

Case Study Of MagyarOffice/EuroOffice in Hungary in the last 6 years

Miklos Banai, MultiRacio Ltd.

www.multiracio.com

MultiRacio Ltd. is the developer of the OpenOffice.org commercial derivatives called MagyarOffice (www.magyaroffice.hu) and EuroOffice (<http://www.multiracio.com/eurooffice/>). These commercial derivatives consist of such extra functionalities, like dictionaries, adaptive menus, professional spell and grammar checker, EU map module, linear and non-linear optimizer, sound and video support, animated help, enhanced galleries and several other enhancements. A multi-language Linux system, a Mozilla-based internet suite and a SQL database engine are also in the distribution kit. The developers of MultiRacio Ltd. accumulated a significant knowledge and development practices about the consecutive builds of OpenOffice.org in the last six years. MultiRacio Ltd. and the Department of Software Engineering in University of Szeged started a software quality improvement project "OpenOffice++" of OpenOffice.org in November of 2004. The project was 26 months long. The goal of the joint OpenOffice++ R&D project was to analyse and improve the architecture of OpenOffice.org and the quality of its source code (<http://oopp.multiracio.com/>). The source code of OpenOffice.org is scanned regularly and the measured values are stored. These results are accessible through a web-based interface open to the OpenOffice.org community.: <http://www.frontendart.com/oomo.php>

MultiRacio Ltd. and the Open Source Laboratory of the Szeged University were a [premium sponsor](#) of the [2007 OpenOffice.org Conference](#) in Barcelona, from September 19 to 21. MultiRacio presented [EuroOffice 2007](#) in the form of an exhibition and a presentation. The new features of [EuroOffice 2007](#) (map diagram, Optimizer, MorphoLogic language tools, Dictionaries, Adaptive GUI, etc.) are developed in the form of OpenOffice.org extensions. This makes the new features available also to OpenOffice.org or StarOffice users all over the world. We also presented the R&D project OpenOffice++. The presentation about EuroOffice 2007 extensions ("[Benefits of Extensions](#)") was held by Daniel Darabos on September 20 in the Development section. The presentation also included the results of a research project in Adaptive Software Laboratory, ELTE IKKK, supported by MultiRacio. The presentation about OpenOffice++ project results ("[OpenOffice++: Improving the Quality of Open Source Software](#)") was held by Rudolf Ferenc (Department of Software Engineering, Szeged University) also in the Development section. The first four free extensions of MultiRacio are uploaded in the extension repository of OOO (<http://extensions.services.openoffice.org/taxonomy/term/94>) and the professional versions of our extensions will be available soon.

The story of MagyarOffice started in 2001 when the story of RedOffice also started in China. Our OpenOffice.org derivative, MagyarOffice also spread successfully in Hungary until 2004. *We have sold cumulatively more than 60 thousand licences in Hungary until this summer, 2007.* For example, **more than 60% of 10500 PCs was shipped with MagyarOffice** in a public procurement for institutions in 2003, in which MagyarOffice and MS Office was treated on equal footing.

However, when MagyarOffice appeared as a real alternative of MS Office the Hungarian government intervened, not like in China, on the side of MagyarOffice but on the side of Microsoft Office. Our products is plagued by negative discrimination in public procurements, practically excluded from the public sector and the government bid exclusive long term contracts to Microsoft for the education, too. Here, in the frameworks of the so called "Pure Software Project" the government buys the MS Windows and Office for all students and teachers and all educational institutes (schools and campuses) that they learn to use exclusively these software. *We think it is*

note the right way for Hungary (and note only because it is irrationally uneconomical! (see the Hungarian public debt problem)) and would note be the right way for Europe, too.

We strongly support Bernard Carayon proposal for the pan European adoption of ODF: ODF should become a compulsory standard for the whole European Union.

The article of IT-Business in Hungary is a good account of the present state of the Hungarian Office suits market and unfortunately it probably presents a typical market situation for all over the world!
See:

<http://www.itbusiness.hu/dokumentum.php?letoltid=5747>

The English translation is here:

<http://www.multiracio.com/eurooffice/files/it-business-070911-english.pdf>

Budapest, 16.10.2007.