



## OpenOffice.org (OO.o) – February 2009

### Background:-

OpenOffice.org is both a product and an open-source project. Both have been in existence since October 13, 2000. OpenOffice.org 1.0, the product, was released on April 30, 2002.

OpenOffice.org's Mission Statement is...

*To create, as a community, the leading international office suite that will run on all major platforms and provide access to all functionality and data through open-component based APIs and an XML-based file format.*

The OpenOffice.org project is primarily sponsored by Sun Microsystems, which is the primary contributor of code to the Project. Our other major corporate contributors include Novell, RedHat, RedFlag CH2000, IBM, and Google. Additionally over 450,000 people from nearly every curve of the globe have joined this Project with the idea of creating the best possible office suite that all can use. This is the essence of an "open source." community!

### Modules:-

The following Oo.o modules and there MSOffice equivalents:-

|         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| Write   | Word            |
| Calc    | Excel           |
| Impress | PowerPoint      |
| Base    | Access          |
| Math    | Equation Editor |
| Draw    | Draw            |

### Compatibility:-

You will find similar functionality between packages, with OO.o being able to read most MSOffice files and save back in the original file format. The menu layout is different and your familiar tools will be grouped under different headings. OO.o say that their menus are more logical but after using MSOffice for 15 years , finding the right tool can be frustrating.

### Limitations:-

Microsoft Office and OO.o cannot run the same macro code. Microsoft Office uses VBA (Visual Basic for Applications) code, and OO.o uses Basic code based on the OpenOffice.org API (Application Program Interface) environment. Although the programming language is the same, the objects and methods are different.

If you use macros in one of the applications and want to use the same functionality in the other application, you must edit the macros. OO.o can load the macros that are contained within Microsoft Office files and you can then view and edit the macro code in the OpenOffice.org Basic IDE editor.

You can choose to preserve or delete VBA macros by opening a Microsoft Office document that contains VBA macro code. Change only the normal contents (text, cells, graphics), and do not edit the macros. Save the document as a Microsoft Office file type. Open the file in Microsoft Office, and the VBA macros will run as before.

### Benefits:-

It's FREE! and it is compatible with MSOffice.

### Other Programmes:-

MySQL is from the same stable, and is equivalent to SQL Server and Oracle