

Re: RTF – proprietary or open?

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2007-07/msg00755.html>

- *From:* Cassiano Bertol Leal <cassianoleal@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 09 Jul 2007 13:33:07 -0300
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Hash: SHA1

Roberto C. Sánchez escreveu:

On Sun, Jul 08, 2007 at 11:10:57AM -0700, Paul Johnson wrote:

Roberto C. Sánchez wrote in Article
<20070627025352.GE14985@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> posted to
gmane.linux.debian.user:

That depends on your definition of "available." If the person receiving your document is on dialup and not in a position to download the 100+ MB OOo or is otherwise not sufficiently proficient to install software, then you are basically left with "default" windows tools, which are wordpad, and occasionally works or word.

True, but wouldn't not having any proper office suite, on dialup, running Windows make about as much sense for business as switching to MacOS for the games? Is that a large enough edge case for anybody to bother worrying about?

I wasn't thinking so much of the business users themselves, but rather their customers. In any case, you bring up a good point. Of course, I have also worked places where any "unapproved" software was strictly verboten. Getting software approved at one of these places would require a presidential executive order, act of congress, planetary alignment and a lunar eclipse all in the same day. Even then the "security" folks might still not sign off.

While I personally prefer OOo over MSO and try to encourage people to switch, it will be a long time yet before non-MS formats are considered

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"standard."

Regards,

–Roberto

This might be a first step towards standardization:

Sun ODF Plug in 1.0 for Microsoft Office Available Now as a Free Download

Microsoft Office users can now import and export to Open Document Format (ODF).

The Sun ODF Plug in for Microsoft Office gives users of Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint the ability to read, edit and save to the ISO–standard Open Document Format. The ODF Plug in is available as a free download from the Sun Download Center (SDLC). Download the ODF Plug in.

The Plug in is easy to setup and use, the conversion happens transparently and the additional memory footprint is minimal. Microsoft Office users now can have seamless two–way conversion of Microsoft Office documents to and from Open Document. The ODF Plug in runs on Microsoft Windows and is available in English. More language support will be available in later releases.

The plug–in allows Microsoft Office (for Windows) users to open ODF files and save their work in ODF formats used by OpenOffice, StarOffice, and other programs. According to the ReadMe, the plug–in adds "ODF Text Document (*.odt)" as a format to Word's Open and Save dialogs and adds Import and Export options to Excel and PowerPoint."

<http://javashoplmsun.com/ECom/docs/Welcome.jsp?StoreId=8&PartDetailId=ODF-WIN-G-F&TransactionId=nores>

Cheers,

Cassiano Leal

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