

### **Belgium: Federal Government To Use ODF For Document Exchange**

On 23 June Belgium's Council of Ministers approved a decision requiring that all document exchanges within the services of the Belgian federal government be in an open, standard format. Only ODF is accepted as such a standard in the decision. The execution of this decision will be discussed in the coming months. We will keep you posted.

<http://news.zdnet.co.uk/software/applications/0,39020384,39276978,00.htm>

<http://presscenter.org/archive/20060623/432d0130470a88df1105dda38d1282b0/?lang=nl&prLang=fr>

### **France: Alliance Members Urge Implementation of Interoperability Guidelines**

French members of the Alliance participated in the 26 June "Paris:Capitale du Libre" event bringing together the hi-tech community, government agencies, parliamentarians, and the media. Speaking on behalf of the Alliance, Gregory Lopez of Thales highlighted the benefits and opportunities of ODF, and urged the government to finalize and implement the draft interoperability guidelines which favor ODF as soon as possible.

Interoperability Guidelines Info -

[https://www.ateliers.adele.gouv.fr/ministeres/domaines\\_d\\_expertise/architecture\\_fonctio/public/rgi/folder\\_contents](https://www.ateliers.adele.gouv.fr/ministeres/domaines_d_expertise/architecture_fonctio/public/rgi/folder_contents)

Alliance Comments - [http://www.odfalliance.org/resources/FranceRGI\\_20060614.pdf](http://www.odfalliance.org/resources/FranceRGI_20060614.pdf)

Paris Capitale du Libre Event - <http://www.paris-libre.org>

### **India: ODF Alliance-India Launched; Roadmap Laid to ODF Adoption**

India's first national seminar on ODF was held on 23 June in New Delhi, where ODF Alliance-India was officially launched and India's leading technical institutions, global IT companies and government agencies deliberated on how ODF could significantly change the way data is managed and help increase IT penetration. Mr. Shri R. Chandershekar, Joint Secretary of the Dept. of Information Technology at India's Ministry of Information & Technology, welcomed the formation of ODF Alliance-India, noting that ODF is a great technological leap and a big boon to further propel IT right to India's grass root levels.

<http://www.iceg.net/odf/>

### **EU: New COSPA Deliverables Expected; Alliance Joins As Observer**

The Consortium for Open Source in the Public Administrations (COSPA) is performing a controlled study on the adoption of open source and open data standards in the European public administrations, and published in March 2006 many useful resources, including migration toolkits. Several new deliverables are currently under review and expected to be available soon now that research has been completed. The COSPA project, coordinated by the University of Bolzano and including academic and public administration partners from Hungary, Denmark, Ireland, UK, and Belgium, as well as industrial partners, is funded by the EU's Sixth Framework Programme. The Alliance has joined COSPA as an observer.

<http://www.cospa-project.org/news.html#n28>

### **Massachusetts: Responses to RFI on Plug-Ins/Converters**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts posted the responses it received on its request for information on the existence or development of a "plug-in component" or other converter options to be used with MS Office that would allow Office users to open, render, and save to ODF files.

<http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=itdsubtopic&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Open+Initiatives&L2=OpenDocument&L3=ODF+Plug-In+for+Microsoft+RFI&sid=Aitd>

<http://www.3bview.com/news-MA-June06.html>

**New Alliance Members: 225+**

Please welcome the following new members: APRIL (France), Paul Snijders Automatisering (Netherlands), Linux Industrial Association (Hungary), BrOffice.org (Brazil), Software Competence Center of the Hungarian Government, ASS2L (France), LINAGORA (France), Anaska Formation (France), COSPA (Italy), Center of System Administration (Russia), CELEPAR (Brazil), and Software602 (Czech Republic).

\*\*\*\*\*ODF IN THE NEWS\*\*\*\*\*

### **Belgian government chooses OpenDocument**

By Dominique Deckmyn Story last modified Fri Jun 23 08:03:31 PDT 2006

[http://news.com.com/Belgian+government+chooses+OpenDocument/2100-7344\\_3-6087275.html](http://news.com.com/Belgian+government+chooses+OpenDocument/2100-7344_3-6087275.html)

### **It's a free-for-all in the capital**

Economic Times – Mumbai, 24 June 2006

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1675248.cms>

### **Roadmap to change the way we document**

CIOL IT Unlimited, Friday, June 23, 2006

<http://www.ciol.com/content/search/showarticle1.asp?artid=85632>

### **OpenDocument Gains Ground In Belgium, India**

By Nate Mook, Beta News, 23 June 2006

[http://www.betanews.com/article/OpenDoc\\_Gains\\_Ground\\_in\\_Belgium\\_India/1151086332](http://www.betanews.com/article/OpenDoc_Gains_Ground_in_Belgium_India/1151086332)

### **Contre-propagande Microsoft sur l'ODF**

InfoguerrePublié le 21/06/06

<http://www.infoguerre.com/article.php?sid=1027>

### **Quinn's Revenge**

Paul McMorrow

<http://www.weeklydig.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/article.view/issueID/5461f599-4327-4ef8-9df3-a7aed9312a07/articleID/52ac5c49-7f28-46be-bce1-f28750835a0a/nodeID/4b1339d1-be3a-44a2-be8b-1484963a003a>

### **Office 2007 will need extra software to create PDF files**

Tim Smith, Computeract!ve 09 Jun 2006

<http://www.computeractive.co.uk/computeractive/news/2157914/extra-pdf-software-needed>

### **More To Life Than The Office**

It's being updated furiously, but Microsoft's once-irreplaceable program now has some viable rivals  
3 July 2006, Business Week - Steve Hamm

[http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/06\\_27/b3991412.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/06_27/b3991412.htm)

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