

Introduction to OpenOffice.org 2.0

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History

- Formerly StarOffice, by StarDivision
- Acquired by Sun Microsystems in 1999
- Open Sourced in 2000 as OpenOffice.org
- 1.0 in May 2002
- 2.0 in October 2005
- Current version is 2.0.1
- 2.0.2 coming in Feb 2006

Downside of OOo 1.x

- Lack of database application
- User interface is different from Microsoft Office
- Ability to read/write Microsoft format is not good enough
- Stability
- Platform integration (e.g. native look)

What's New in OOo 2

- “Base”, new database application
- OpenDocument as default file format
- Very similar to Microsoft Office (UI, terminology)
- Improvement in document filter
- Native themes

Softwares in Suite

- Writer - Word Processor
- Calc - Spreadsheet
- Impress - Presentation
- Base - Database
- Draw - Vector Drawing
- Math - Mathematic Formular

Some limitations

- Anyway, no one is perfect
- Not 100% format compatible with Microsoft
- Macro need much improvement
- Lack some useful keyboard shortcuts
- Require Java to run Base
- Native Mac OS X Integration

Tips for Using OpenOffice.org

Debian-based (e.g. Ubuntu)

- Use packages from repository
- Download from OpenOffice.org and convert by Alien
 - ▶ `sudo alien -k *.rpm`
 - ▶ `sudo dpkg -i *.deb`

Tips (2)

Using Style is more productivity

- Same concept as CSS
- Consistence in document presentation
- F11 for Style and Formatting pane
- Style can import/export

Tips (3)

To change default file format

- Tools > Options > Load/Save > General > Always Save As

To disable URL Recognition

- Tools > AutoCorrect > Options

Menu Movement

Page Properties/Formatting

- MS: File > Page Settings
- OO: Format > Page

Header/Footer

- MS: View > Header/Footer
- OO: Insert > Header/Footer

Internationalization

- OpenOffice.org 1.x can't use Thai properly
- SIPA's solution for 2.0 release
 - “Use Professional”
 - Hired StarOffice Division (Sun Germany) to fix Thai-related bugs
 - Guarantee bug fixing on 2.0 timeframe
 - Budget: 2 million baht (~\$50,000)
 - Just only 100 licenses for Office 2003 Pro

Demo

- Mail-merge Wizard
- Change Management
- Database-Form Wizard