

Openforum europe

**Open competitive choice
for IT users**

Openforum europe
open, competitive choice for IT users

Mel McIntyre

- Founder and manager of OpenApp, IT service company in Dublin, Ireland since 2002
- Director at OpenForum Europe – OFE Ireland partner
- 18 years at Amdahl Corporation – the original 'alternative' to big blue iron (IBM in '70s)
- 3 years Rise Technology – Silicon Valley Startup uProcessor design

**Who
are
OFE**

- ♦ European based - offices in Brussels, London
- ♦ Not-for-profit
- ♦ Independent of any organisation
- ♦ Business focused, non-evangelical

We actively support . .

- ♦ Open (verifiable) Standards
- ♦ Wider use of the Open Source /Free Software business model
- ♦ Avoidance of lock-in through 'Openness'

Companies – current members

- Deloitte
- IBM
- Google
- Olswang
- AMD
- Fujitsu
- HP
- Oracle,
- Red Hat
- SUN
Microsystems
- Unisys

Organisation partners

- **FSFE** – Free Software Foundation Europe
- **ESOMA** – European Software Market Association
- **FFII** - Foundation for a Free Information Infrastructure
- **ODF Alliance** – open documents
- **OBOOE** - Open Source Business Organisations of Europe – SME focus
- **OSI** – Open Society Initiative - public policy to promote democratic governance, human rights, and economic, legal, and social reform.

Country partners

- ◆ Open Advantage- Birmingham UK
- ◆ Open Skills Initiative - UK
- ◆ OpenIreland
- ◆ OSL (Denmark)
- ◆ OpenForum France

Other memberships and partnerships are under discussion.

We would welcome a US Associate or Partner

**What do
OFE do**

Core Funded Programmes

- Core portal and services including news feeds and comments
- ♦ Government based lobbying and contact programme, particularly focused on the EC and European Parliament.
- ♦ Weekly news digest and analysis, white papers
- ♦ Three Monthly Executive Councils
- ♦ Expansion of its Partner programme, both at national, European and global levels.

Special interest groups - Sigs

- ♦ Chaired by volunteer experts drawn from members and partners.
- ♦ Core think tanks on specific issues - may include non OFE input.
- ♦ Recommendations on OFE strategy and initiatives, which it will then drive

Special interest groups - Sigs

- ♦ **Standards** - Formal input to European Interoperability Framework v2 - EIF2
- ♦ **Open and Collaborative Internet** – policy issues
- ♦ **Legal** - Legal conference in London
- ♦ **Solution Delivery** – highlight enterprise success
- ♦ **Education** – current UK focus
- ♦ **SMEs** – OBOOE

EIF V2.0 -The Good News

- Inspires National Interoperability Frameworks
- Pragmatic 'Openness continuum'
- Defines Open Standards and specifications
- Maintains integrity of definition inc IPR
- Reinforces role of OSS
- CAMSS (Common Assessment Method for Standards and Specifications) draft

EIF V2.0 -The Bad News

- Weak compliance tools.
- Specialist terms and overwhelming detail.
- Weak on Interoperability in the Internal Market.
- Overlap with other programmes
- Little sharing of content and best practice.

Sponsored Programmes

- ♦ A six monthly project on **monitoring Tenders** for preference to named products.

Sponsored Programmes

- ◆ An **“Open Parliament”** *Petition*
 - ◆ support of identified MEPs
 - ◆ citizens limited to communicate in only one format, and one proprietary program.

Open Parliament

Have your say - Open democracy in action

Open Parliament



Join **5514** Europeans in signing our petition.

EU Petition Synopsis

Citizens and stakeholder groups should not have to use the software of a single company in order to communicate with their elected officials or participate in the legislative process.

All companies should be given the chance to compete freely for contracts to supply ICT services to the European Parliament.

I am a citizen of the EU, and I want the European Parliament to adopt the use of open standards and to promote interoperability in the ICT sector.

We believe that the current situation, where the European Parliament's ICT runs on proprietary software that is not interoperable with that of other vendors, where therefore citizens and stakeholder groups wishing to participate in the legislative process are forced to use the products of a single company, is in conflict with the first article of Chapter 1 in the Treaty of the European Union. An example of this is the live Web streaming from the European Parliament's plenary sessions – aimed at improving communication with citizens and insight into democratic processes – which will only work with Windows Media Player. [...Read the Full Petition](#)

Name ■

Family name(s) ■

E-mail address ■

Keep me updated.

Select this box to be kept informed of new actions and updates on how the campaign progresses (see [privacy policy](#))

Country ■

Show me as anonymous

Do not publicly show my name, country and message.

Sign the petition

home

tell a friend

contact

news

petition

we support this initiative

news

"Locked in"
Conference at
European Parliament
2008-04-11

Open Parliament
articles in Polish
2008-03-20

signatories

Paolo Rossi, Italy

Ana-Maria Radulea,
Romania

Alexis Kozan, France

Liévin Chemin,
Belgium

Christophe Grenier,
France

Sarah Fautré, Belgium

thomas Giry, France

recently joined...

Sponsored Programmes

- ♦ **Briefings** held in Brussels - Smaller, more regular *Round Tables*.
- ♦ *Latest, keynoted by Commissioner Kroes, on Open Standards and Competition attracted unprecedented worldwide press comment*

**“ I know a smart business decision when I see one –
choosing open standards is a very smart business
decision indeed”**

Neelie Kroes

European Commissioner for Competitive Advantage

10th June 2008, OFE Briefing, Brussels

Sponsored Programmes

- ♦ Invited by the EC and Portuguese Presidency to respond on behalf of the **European Open community** to the Ministerial declaration at eGovernment Conference in Lisbon.
- ♦ Invited by EC to present on OSS and SMEs in Oulu, Finland
- ♦ Completion of the TOFE networked portal project, part funded by the EC
- ♦ Support for a number of UK and European conferences

Major Projects - ODFA

- Leadership of the ODF Alliance programmes in Europe, including coordination of the parallel pro ODF and No OOXML activities.
- Will continue beyond the end of the current ISO Voting process on OOXML,
- Turn the focus from 'anti OOXML' to 'pro ODF', and support for truly open standards.

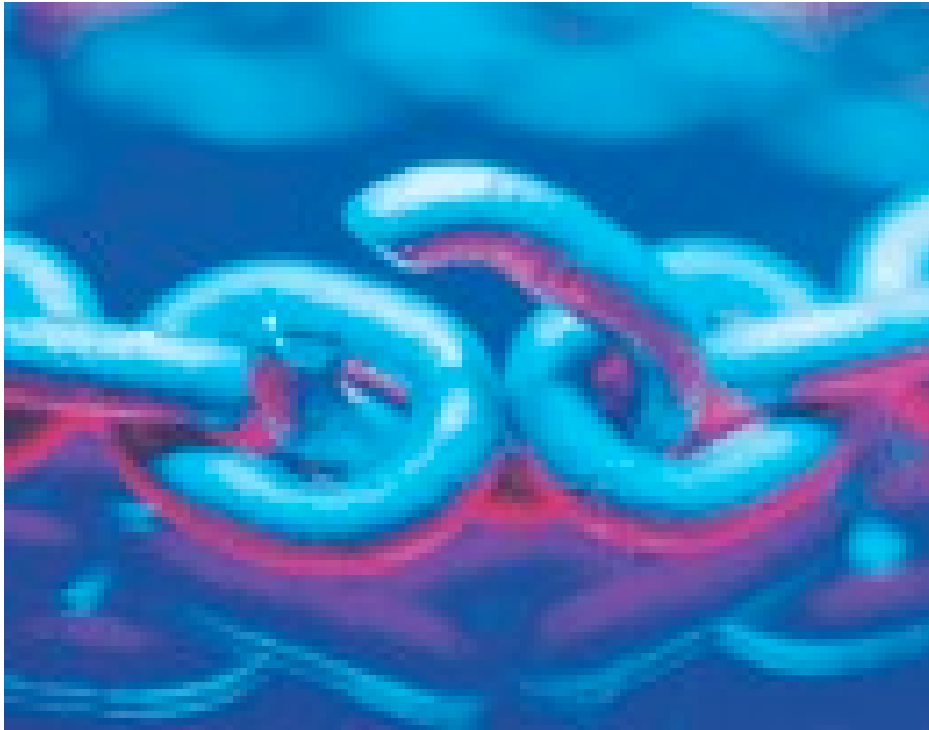


Certified Open[®]

- A service under development – in test
- Certified Open[®] is designed to evaluate technical and commercial lock-in.
- It promotes fair competition and increases the ability of suppliers to compete effectively in the provision of software, hardware and services



Certified Open[®]



- **User, technical, business views tested**
- **Rigorous but non-complex**
- **All software models, hardware, solutions**
- **Current solutions**
- **New procurements**

It's all about freedom

but it isn't necessarily free



Principles

Freedom to Innovate

Freedom to Integrate

Freedom to Participate

Freedom to Leave



Tools

Open Source

Open Standards

Collaboration

**Thanks for the huge personal
commitment to OFE**

Graham Taylor

Bob Blachford

Basil Cousins

Stephen Aitken

More Information

OpenForum Europe

www.openforumeurope.org

Certified Open®

www.certifiedopen.com

Open Parliament

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OpenIreland

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**Open
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An OpenForum Partner