

Press Release

fOSSa Conference : full program is out

The Conference “where Open Source meets Academia” will open on November 17th with a panel of prominent speakers

Grenoble, France, November 3rd 2009 – fOSSa 2009 (Free Open Source Software Academia Conference 2009), the first edition of a new international conference on the relations between open source communities and academic research, organized by OW2 Europe Local Chapter and INRIA, is going to open on November 17th at the World Trade Center, Grenoble, France.

With a significant and still increasing number of registered people, 23 speakers, 22 workshop presentations of projects coming from OS communities, research and industry, the conference will be a great opportunity for Academia to actively work with many OS stakeholders to debate all the aspects of open source. They include benefits coming from open source, quality, innovation, business models and market needs, community building and collaboration, European projects and initiatives as well as OS governance, exploitation and promotion.

The speakers of the conference represent a wide panel of pragmatic experiences of collaboration in the research and academic arena and of cooperation between industry and academia. The two-day open debate aims to build a new alignment of the Open Source paradigm with academic goals and industry practices.

Speakers include prominent representatives of the main OS Communities and Consortia (OW2, Eclipse, Apache, QualiPSo, Fossology.org), European Universities (Rey Juan Carlos Madrid-Spain, Milan-Italy, Helsinki-Finland, Paris VII-France), Research Institutions (INRIA and CNRS, France) and Industries (Engineering Group, HP Invent, Sun Microsystems, Mandriva).

"FOSSA is the first European conference specially aimed at academic stakeholders willing to leverage open source with an industry perspective," said Cedric Thomas, OW2 CEO. "This is a great initiative from the OW2 Europe Local Chapter; we are very proud of this partnership with INRIA." he added.

"Software design and development is one of INRIA's core fields of expertise, and the Institute strongly support open source model and it has thus developed a global vision of free software, encompassing distribution to the scientific community, transfer and industrial use," said Stephane Ubeda, Director of the Technological Development Department of INRIA. "INRIA is convinced that free software plays an essential role in developing a digital society, and the fOSSa initiative plays a important role in the open source innovation chain."

About fOSSa 2009

Date: November 17th-18th, 2009

Venue: World Trade Center, Grenoble, France - fOSSa 2009 is the first international conference on Free and Open Source Software to be hosted in Grenoble.

fOSSa 2009 is co-organised by INRIA and OW2 Europe Local Chapter. Conference participation is free and open to all professionals.

For practical information, detailed program and registration: www.ow2.org/fossaconference

About INRIA

A public science and technology institution, under the supervision of the French Ministries of Research and Industry. Directors: Michel COSNARD, CEO of INRIA – Jean-Pierre VERJUS, Deputy Director. Annual budget (2009): 200 M€, including 21% in self-financing. Regional research centres: Paris - Rocquencourt, Sophia Antipolis – Méditerranée, Grenoble – Rhône-Alpes, Nancy – Grand Est, Rennes – Bretagne Atlantique, Bordeaux – Sud Ouest, Lille – Nord Europe, Saclay – Île-de-France. INRIA employs 2,800 researchers, of which more than 1,000 are Ph.D.s. They work in more than 160 project teams whose majority collaborates with other organizations, universities and higher education institutions. 79 Associate Teams around the world. 94 companies set up since 1984.

About OW2

Founded in January 2007, OW2 is an independent industry community dedicated to developing open source code middleware and to fostering a vibrant community and business ecosystem. The OW2 Consortium hosts some one hundred technology Projects, including Acceleo, ASM, Bonita, eXo Platform, Funambol, JOnAS, Lomboz, Orbeon Forms, PetALS, SpagoBI and XWiki.

OW2 Local Chapters are activities carried out to contribute to the sustainable development of business ecosystems on a regional scale, in a business neutral way. They represent OW2 at the regional level under supervision of the Management Office. In a Local Chapter, a group of OW2 members join their efforts to promote the goals of the consortium within a community characterized by its geography or its language. More information: www.ow2.org

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