

**ODF Alliance Newsletter**

**28 July 2008**

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**URUGUAY ADOPTS ODF AS RECOMMENDED STANDARD**

Uruguay's AGESIC (Agency for the Development of Government Electronic Management and Information and Knowledge Society), which is responsible for proposing IT standards for the federal government, has officially recommended the use of ODF for editable documents and PDF for documents in final, published form. ODF has now firmly taken root in South America, with Uruguay joining Brazil and several regional governments, including Parana (Brazil) and Misiones (Argentina), as ODF adopters.

[http://www.agesic.gub.uy/Sitio/descargas/Estandares\\_de\\_Ofimatica\\_v08.pdf](http://www.agesic.gub.uy/Sitio/descargas/Estandares_de_Ofimatica_v08.pdf)

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**NATO TO SUPPORT THE USE OF ODF**

NATO has included ODF in its list of mandatory standards to promote interoperability. Also included under NATO's Interoperability Standards and Profiles are Rich Text Format (RTF), extensible markup language (XML) and Office XP formats as requirements for the sharing of data. The list does not include Microsoft's Office Open XML (OOXML).

[http://nhqc3s.nato.int/architecture/\\_docs/NISPV2/volume2/ch03s04.html](http://nhqc3s.nato.int/architecture/_docs/NISPV2/volume2/ch03s04.html)

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**CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDS ODF**

Citing the preservation of and long-term access to government information as vital in a democratic society, the Canadian Library Association (CLA) adopted a resolution urging the federal government to mandate the use of open, interoperable, and vendor-neutral standards such as ODF for government

information wherever possible and encourages other library-related organizations to do the same at all levels of government. CLA also made known its support for the Standards Council of Canada's opposition to Microsoft's OOXML.

[http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=AGM\\_2008](http://www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=AGM_2008)

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## EUROPEAN INTEROPERABILITY FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDS USE OF OPEN STANDARDS

The European Commission has invited public comments by September 22 to its new version of the European Interoperability Framework v2.0. EIF v1.0 had received worldwide attention and is often referenced when interoperability is discussed. The draft, which strongly endorses the use of open standards to encourage interoperability, should be read by anyone interested in open standards and the ability to communicate electronically with government using the software of your choice.

<http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/en/document/7728>

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## NEW OR IMPROVED ODF APPLICATIONS SUPPORT

Aspose.Words, which enables .NET and Java applications to read, modify and write Word documents without utilizing Microsoft Word, now comes with support for "save as odt".  
[http://www.freepressreleases.co.uk/Press\\_Releases/Computer/Convert\\_Word\\_documents\\_in\\_OpenDocument\\_Text\\_-\\_ODT\\_and\\_MHTML\\_format\\_with\\_Aspose.Words\\_2008060921735/](http://www.freepressreleases.co.uk/Press_Releases/Computer/Convert_Word_documents_in_OpenDocument_Text_-_ODT_and_MHTML_format_with_Aspose.Words_2008060921735/)

EuroOffice.Dictionary (EOD) Extension allows you to quickly translate words and expressions without leaving the convenience of ODF-supporting OpenOffice.org.  
<http://www.multiracio.com/eurooffice/products/eurooffice-dictionary>

OpenOffice PDF Importer Extension is now available in beta for OpenOffice.org 3.0, allowing you to modify existing PDF files for which the original source files do not exist.  
<http://extensions.services.openoffice.org/project/pdfimport>

PrimoPDF's PrimoOnline automatically makes PDF files from ODF and other formats, without the need to install any PDF software.  
<http://online.primopdf.com/Default.aspx>

Docvert 3.4 is an open source OpenDocument-to-HTML converter (both ways) that can convert office documents to webpages and make them fit into any website design.  
<http://docvert.org/>

ODF Wiki gives you full ODF editing capabilities within a Wiki using OpenOffice as an editor.  
[http://blogs.sun.com/GullFOSS/entry/odf\\_www\\_an\\_odf\\_wiki](http://blogs.sun.com/GullFOSS/entry/odf_www_an_odf_wiki)

Zoho Show, Zoho's online tool for making powerful presentations, now exports to odp.  
<http://blogs.zoho.com/show/>

Translate.org.za's XLIFF converter, sponsored by NLnet Foundation, a Netherlands-based donor organization focused on open standards and open source software, is developing software that converts ODF documents into XLIFF, a standard used by translators to share and exchange translations, without having to consider what software package they are using.  
<http://www.itweb.co.za/sections/software/2008/0806301302.asp?A=HOME&O=FPMN>

OpenOffice.org ODF Validation Service is a web page where you can check whether a particular file is a valid ODF file.  
<http://tools.services.openoffice.org/odfvalidator/>

KDE's KOffice 2.0 Alpha 8 office suite, KOffice's first release for all three major operating systems, includes major enhancements in its support for ODF.  
<http://www.koffice.org/releases/2.0alpha8-release.php>

Oxygen XML Editor and Oxygen XML Author allow you to extract, validate, edit and process the XML data stored in OpenDocument files and any other ZIP-based archive.  
<http://www.oxygenxml.com/index.html#new-version>

Adobe's Buzzword online word processor now provides support for importing and exporting documents in odt.  
[http://blogs.adobe.com/acom/2008/06/buzzword\\_looking\\_ahead.html](http://blogs.adobe.com/acom/2008/06/buzzword_looking_ahead.html)

Sun's StarOffice 9 beta now features support for importing ODF v1.2 and other ODF-related enhancements.  
<http://www.sun.com/aboutsun/media/features/2008-0716/index.jsp>

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## **NEW ALLIANCE MEMBERS**

Please welcome the following new members: Tarif-Angebote (Germany); Webdesign Senkrecht (Germany); DealzFirst (USA); Finanzen Online (Germany); Emerges (Chile); Webdesign-up2date.de (Germany); F/S Marketing (UK); Versicherungen (Germany); OmegaT+ (Canada), Fraktfritt Sverige (Sweden), ME Data (Sweden), Relevansanalys (Sweden) and Online Kredit Index (Germany).

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

2nd International ODF User Workshop [9-10 Oct 2008 - Pretoria, South Africa]

<http://www.odfworkshop.org>

Government Open Source Conference (GOSCON) 2008 [20-23 Oct 2008 - Portland, OR, USA]

<http://goscon.org/>

Open Source World Conference 2008 [20-22 Oct 2008, Malaga, Spain]

<http://www.opensourceworldconference.com/>

OpenOffice.org Conference (OOoCon 2008)[5-7 Nov 2008 - Beijing, China]

<http://marketing.openoffice.org/ooocon2008/>

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## ODF IN THE NEWS

Microsoft admits ODF won [Andrew Donoghue, ZDNet UK]

<http://community.zdnet.co.uk/blog/0,1000000567,10008487o-2000331759b,00.htm>

Red Hat Summit panel: Who 'won' OOXML battle? [Chris Kanaracus, IDG News Service]

[http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/06/19/Red\\_Hat\\_Summit\\_panel\\_Who\\_won\\_OOXML\\_battle\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/06/19/Red_Hat_Summit_panel_Who_won_OOXML_battle_1.html)

'ODF has clearly won,' says Microsoft exec [Egan Orion, itWire]

<http://www.itnews.com.au/News/78954,odf-has-clearly-won-says-microsoft-exec.aspx>

OOXML will take second place following Microsoft's announcement to support ODF, says Dr Alex Brown

[http://www.sourcewire.com/releases/rel\\_display.php?relid=40352&hilite=](http://www.sourcewire.com/releases/rel_display.php?relid=40352&hilite=)

EU's Kroes: open standards are smart business move [Reuters]

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSL0935274720080610?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

EC Official Talks Open Standards, Raps Microsoft [Kurt Mackie, Redmond Channel Partner Online]

<http://rcpmag.com/news/article.aspx?editorialsid=9957>

ODF supports EC calls for more open formats [David Neal, IT Week]

<http://www.itweek.co.uk/itweek/news/2218962/odf-supports-ec-calls-open>

EU stumbles on buying Microsoft alternatives [David Lawsky, Reuters]

<http://www.reuters.com/article/ousiv/idUSL1381809020080617?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

ISO: there can be only one - Microsoft OOXML or open ODF? [Mark Ballard, The Enquirer]

[http://www.theinquirer.net/gb/inquirer/news/2008/06/12/iso\\_one](http://www.theinquirer.net/gb/inquirer/news/2008/06/12/iso_one)

The era of closed formats is dead [Alastair Otter, Tectonic]

<http://www.tectonic.co.za/?p=2492>

IBM staff advised to use open software [John Collins, The Irish Times]

<http://www.ireland.com/newspaper/breaking/2008/0613/breaking2.htm>

Suncorp Envisages Linux, ODF for 20,000 Desktops [Liam Tung, ZDNet.com.au]

<http://www.zdnet.com.au/news/software/soa/Suncorp-looks-forward-to-desktop-Linux-ODF/0,130061733,339289679,00.htm>

XML makes eGovt transparent [Candace Jones, ITWeb]

<http://www.itweb.co.za/sections/software/2008/0806191101.asp?A=HOME&O=FPMN>

Microsoft ODF workshop? Cool! [Technoracle]

<http://technoracle.blogspot.com/2008/06/microsoft-odf-workshop-cool.html>

Microsoft and the anti-Microsoft [Lou Dolinar, Newsday]

<http://www.newsday.com/news/columnists/ny-bzdolinar5735718jun22,0,2628543.column>

The customer counts for nothing [Axonn Echysttas, The Inquirer]

<http://www.theinquirer.net/gb/inquirer/news/2008/07/14/exploring-dark-side>

Marino Marcich

ODF Alliance

1090 Vermont Ave., NW - Suite 600

Washington, DC 20005

(O) 202.789.4450

(F) 202.289.7097

[mmarcich@odfalliance.org](mailto:mmarcich@odfalliance.org)

[www.odfalliance.org](http://www.odfalliance.org)