

## OW2 Consortium reveals its roadmap for development

*Leading middleware consortium emerges from the joining of ObjectWeb and OrientWare communities to develop a code base of 100 Open Source projects*

**Paris, 13 June 2007** – At the “Paris Capitale du Libre” open source trade show, OW2 Consortium today outlined its roadmap for development.

OW2 is an international industry consortium supported by leading European, Chinese and American information and communications technology players from both the software industry and the academic world. Its mission is to foster the development and use of Open Source middleware, and to be a driving force in the development of new-generation open information systems.

Created through the merger of ObjectWeb and OrientWare, two successful communities from across Europe, the Americas and China, OW2 aims to position itself as the leading global Open Source software community dedicated to middleware. Middleware is the software infrastructure which enables the building of powerful and distributed applications linking businesses, individuals and devices in a connected world.

Members of the Consortium will contribute to the development of their common code base and their ecosystems through three different activities: Projects, Initiatives and Local Chapters. Today OW2 already hosts more than 100 projects, and is undertaking the development of market-driven initiatives in several key areas.

Priorities for 2007 include:

- ***Projects***: Technology-driven OW2 projects are and will remain the fundamental priority of the Consortium. These cover such areas as application platforms, persistency/database solutions, workflow engines, software engineering, etc., with leading middleware technologies such as Lomboz, Sync4j, SpagoBI, eXo Platform, JOnAS, Orbeon Forms, XWiki, Enhydra and PEtALS. At the end of 2007, the Consortium will release a **common reference platform**, combining technologies from OW2 members providing common security and communication services, integration framework, management platform, business activity monitoring, process management and user interaction. This consistent code base will enable users and businesses to build innovative interoperable applications and services on a scalable and robust OW2 platform, supported by a global community of experts.
- ***Initiatives***: Initiatives are market-focused activities which combine several projects to facilitate their implementations into business solutions by systems integrators, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and end users. Three initiatives are to be launched in 2007: **Enterprise Service Bus/SOA, Business Intelligence and e-Government**. Several other initiatives are in the works.

- **Local Chapters:** A typical Open Source organization, OW2 aims at fostering grass root communities across all continents through Local Chapters. A Local Chapter is a joint activity by members who wish to develop the Consortium visibility, membership and its relationship with academia within a territory defined by a common language or region. In 2007, OW2 will endeavor to launch Local Chapters in **China, Europe and Brazil**.
- **Annual Conference:** The first OW2 annual conference will be in December 2007. It will be co-located with the JavaPolis exhibition in Brussels.

*“Over the past few years, Open Source software (OSS) has gained significant momentum in IT, becoming a driving force in software innovation and business,”* declared Jean-Pierre Laisne, Chairman of the new OW2 Consortium. *“But this very success is putting new demands on communities: to reinforce synergies and interoperability between projects, and increase levels of automation to deliver easy-to-use, turnkey solutions. For middleware, the foundation of ObjectWeb in Europe and America in 2002, and of OrientWare in Asia in 2004, were major steps in this direction. Building on the legacy of this success, the merger and extension of these consortiums into OW2 takes Open Source middleware development to a new level, providing a powerful response to these demands.”*

The ramp-up of the Consortium is planned to continue throughout 2007. Overall, the OW2 community already involves more than 100 corporations and 6,000 IT professionals worldwide, and participates in projects within the framework of international and national research programs such as FP6 and FP7 in Europe and Program 863 in China. The OW2 Consortium is open to new members, and will continue to offer public and private organizations, and individuals the opportunity to join in the future.

### **About OW2**

Founded in January 2007 as a result of the merger of ObjectWeb and OrientWare communities, OW2 is an independent industry consortium dedicated to developing Open Source code middleware and to fostering a vibrant community and business ecosystem. Building on the legacy of ObjectWeb and OrientWare, OW2 federates more than one hundred organizations and 6000 IT professionals in Europe, Asia and the Americas. OW2 hosts over one hundred technology *Projects*, including Lomboz, Sync4j, eXo Platform, XWiki, SpagoBI, Orbeon Forms, Enhydra, PEtALS and JOnAS. Several of these projects are combined into market-driven *Initiatives*, such as the ESB/SOA Initiative and the Business Intelligence Initiative, which facilitate their implementation by systems integrators, OEMs and end-users. A typical global Open Source organization, OW2 aims to bring together grassroots communities across all continents through *Local Chapters*.

To find out more about OW2, visit [www.ow2.org](http://www.ow2.org)

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### **Contacts**

#### **OW2**

**Management Office**  
Tel. +32-24 26 85 23  
Fax. +32-27 919 219  
[www.ow2.org](http://www.ow2.org)

#### **Spokepersons**

**Cedric Thomas**  
OW2 CEO  
Tel. + 33 611 430 431  
[cedric.thomas@ow2.org](mailto:cedric.thomas@ow2.org)

**Jean-Pierre Laisné**  
OW2 President  
Tel. + 33 686 56 16 33  
[jean-pierre.laisne@bull.net](mailto:jean-pierre.laisne@bull.net)

**HUAI Jingpeng**  
OW2 Vice-President  
Tel. +86 10 8231 7558  
[huaijp@buaa.edu.cn](mailto:huaijp@buaa.edu.cn)