


Migrating from Microsoft Office to OpenOffice.org/StarOffice

**by Frank Gamerdinger
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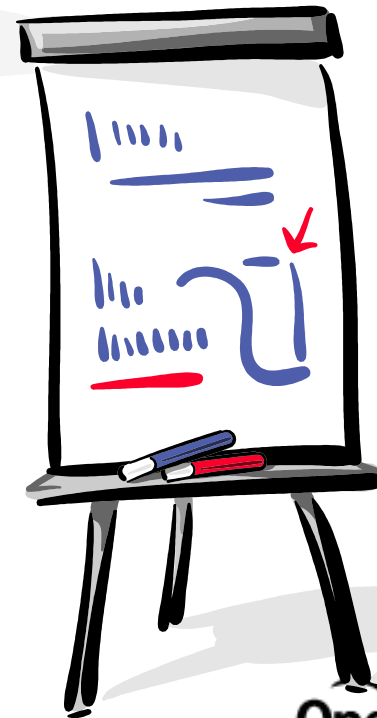


Who needs migration?

OpenOffice.org & StarOffice

- only the brave !(?)

- About the Speaker
- Migration: Why and How
- Filters
- Tips and Tricks
- Conclusions, Q&A



You are here.
Where do you want to be tomorrow?

About the Speaker

- Frank Gamerdinger is a StarOffice product specialist in the Desktop Solutions Group at Sun Microsystems, Inc.
- He assists strategic pilot installations of StarOffice and of Sun's desktop solution.
- Before joining Sun Microsystems he has worked for many years as an IT consultant.





Reasons to Migrate?


Open up your desktop strategy

- Costs
 - \$ StarOffice < \$\$\$ Microsoft Office
- Features
 - Multi-platform product + API (StarBasic, Java, C++)
 - Open XML file format, YOU own YOUR own data
- Strategy
 - Open-standards-based
 - Empower alternative desktop solutions
 - End-to-end technology



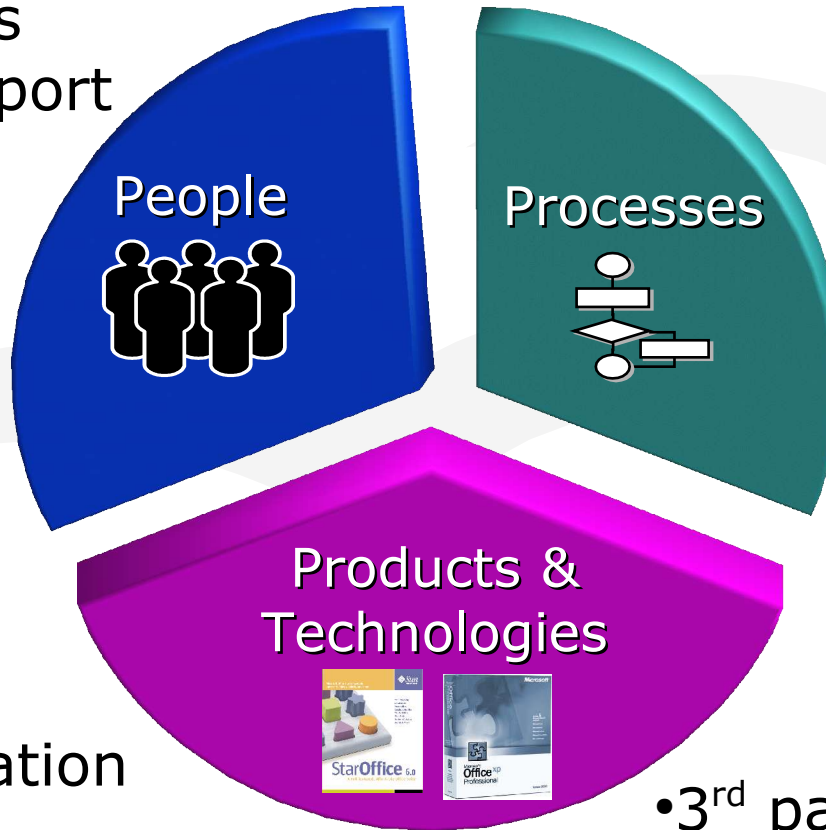
What does Migration Cover?

First guess...

- Conversion of documents and templates
 - IT infrastructure
 - Workflow
 - Macros and scripting solutions
 - Application integration
 - Employees
 - Training, processes, concerns
- 

It's All about PPP

- Management
- Stake holders
- Admin & support
- Users
- Customers
- Partners

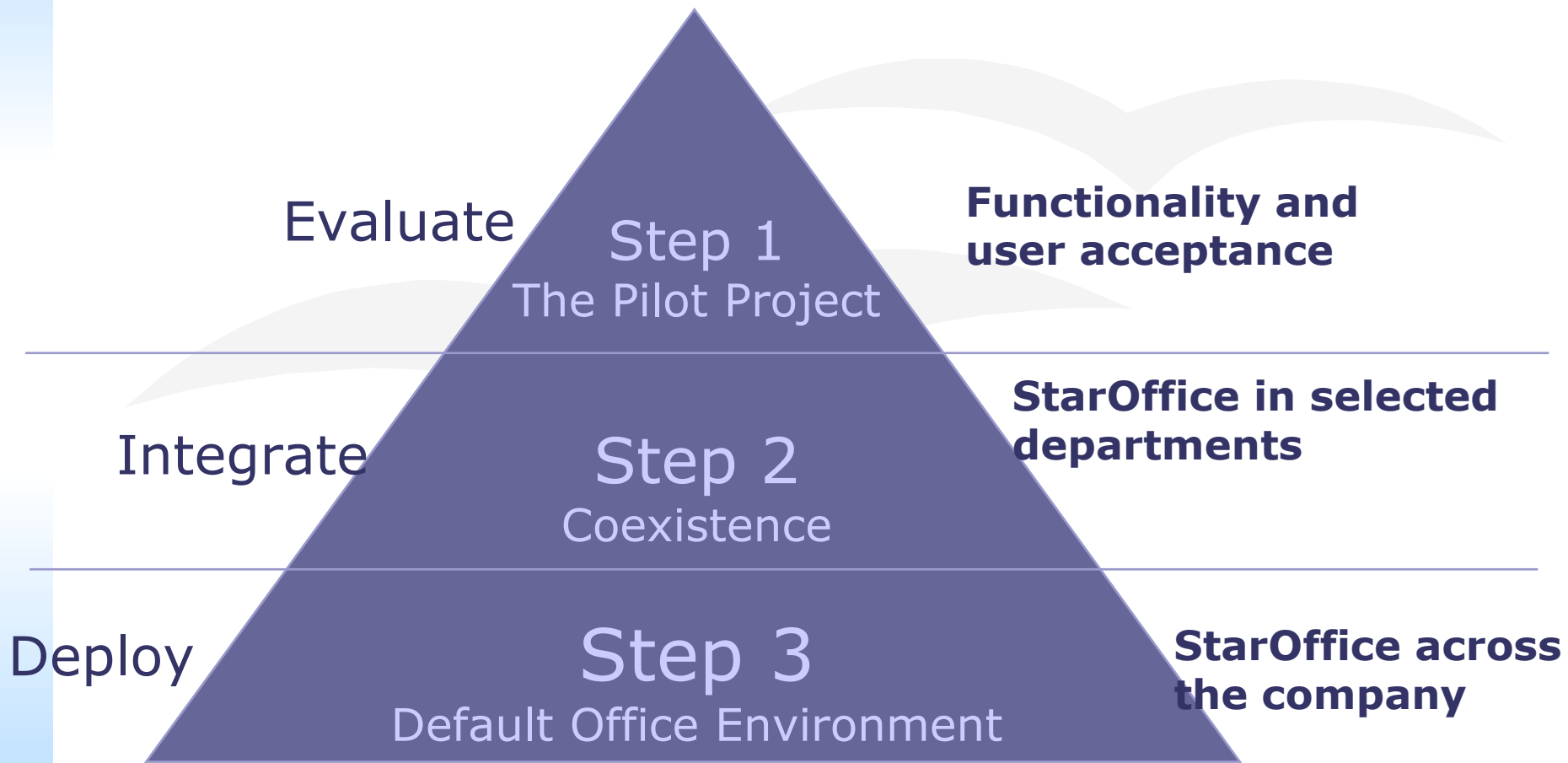


- Migration project
- Workflow impact
- Interdependencies
- Conflicts/exceptions

- Concepts
- Implementation
- Feature set
- User experience

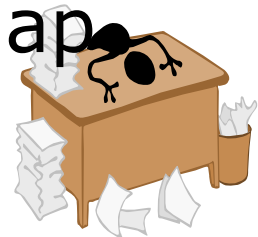
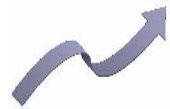
- 3rd party applications
- Deployment/maintenance

Migration – Step by Step



Migration Project

- Articulate your objectives
- Choose the right team
- Analyze
 - Understand your environment
 - Determine TCO/ROI
- Define migration strategy and roadmap
- Test and verify
- Execute on strategy and roadmap





Understand Your Environment

What is really out there?

- The right sample of documents
 - Complexity checklist
 - Interview key users
- Determine level of MS Office integration
 - 3rd party applications and plug-ins
 - External data sources
 - Document pre- and post-processing
- IT infrastructure
 - Deployment, maintenance, server components



Complexity Checklist

You might take a closer look at:

- Headers, footers content
- Tables, text frames and graphics
- Digital forms and publishing documents
- Semi graphics – Autoshapes
- Template and Sheet automation
- Used function categories and matrix formulas
- Database connections

Classify Documents

Time to clean up



- Discard - no longer used
- Archive - keep for legal reasons
- Convert - active documents
 - With/without manual corrections
 - Re-engineer complex solutions
- Read-only - passive sharing
- Legacy - long-term migration



StarOffice Costs - Benefits

Don't pay (the) Bill

- First step into different desktop OS
- Reduce desktop complexity
 - Java, XML, server centric solutions
- Reduce long term (license) costs
 - MS SA license model
 - All MS components must be licensed
- Consider all MS Office costs
 - Education, administration and migration on updates
 - Hardware upgrade costs



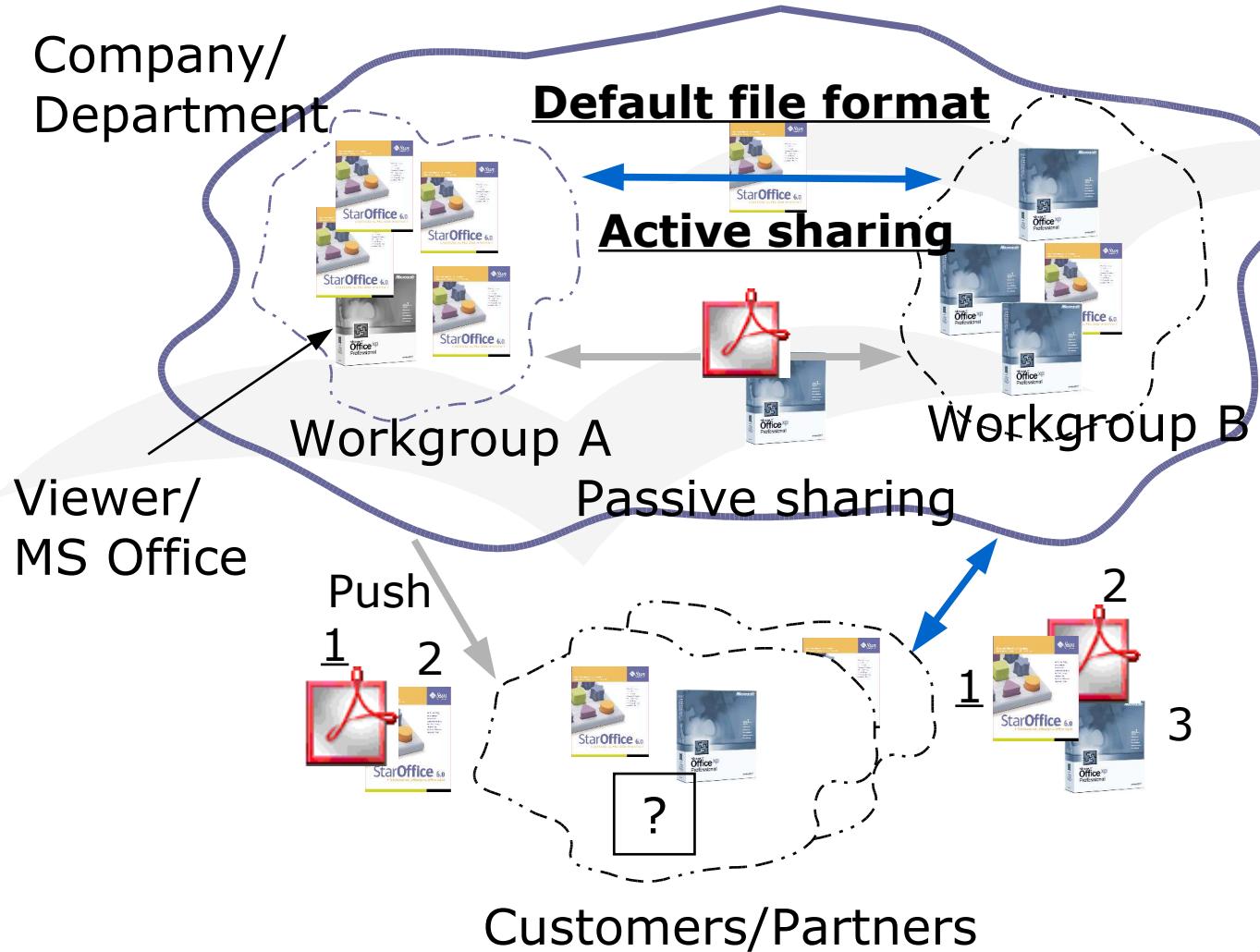
Migration – Strategy

What needs to be done?

- Read-only documents (PDF, HTML)
- Migration scope **Direct PDF export with StarOffice 6.1**
 - Workgroup, department, department
- Document interchange - Coexistence
- Migration of critical document set
- Migration of macros, plug-ins, 3rd party apps
- Training, help desk and conversion support
- Have (all) processes defined


Coexistence Scenario

Crossing boundaries



Migration – Coexistence

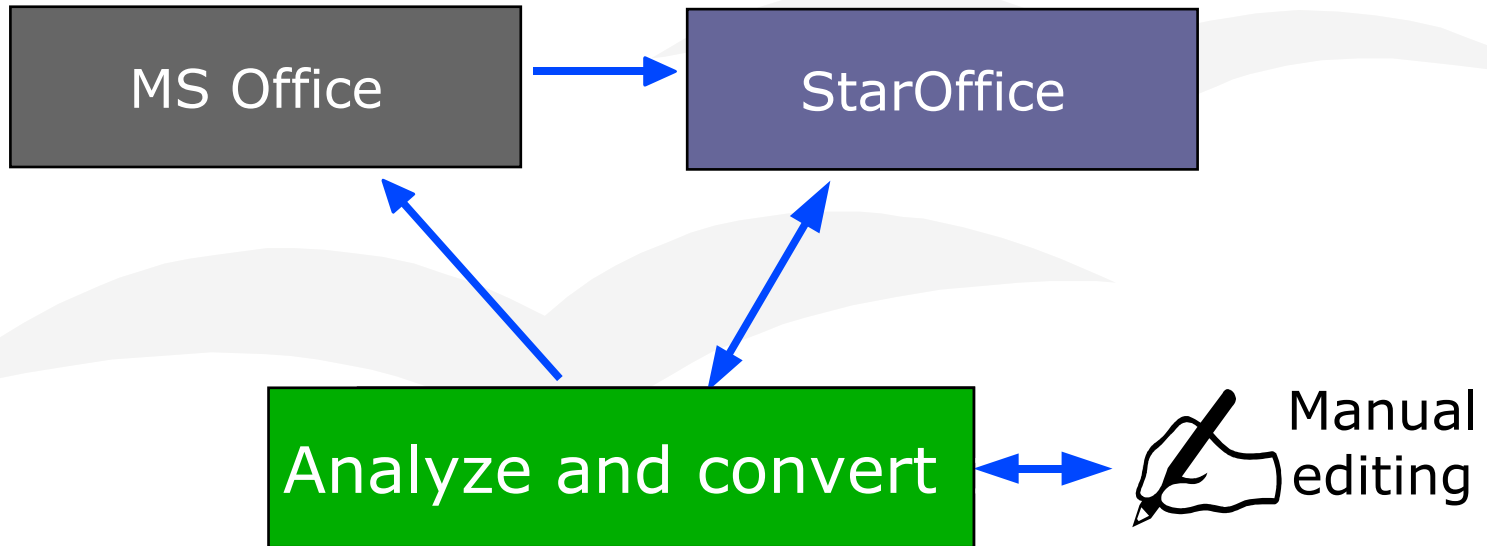
Define one standard

- Avoid round-trip conversions 
- Passive vs. active document sharing
- Specify a default file format
- Deploy Microsoft Office viewers
 - Support for MS Office 95/97/2000
- Retain copy of Microsoft Office

- Different course types
 - Web based and in-house e-learning
 - Instructor-lead, standard and custom courses
- Standard courses
 - Kick-start and transition
 - Advanced component details
 - Help-desk and administration
 - Application programming & integration

Document Conversion Service

You bring – We convert

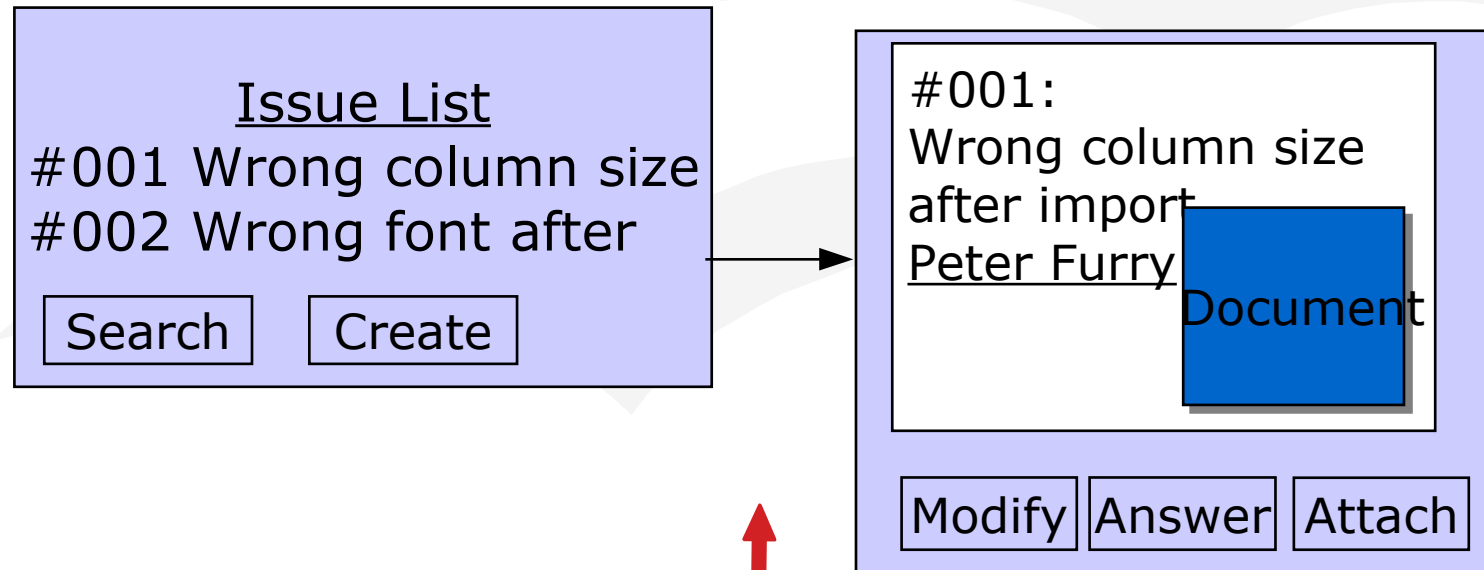


Submit documents:

- Batch convert
- Protected documents
- Critical or broken formatting
- Other file formats

Issue Tracking

Controlled way of interaction





Two Offices

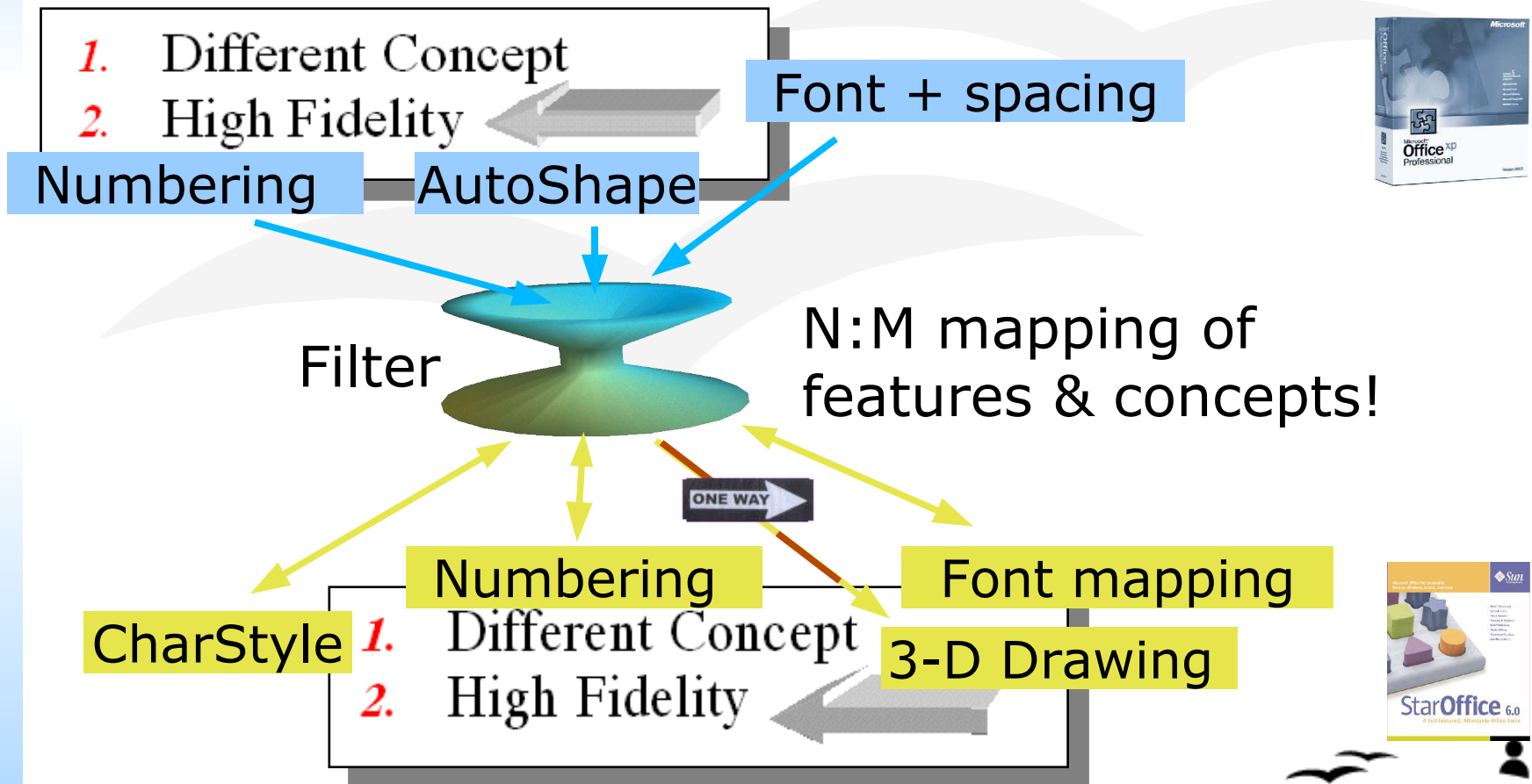
Peers – not clones

- Different technologies
 - AutoShapes vs. drawing objects
 - Formatting attributes and styles
- Different concept
 - Document templates as general resource stores, vs. fine-grained file resource stores
 - Mail merge documents vs. unified data source
 - Application specific UI vs. integrated UI
- Different feature set and implementation

Import – Export Magic

It's not a trick...

Great improvement with StarOffice 6.1



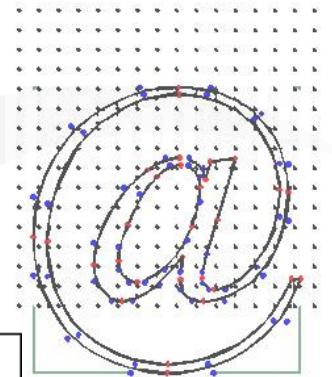


Import/Export Filters

Latest – Greatest

- Data is retained – layout may differ
- Better feature mapping on import than on export
- No direct support for password protection
- Best results with Office 97/2000/XP documents
- Apply latest StarOffice product patch
 - <http://sunsolve.sun.com>

- TrueType on all platforms
- Map MS fonts to metrically equivalents

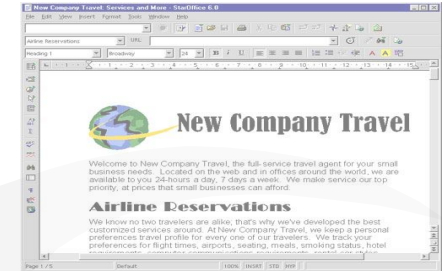


<i>Font Win32</i>	<i>Font Unix</i>
MS Sans Serif	MS Sans Serif Andale Sans UI
<u>WinDings</u>	StarSymbol <u>WinDings</u>
Arial	Arial Albany
Times New Roman	Times New Roman Thorndale
Courier New	Courier New Cumberland
Comic Sans MS	Comic Sans MS Kidprint



- Verify conversion success
 - Consult “feature mapping guide”
 - Keep the original document for a moment
- Prepare source documents before conversion
- Use soft formatting, use styles!
 - Single place to fix
- Use common fonts
 - Core publishing fonts map automatically

- Verify page format
- No page break in tables
- Character styles in lists
- Different default indents and spacing
- Form fields map as controls

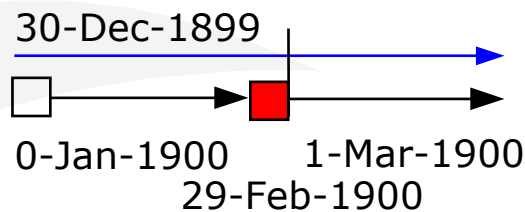




- Max. spreadsheet size
- Excel 29-Feb-1900
 - Bug or not a bug ?
- Controls import as drawing objects
- View settings
- Different chart feature set
- Right-aligned text

31998	14.10.2001	Automobil	Carbu
31999	14.10.2001	Alimentatie	Cora
32000	21.10.2001	Automobil	Carbu
32001	21.10.2001	Salvare	
32002	28.10.2001	Automobil	Carbu
32003	28.10.2001	Alimentatie	Cora

Max 32000 Rows





- Constant arrays

- `sum({1;2;3})`  `sum()` #NAME

- Optional parameters

- `func(;a1)`  `func(;a1)` #Err:511

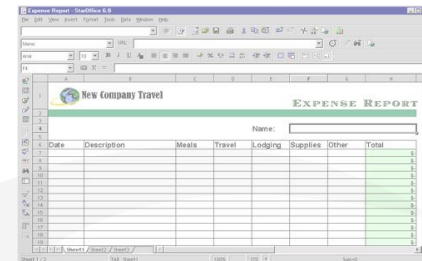
- Cell range names

- | | |
|----|----|
| 12 | 45 |
| 56 | 89 |

<code>=SUM(topleft:botright)</code>



`=SUM(#NAME!(topleft,botright))`

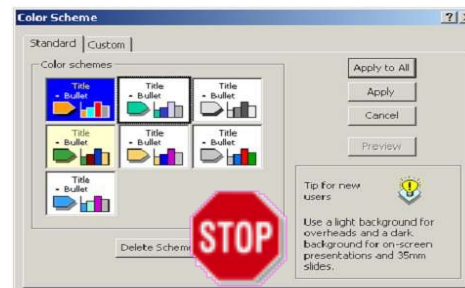


Use FindErr macro to locate!

- Error codes & messages are different



- Verify object shadows
- Object attributes:
 - Gradient fill
 - Borders and lines
- Headers/footers vs. master slide
- No color schemes

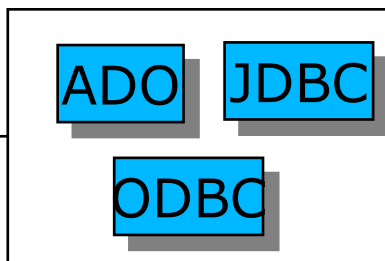




- AutoShapes vs. draw objects
- “on mouse over” vs. “mouse click”
- Narration not imported
- Different naming of effects
 - Slide transition
 - Animation effects

StarOffice: Great Unified Theory

- MySQL
- Oracle
- Access
- MS SQL
- ...



Text
Adabas

AddressBook
Spreadsheet

- Outlook
- OutlookEx
- Mozilla
- WindowsAB

Universal Data Access

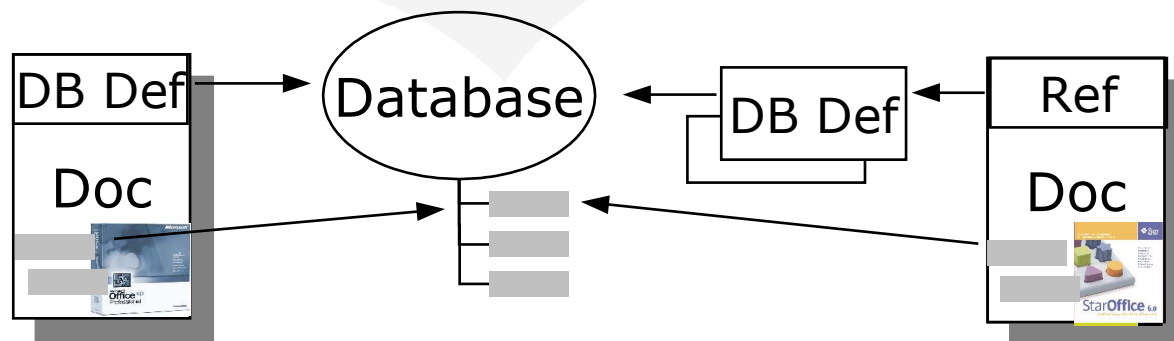
Identifier	Type	Address	Annote	Author	Booktitle	Chapte
SAU99	I	Kaarst-Büttg		Sautter, Ka		
SEE98A	I	Kaarst-Büttg		Seeboerger		
BCR99A	I	München		Borges, Mal		
STA99	I	München		Staas, Diete		
ESS99A	I	Düsseldorf		Esser, Henr		

Record 1 of 11*

Document

Write once – Send everywhere

- Different concepts
 - Document centric vs. user centric configuration
- Fields migrate
- Data sources need redefinition



*Global/user
configuration*

- Migrate data to different DBMS
- Redefine data sources (user/global)
- Query -> copy as text, use Query Builder
- Form -> document + controls
 - No tabular display support or OLE controls
- Report -> recreate **Report generator with StarOffice 6.1**
 - Mail merge report or scripting solution



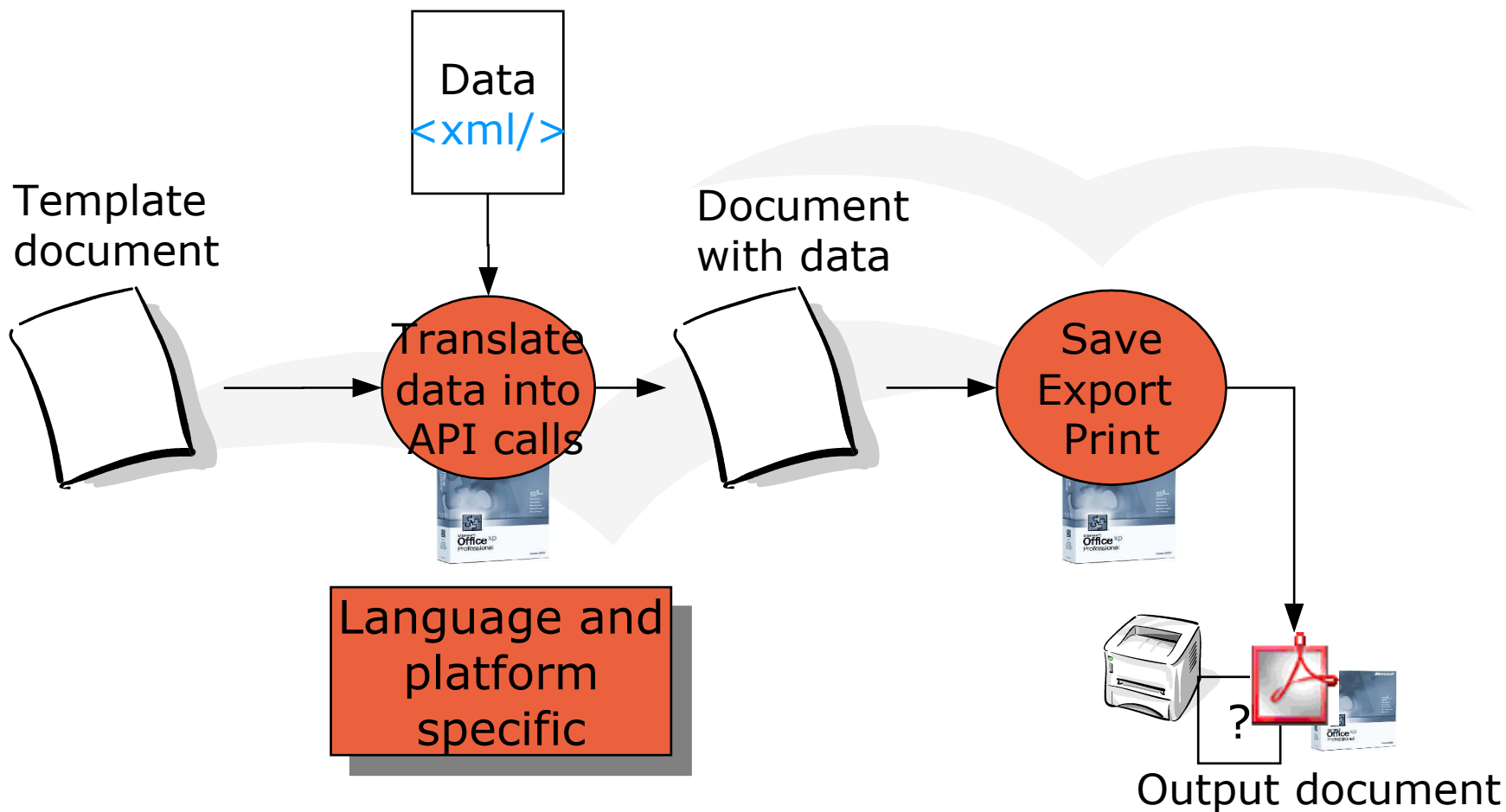
- StarOffice Basic is subset of VBA
- Multi language and platform independent
- StarOffice API:
 - StarBasic, Java and C++ mapping
 - OLE Automation on Windows
- Extend StarOffice with add-in functionality in Java
- Embed StarOffice into applications

SDK is available
with StarOffice 6.1

```
public class Connection {  
    protected XMultiComponentFactory mxRemoteFact  
    protected XComponentContext mxRemoteContext;  
    protected Connection(XComponentContext remote  
        mxRemoteContext = remoteContext;  
        mxRemoteFactory = remoteContext.getService  
    )  
  
    public Object createObject(String name, Object  
        throws com.sun.star.uno.Exception {  
        return mxRemoteFactory.createInstanceWith  
            name, args, mxRemoteContext);  
    }  
}
```

Document Processing - API

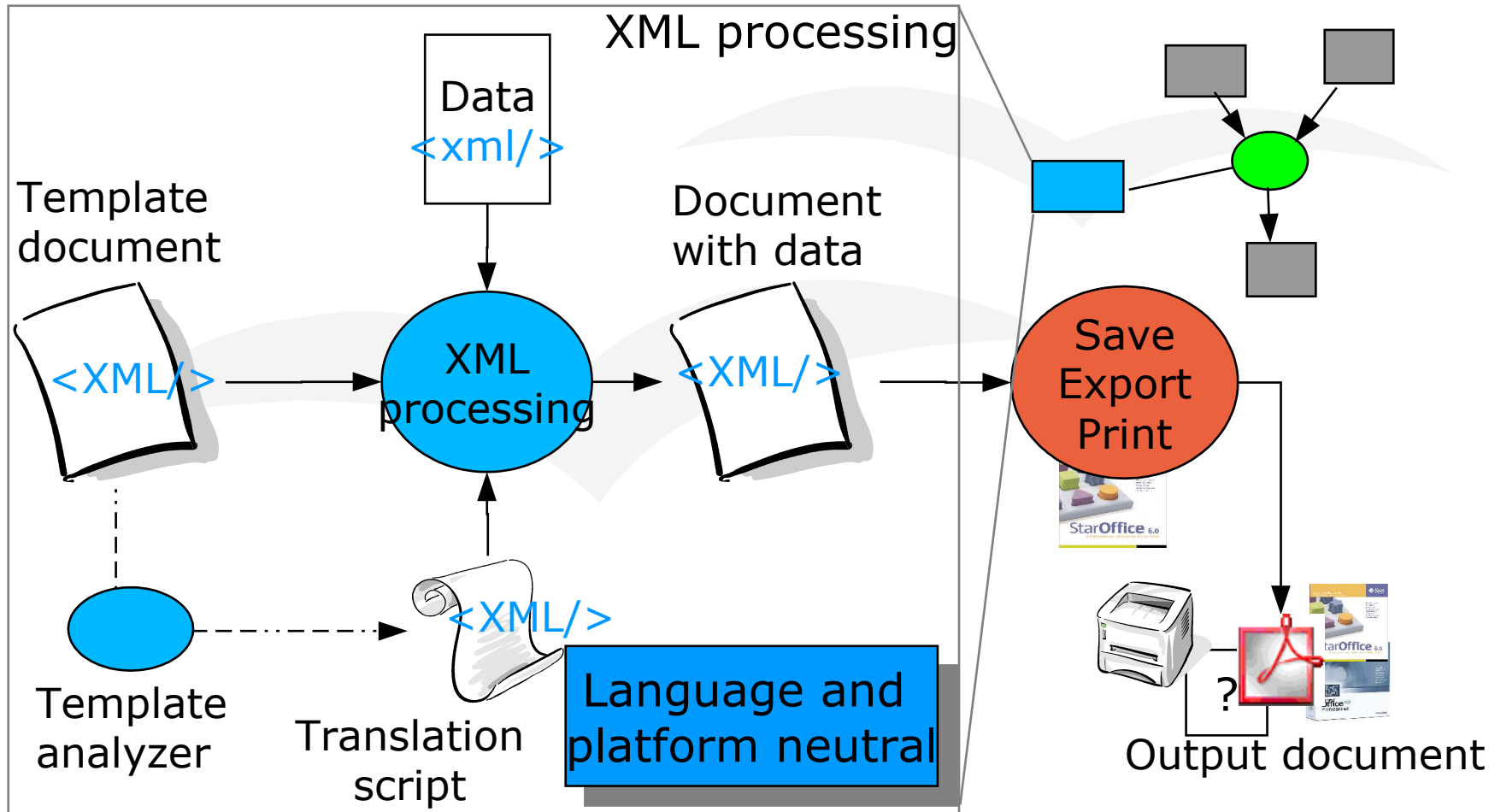
The old way



Language and platform specific

Document Processing – XML

Think differently – Process XML



Where to Start?

It is all written down...

- The Migration Guide
 - Migration Overview
 - Migration Strategy Outline
 - Converting Templates and Documents
 - Converting Data Sources
 - Coexistence Strategies
 - Feature Comparison and Mapping Guide
- Ask the experts



Conclusions

Still one slide to go

- Carefully plan your migration
- It's more than features and file formats
- Refer to Migration Guide
- Run a pilot
- StarOffice and filters are maintained on regular basis
- Successful migration is reality



Remember One Thing...

You are not alone!

- Visit OpenOffice.org
 - Browse mailing lists (dev@, discuss@)
 - Search or submit a bug/RFE through IssueZilla
 - Understand the base technology
 - Be a part of it – get involved!
- Approach a Sun Partner or Sun directly

