

First fOSSa Conference launched: where Open Source meets Academia

The OW2 Europe Local Chapter launches first conference on open source communities and academic research.

Paris, France, October 1, 2009 – OW2 Europe Local Chapter and INRIA announce **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**.

ICT companies run FOSS based business models which meet modern industry requirements. Academic researchers produce innovations and work to maximize their dissemination in society. **fOSSa** is a conference where they all can meet and discuss FOSS as the reference environment for their open development activities and an opportunity to contribute to the growth of a collective strategy aiming to transfer research results and innovation to the ICT industry and industrial expertise to academic research projects.

fOSSa 2009 will review open source fundamentals (business models, licenses, collaboration, community building & management, promotion, exploitation, sustainability) and will present innovating open source projects and community experiences. Day 1 focuses on the basics of the Open Source model. Day 2 is dedicated to practical sessions and case studies.

Confirmed speakers include members of the Apache Community, the Eclipse Foundation, Engineering Group, HP Fossology, INRIA, Mandriva, the OW2 Consortium, Sun Microsystems, Ubuntu, University of Paris VII, University of Milan.

The history of FOSS can be traced back to academic origins: distributing source code under a permissive license was the de facto rule in academia in the 70's. Since then, FOSS became a wide spread paradigm throughout the software industry, and its alignment with academic goals tended to be forgotten. According to fOSSa steering committee members, software innovation is a value creation process that needs a new joint collaboration of industries, academia and FOSS experts.

About fOSSa 2009

Date: November 17-18, 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 Platorm, 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 a 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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