OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR LIBRARIES

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WHAT IS OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE?

- Open Source Software is software for which the underlying programming code is available to the users.

- They may read it, make changes, and build new versions of the software incorporating their changes

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE?

"Open source promotes software reliability and quality by supporting independent peer review and rapid evolution of source code. To be certified as open source, the license of a program must guarantee the right to read, redistribute, modify, and use it freely."

Source: http://www.opensource.org/

OPEN

- **Here original source code of the software is also given.**

- **If required, the users can modify the source code and then compile the software to use it.**

- **Thus, the source code is Opened up**

SOURCE

- **Instructions to computers are normally written by programmers in Programming Languages like – C, C++, Java etc.**

- **These instructions are readable by humans and referred as Source Code.**

- **To make machines i.e. computers to understand this source code – it either permanently translated (compiled) or on-the-fly translated (interpreted) into machine level codes.**

KEY TERM OF OPEN SOURCE DEFINITION

1. Free Redistribution

2. Source Code

3. Derived Works

4. Integrity of The Author's Source Code

5. No Discrimination Against Persons or Groups

ADVANTAGES OF OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE :

- *Ability to tailor to fit local needs* :

     The availability of the source code means that a user can modify and enhance the software to more closely fit its own needs .

- *No restriction on use* :

     There are no contractual restrictions on how the software is used .

- *Low cost* :

     There is no charge for the software itself. The major cost is local development. If the number of users is large, and they share their efforts, each user's cost is reduced.

DISADVANTAGES OF OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE:

- *Unanticipated Efforts* : **A library may find that it needs to do a great deal more work than anticipated to adapt the software to local needs.**

- *Lack of coordination* : **The decentralized development of open source software means that progress can be chaotic and there may be delays in addressing bugs.**

- *Inadequate technical support* : **Documentation tends to be limited and aimed at developers. There usually is limited technical support, especially for users of the software**

- *Customization* : **Open source software may not offer the level of customization as it is being done in case of commercial software.**

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE: CHALLENGES

- Requires technical knowledge and experienced.
- Accompanying documentation is usually is poor.
- Paid support is difficult to get for new software.
- There is poor coordination between hardware vendors and open source community.

Open Source Software: Challenges
Contd..

- Librarians are used to proprietary software applications integrated or running over Microsoft Windows platform.
- Might have already invested lot of money and efforts in establishing automated systems over a period of time.

TEETHING PROBLEMS IN USING OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES

- Open source software solutions are best suited for libraries

- The majority of these problems are in-fact teething problems and will go away with on "growing up" .

The benefits of using open source software over a period far outweigh as compared to propriety software.

GENERAL PURPOSE OSS IN USE

Type of Software	Proprietary	F/OSS
Web Browser	Internet Explorer	Mozilla Firefox; Opera
Word processing	Microfoft Word	Open Office Writer
Presentations	Microsoft PowerPoint	Open Office Impress
Spreadsheets	Microsoft Excel	Open Office Calc
Database	Oracle; ms sql server	MySQL PostgreSQL
Graphics editing	Adobe Photoshop	GIMP
Desktop Publishing	Quark Xpress	Scribus
Instant Messaging	AIM	GAIM
Finances	Quicken	GnuCash; TurboCash
PDF Creation	Adobe Acrobat	PDF Creator; Ghostscript
Audio Editing	ProTools	Audacity
Flowcharting	Visio	Dia
Vector Graphics	Adobe Illustrator	Sodipodi
Email client	Outlook	Thunderbird; kMail

IN THE LIBRARY WORLD, FOSS

- **Koha (LAMP)**
- **Evergreen (AJAX)**
- **NewGenLib**
- **CDS/ISIS**
- **DSpace**
- **Fedora**
- **Greenstone**
- **OpenOffice.org**
- **WordPress**
- **Drupal**
- **MarcEdit**

WEB 2.0

- **Available anywhere, anytime**
- **Convenience is king**
- **Second generation web services**
- **Social networking**
- **blogs, wikis, tagging**
- **Emphasis on collaboration and sharing**
- **Leverages "wisdom of the crowd"**

Web 2.0: Phrase coined by Tim O'Reilly

LIBRARY 2.0

- **Web 2.0 tools are used to deliver library services.**

  - ➢ Blogs and Wikis
  - ➢ RSS Feeds
  - ➢ Social Networking
  - ➢ Social Bookmarks
  - ➢ Tagging

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE TOOLS FOR LIBRARY 2.0

If you wish to install the software on your own server, many open source software are available for providing library 2.0 services. Here are some of the most popular OSS

Category	OSS	Free Hosting Web Sites
Blogs	WordPress Drupal LiveJournal	Blogger.com WordPress.org
Wikis	MediaWiki TWiki; PHPWiki	WikiSpaces
RSS feeds	RSSOwl reader QuickRSS	Google Reader
Social Networking	SOPAC PHPBB Drupal	FaceBook, Youtube Twitter Flickr

DRUPAL: AN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR CONTENT MANAGEMENT

- **Content Management:**
  - **It helps manage complexity.**
  - **It provides a user interface (UI) for adding, editing and publishing content.**
  - **It provides a means for collaboration among many to perform the above tasks.**

WHAT CAN DRUPAL BE?

- **Blog**
- **Forum**
- **Online newspaper, Portal / Directory**
- **Social community site, job post board**
- **Video site like youtube**
- **Project management site**
- **Customer Relationship Management(CRM,) ERP, SCM, Wiki**
- **Shopping cart system**
- **E-learning, training site**
- **Dating site**
- **Anything you can think of**

Drupal can be downloaded from http://drupal.org/download

WORDPRESS: AN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR BLOGS

- **What is Wordpress?**
  - Website creation
  - Blog Software
- **Where are Wordpress sites hosted?**
  - On Wordpress.com (free)
  - On your personal webserver
  - On a paid webserver service

WordPress Software can be downloaded From: http://wordpress.org/download/

FEATURES OF WORDPRESS

○ **WordPress started as just a blogging system, but has evolved to be used as full content management system and so much more through the thousands of plugins, widgets, and themes**

➢ **Full standards compliance** w3c
➢ **No rebuilding**
➢ **Pages** to manage non-blog content easily
➢ **Links** to create, maintain, and update any number of blogrolls
➢ **Themes** For powerful designs
➢ **Comments**
➢ **Spam protection** etc.

MEDIAWIKI : AN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR WIKI

- **MediaWiki is a free open source wiki package (software) written in PHP, originally for use on Wikipedia. It is now used by several other projects of the non-profit Wikimedia Foundation and by many other wikis**
- **It's designed to be run on a large server farm for a website that gets millions of hits per day**
- **MediaWiki is an extremely powerful, scalable software and a feature-rich wiki implementation, that uses PHP to process and display data stored in a**

Mediawiki can be downloaded from: www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Download

RSSOWL: AN OPEN SOURCE RSS READER

○ **RSSOwl lets you gather, organize, update, and store information from any compliant source**

○ **convenient, easy to use interface**

○ **save selected information in various formats for offline viewing and sharing**

○ **It's easy to configure**

○ **It's platform-independent.**

RSSOwl can be dowloaded from : http://www.rssowl.org/download

SOPAC: SOCIAL ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOG

- **SOPAC is a module for the Drupal CMS that provides *true* integration of your library catalog system with the power of the Drupal content management system while allowing users to tag, rate, and review your holdings.**

- **User input is then incorporated into the discovery index so that SOPAC becomes a truly community-driven catalog system.**

The SOPAC software can be downloaded from :
http://thesocialopac.net/downloads

SOPAC FEATURES

- **Faceted browsing**
- **100% customizable interface via the Drupal template system**
- **Ability to remove search limiters**
- **Saved searches**
- **Integrated renewals, holds placement, and fine payment**
- **Ability to customize the user experience via the administrative control panel**
- **Ability to create custom functionality via a Drupal sub-module**

PhpBB: Open Source Bulletin Board Software

- PHPBB IS A FREE FLAT-FORUM BULLETIN BOARD SOFTWARE SOLUTION THAT CAN BE USED TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH A GROUP OF PEOPLE OR CAN POWER YOUR ENTIRE WEBSITE
SOME OF THE IMPORTANT FEATURES ARE

  REGISTRATION
  POSTING : THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PHPBB IS TO FACILITATE DISCUSSION VIA POSTING
  ATTACHMENTS SHARE FILES BY UPLOADING THEM TO THE BOARD ATTACHING THEM TO POSTS.
  FORUMS

PhpBB Can be download from : /http://www.phpbb.com/downloads/

BURNING QUESTIONS

- **Will I save money?**
- **Where do I get help?**
- **Is this software high quality?**
- **Is it secure?**
- **Reliable?**

CONCLUSION

- **Using open source software is as good as owning it.**
- **Suitable candidate for long term library use.**
- **Worth spending time and energy on learning and adopting.**

Thank You