

**OpenOffice.org on three continents –
A Real Life Case Study
by
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About the speaker

- Michael Bona, Managing Director skilldeal AG
- Management education in three countries
- Strong background in Finance
- Work experience in UK, F, CH, D
- StarOffice User since 3.0, OpenOffice.org User since 1.0
- Loves Free Software

- Established in 2000
- Based in Berlin
- IT-Consulting and Outsourcing Company
 - Software Development
 - Outsourcing to Central and Eastern Europe
 - IT-Consulting
 - IT-Security
- Loves Free Software

About the Case Study

- Based on a real project
- Only a small part of a much larger task
- Planning and Execution in 2002, not long after OpenOffice.org 1.0



Before Migration – The Situation

- Migration Corp is small but international
 - Six offices on three continents, five working languages
 - Innovative products
 - Competition dominated by three global giants
- IT outsourced
- No IT-Department, no consistent IT-planning
- Existing software no longer supported



Before Migration – Pros and Cons

Pros

- Cost
- No license tracking
- All relevant languages

Cons

- Communication with Partners
- Employee acceptance
- Templates
- Financial tools and plugins

Return on Investment

	OpenOffice.org	MS Office
First Year		
Licenses	0	6600
Training	6000	1500
HW-Upgra	0	0
Total	6000	8100
Second Year		
Licenses	0	0
Training	0	0
HW-Upgra	0	0
Total	0	0
Third Year		
Licenses	0	0
Training	1000	500
HW-Upgra	0	0
Total	1000	500
Year Four		
Licenses	0	0
Training	0	0
HW-Upgra	0	0
Total	0	0
Year Five		
Licenses	0	6600
Training	1000	500
HW-Upgra	0	0
Total	1000	7100
Total	8000	15700

What about

- Hardware costs
- Conversion costs
- Training costs



Before Migration – Roadmap

- Find, analyse and classify existing documents and templates (1 week)
- Convert / re-create templates (3 weeks)
- Convert active documents (1 week)
- Rollout and training (1 week)
- Second training (1 month later)
- Review (1 month later)



Migration – Documents / Templates

- Non-active documents left alone
 - Except password protected documents
- Conversion of active documents
 - Strange error in converted Excel documents
 - Multi-page tables
 - Macros
- Re-creation of mail merge documents and more complex financial models
- Re-creation of templates

- Multi-user install
 - MSI-packages
 - Clones
 - Software distribution system
- Support for multiple languages
 - Software in English
 - Proofing tools for E, F, D, Russian, Arabic
 - Restricted user accounts
- Training
 - First session
 - New templates

- First review showed generally high satisfaction
 - StarBasic not sufficient
 - Lack of application support
 - Stability
- Second training
 - Rapid adoption of a different way of working
 - MS Office has this feature ...
- Looking forward to SDK
 - Extend OpenOffice.org for financial applications
 - Financial functions
 - Financial data

- Positive experience
- Somewhat special circumstances
 - Very strong management support
 - Little legacy data
 - Little investment in MS Office templates, forms ...
- Need for extensions
 - SDK
 - Third party support
- Hope for an effective and mutually beneficial dialogue with fellow users and the development community

Questions?

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