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OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE (OSS) IN LIBRARY: AN OVERVIEW

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Abstract:
Today's technology is web based technology. Now all the member/staff/faculty use internet, through the computer, mobile phone or etc. That's why it is easy to handle the computer operating system. Library automation is one part of the new technology and the automation is depending among the software. For ex. open source software, free software and Commercial software. This paper describes and discusses various open source software free available for the library automation. The results indicate that different types of open source software are better for different types of commercial library software's as their goals and achievements are different. Open source software use through the license copy.

Keywords: Open Source Software, Library Automaton, Library Software, Drupal, Features of Open Source.

Introduction:

Open Source Software is the software created by programmers who want to share their source code, which is part of a program that is readable by anyone who finds it useful. According to Wikipedia "Open source software (OSS) is computer software that is available in source code from for which the source code and certain other rights normally reserved for copy right holders are provided under a software license that permits users to study, change and improve the software".

"Open source refers to the software in which the source code is freely available for others to view, amend and adapt. It is maintained by a team of developers cutting across the institutional and national boundaries".

-Richard poynder.

Open source software is the best option for library automation. Many types of OSS are available in the market such as KOHA, DSpace, NewGenlib, Joomla, Moodle, Evergreen, PMB Greenstone. These software are available free of cost. Various problems are to be faced with the commercial vendors regarding their maintenance and annual rates, also the integrated software available in market cost in lakhs. To cope up with the need of college librarians should adopt the new technology tools to provide right information at the right time. That's why save the time of the reader.

In general open source is the free access to the design, development of the source code of particular software open source, the license of a program must guarantee the right to read, redistribute, modify and use it freely.

Open Source Software is software that allows user's access to its source code. It allows users to modify the program according to need and to develop new code that improves the application. Many times it is thought that OSS is free of cost, while this is sometimes the

case, the cost of OSS is often found in support services rather than in product acquisition. This fact sheet provides information about the value and potential cost associated with adopting Open Source Software discusses the relationship between Open Source Software and open government and provides questions to be asked when evaluating Open Source Software.

What is Open Source Software?

Open Source Software is software like any other, however it is distinguished by its license, or terms of use, which guarantees certain freedoms, in contrast to closed proprietary software which restricts these rights. Open Source Software guarantees the right to access and modify the source code and to use reuse and redistribute the software, all with no royalty or other costs. In some cases, there can be an obligation to share improvements with the wider community, thus guaranteeing global benefit.

UNIX:

UNIX is the first stage of open source. In the year 1950 to 1960, Computer technology and software was introduced to work in the educational and special industrial institutions.

Open source Software Licensing:

A license defines the rights and obligations that a licensor grants to a license. Open source licenses grant licensees the right to copy, modify and redistribute source code.

OSS Attributes:

1. Source code must be included.
2. Distribution of license.
3. License must be technology-neutral.
4. License must be specific to a product.
5. Integrity of the author's source code.

Cost of Open Source Software:

Open Source Software and its supporting code are generally free of cost to download, use, and modify.

Ranganathan's five laws VS Open Source Library Software:

Mentor Cana used the term 'Software' as a basic element as Ranganathan's basic elements is book. Both book and software contains objective knowledge.

Type	1st law	2nd law	3rd law	4th law	5th law
Book	Books are for use	Every reader his/her book	Every book it's reader	Save the time of the reader	Library is growing organism
Software	Software is for use	Every use his or her software	Every software it's user	Save the time of the user	A software library is a growing organism

(Source http://www.kmentor.com/socio-tech-info)

Features of Open Source:

1. **Free circulation:** Any user can use Open Source Software and pass it on as often he or she wishes.
2. **Availability of source code:** The low cost Software is available with its source code.

Some Open Source Library Software:

Open Source Software is computer software for which the source code and certain other rights normally reserved for copyright holders are provided. This permits uses to use, change and improve the software, and to redistribute it in modified or unmodified from.

1. **Moodle:**

   The word Moodle was originally an acronym for which is mostly useful to programmers and education theorists. Moodle was created by Martin Dougiams, a web communication technology administrator at Curtin University, Australia who has graduate degree in Computer science and education. The word Moodle is actually an acronym for Modular. Object-oriented Dynamic learning environment, although originally the M stood for 'Martin's named after Martin Dougiamas, the original developer.

   Moodle has been evolving since 1999. The Moodle version is 1.9.7., which was released in November 2009. It has been translated into 80 different languages. Moodle is a software package for producing Internet-based courses and web sites.

   Features:

   1. Activities.
   2. Resource types.
   3. Question types.
   4. Data field types.
   5. Graphical themes.
   6. Content filters.

2. **Brihaspati:**

   Brihaspati software establish in 2008 in India. The organization is dedicated to developing high quality, user friendly software products for all platforms, to provide full service for affordable off share web site design, for Open Source Software.

   Brihaspati is implemented in Jawa using Turbine, an open source framework, as secure web application. In the current distribution, we have English, French, Hindi, Bangla and Marathi as supported languages.

   Features for all users:

   (Admin, Instructor, Student, Author).

   Anybody can access all these features:

   1. Calculator.
   2. Glossary.
   3. Search engine.
   4. Calendar.
   5. Repository browser.
   6. Task manager.

3. Plone:

   Plone is a free and open Source content Management System built on top of the zope application server plone can be cased for in principle any kind of website, including blogs, internet sites, web shops and internal websites. The plone project was begun in 1999, by Alexander Limi, Alan Runyan and Vidar Andersen. The first version was released in 2001. The increase in community led to the creation of the annual plone conference in 2003, which is still running today.

Features:

1. In line editing.
2. Working copy support.
3. Link.
4. Reference integrity checking.
5. Automatic locking and unlocking, collaboration and sharing .
6. Work flow capabilities.
7. Authentication back-end.
8. Full text indexing of word and PDF documents.
9. Collections.
10. Wiki support.

4. **Greenstone:**

Greenstone is produced by the New Zealand Digital library project at the University of Waikato, and has been developed and distributed in cooperation with UNESCO and the human info in Belgium. It developers received the International federation fir information processing's 2004 names award for contributions to the awareness of social implications of information technology, and the need for an holistic approach in the use of information technology that takes account of social implications.

Features:

1. Small bronze star in the top right corner of a page indicates that the content is featured.

(Krishnamurthy, M. 2007).

5. **SCORM: (Sharable Content Object Reference Model).**

SCORM Software located in India Ahmadabad Maduvan Infotech Pvt. Ltd.

MINFO started its full flagged operation in 1995, and has undertaken mission critical projects and product development on niche technology domains for global and Indian orients to their complete satisfaction.

Features:

Three types of user registration:

Open, Approval, Required or closed

1. Publish SCORM catalog.
2. Launch and track courses.
3. E-learning software keeps track of bookmark.
4. Scores and results of individual questions.
5. Online reports.
6. Full support for SCORM 1.2.
7. Place learners in groups.
8. Easy to use.
9. Customizable.'
10. Upgradeable.
11. Multilingual.

6. Caroline:

Caroline is an open source e-learning and e-working platform allowing teachers to build and collaborative activities and the web. Translated into 35 languages, carline has a large worldwide user and developer community.

Features:

1. Publishing documents and files accessible to the users.
2. Creating directories and un-directories together files.

3. Creating hyperlinks and building your own HTML pages.

Conclusion:

Today's age is of information explosion. It demands all the librarians to organize and provide right information to the right user at the right time. The present paper discusses basics of Open Source Software and how libraries can be utilized by using Open Source Software. In today's world, the role of library software cannot be neglected in the field of software development.

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