

OSS Watch Open Source Advisory Service 26 September 2003

OSS Watch – Open Source Advisory Service

- ? A web-based clearing-house for up to date information
- ? Conferences and workshops
- ? Focussed assistance for institutions and software projects considering open source
- ? Investigative reports and practical guidance

Web Provision: Open Source Software Solutions

? <http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/>

? info@oss-watch.ac.uk

? osswatch-announce@jiscmail.ac.uk

? **People:**

? **Manager: Sebastian Rahtz**

? **Communications: Randy Metcalfe**

? **Research: Rowan Wilson**

? **Research Technologies Service**

University of Oxford, 13 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6NN

Open Source Software (OSS) is software for which:

- ? The source code is available to the end-user
- ? The source code can be modified by the end-user
- ? The licencing conditions are intended to facilitate continued re-use and wide availability of the software, in both commercial and non-commercial contexts
- ? The cost of acquisition to the end-user is often minimal

'Open source is a development methodology;

Free Software is a social movement.'

Why choose open source?

- ★ **One of open source's biggest success stories**
- ★ **Total cost of ownership can be lower**
- ★ **Security through responsiveness, not obscurity**
- ★ **Data preservation**

What is available?

- ★ **Directory and Authentication software**
- ★ **Web servers**
- ★ **Scripts / CGI / Applications**
- ★ **Databases**
- ★ **Content Management Systems**

Directory & Authentication

- ★ **OpenLDAP**

- ★ **Kerberos**

- ★ **OpenSSL**

- ★ **mod_SSL**

Web (HTTP) Servers

- ★ **Apache** – the internet's most popular http server
- ★ **Jigsaw** – W3's HTTP server
- ★ **Jetty** – HTTP server and servlet container

Scripts / CGI / Applications

- ★ **PHP** – Hypertext Preprocessor
- ★ **Apache Tomcat** – jsp and java servlets
- ★ **Apache mod_perl** – stateful perl CGI
- ★ **Zope** – Fully featured application server
- ★ **Apache AxKit** – XML application server

Databases

- ★ **MySQL** – Most popular web-backend
- ★ **PostgreSQL** – More fully-featured than MySQL
- ★ **Xindice** – Native XML database using XPath

Content Management Systems

- ★ **Plone** – based on Zope Application Server
- ★ **PHP-nuke**
- ★ **OpenCMS**

That's too many packages

★ **L**inux +

★ **A**pache +

★ **M**ySQL +

★ **P**HP (or **P**ython or **P**erl)

Web Provision: Open Source Software Solutions

? <http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/>

? info@oss-watch.ac.uk

? osswatch-announce@jiscmail.ac.uk

? **People:**

? **Manager: Sebastian Rahtz**

? **Communications: Randy Metcalfe**

? **Research: Rowan Wilson**

? **Research Technologies Service**

University of Oxford, 13 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6NN