benefits of ODF
- Organization
  - Founding organizations on executive committee (Sun, IBM, Red Hat, Oracle, Novell, SIIA)
  - Advisory Committees (Accessibility, Communications, Public Policy, Research & Resources)
  - Regional/Country Chapters/Teams (Europe, France, India, Malaysia, others TBD)



### Membership

- 36 original members at launch March 2006
- Grows to 136 in one month April 2006
- 350+ members in 50 countries Dec 2006
- Broad-based: vendors, governments, universities/academia, libraries/archivists, non-profits
- You can join today! http://www.odfalliance.org/join.php



### **Software Applications Using ODF**

- Applications offering ODF as the default file-format option:
  - OpenOffice 2.0
  - StarOffice 8
  - IBM Lotus Workplace Managed Client version 2.6
  - KWord 1.5

#### Other applications support:

- Google's Writely and Spreadsheet
- Zoho Writer
- AjaxWrite
- NeoOffice
- Track new additions: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OpenDocument\_software



### **ODF: Who's Using It?**

- Massachusetts leads way in U.S.
- Takes off in Europe
  - Belgium, France, Denmark, Norway
  - Regions of Spain, Bristol City Council (UK)

#### Gains foothold in Asia

- Malaysia, India, National Desktop on Indonesia, others looking to move?
- Latin America
  - Brazil, others?

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### Case of Massachusetts

- Open standards policy Jan 2004
- Enterprise Technical Reference Model (ETRM) calls out ODF Sep 2005
- On track for Jan 2007 implementation
- Policy update to ensure needs of persons with disabilities met Aug 2006



## Belgium

- Council of Ministers decision June 2006
  - ODF chosen as standard for document exchange between govt administrations
- Implementation phased approach
  - Reading functionality by Sep 2007
  - Document exchange by Sep 2008



### France

- RGI (Interoperability Guidelines) Dec 2005
  - Recommended to use document format based on XML that is vendor-neutral, open, and royalty free
  - Recommended to use ODF for office applications (text, spreadsheets, presentations)
  - Required to accept all documents in ODF
  - Prohibited to migrate to a format used by only one organization
- Implementation
  - Comment period Aug 2006
  - Final Dec 2006



### Denmark

- Parliamentary decision June 2006
  - All digital information exchange based on open standards by June 2008
  - Obligation to introduce and maintain set of open standards
- Implementation roadmap under discussion Sep 2006



## Others in Europe

- <u>Spain</u>: Extremadura to use only ODF and PDF for read-only – July 2006
- <u>Italy</u>: Adopts ODF as a national standard
- <u>Norway</u>: eNorge 2009 all communication between govt and citizens based on open formats; IT systems based on open standards
- <u>Croatia</u>: eHrvatska govt plan to generate and archive digital content using open formats



## Malaysia

- National standards body votes to propose ODF as country standard – July 2006
- Public comment period Sep 2006
- Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation expected to endorse ODF for use by public sector by year end



## India

Gov't Agencies Adopting ODF

- Allahabad Courts
- Government of Delhi
- Department of Tax, Delhi
- Life Insurance Corporation (govt entity)
- Indian Army
- Election Commission



### Others in Asia

- <u>Hong Kong</u>: ODF becomes a recommended standard
- <u>Thailand, Japan, China</u>: among 13 nations to endorse paper supporting solutions based on open standards



## Brazil Goes ODF

- ePING v2.0 Interoperability Framework (Nov 2006)
- ODF is recommended government standard
- .doc, .xls, and .ppt designated "in transition" do not comply with Brazil's technical policies



### This is Part of the Bigger "Open" Movement



Berkman Boloman Constructional & Society at Hervard Lon Society

Spansared by: IBM ORACLE



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cyber.law.harvard.edu/epolicy/



### **ODF Adoption Conclusions**

- Gartner: 50 percent of governments and 20 percent of commercial organizations will require ODF by 2010 (0.7 probability)
- No "one size fits all" approach to adoption



### What About Cost Savings?

- Bristol City Council (UK)
  - Cut software costs by 60% over 5 years in switching 5500 desktops to Star Office
- Denmark
  - 550m kroner, or \$94m, over a five-year period in move to OpenOffice (Ramboell Report)
- Cost Assessments of Migrating to ODF-Supporting Applications http://www.odfalliance.org/resources/PrelimCostAssess20061109.pdf
- Build your own cost model http://www.odfalliance.org/resources/BusCaseTookit.pdf



### **Open Document Best Practices**

- Check the default save format
- Ask about proprietary tags to XML specifications
- Understand modification consultation procedures
- Ask for inter-platform portability





### **ODF Resources**

- Alliance website
  www.odfalliance.org
- OASIS

http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc\_home.php?wg\_abbrev=oc

Alliance Newsletter

http://www.odfalliance.org/mail\_list.php





### **ODF** Contacts

#### Marino Marcich, ODF Alliance mmarcich@odfalliance.org 202.789.4450