

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE IN LIBRARIES

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INTRODUCTION

In the age of 21st century, the computer telecommunication technology, internet really have brought the information revolution. The availability, use, access of their technologies may be different according to the countries, national economy and information policy. UNESCO has correctly identified the information revolutions that is carefully sweeping the world and has judiciously assented the impact that is likely to make on every sphere of life with the beginning of the 21st century. Obviously the libraries and information center with so exception and then they will also be equally influential by the global information revolution. Many libraries has already been introduced to provide information service such as internet access, CD-Roms wide area network and multimedia with audio visual facilities, open source software is gaining importance . The traditional library could be sometimes an inhibiting environment for students, and its structure can be pressurizing and intimidating. Whereas the virtual environment, encourages freedom of expression and students are more open to communicate and express opinion and would offer thrive in there environments.

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

In 1997, Eric Raymond published. The cathedral and the Bazaar, a reflective analysis of the hacker community and free software principles. The paper received significant attention in early 1998, and was one factor in motivating Netscape communications corporation to release their popular Netscape communicator internet suite as free software. The new term open source which was soon adopted by Bruce pernes . the open source initiative was founded in February 1998 to encourage use of the new term and evangelize open source principles open source software is the most prominent example of open source development

³⁴ Librarian , Vivekananda Mahavidyalaya, Burdwan, W.B.

DEFINITION

Open source software is software for which the source code is freely available . it means that anyone can access the source code and make change. It is available for all. It is not lock to a particular vendor you can download free of costs.

REASONS

The Top Four reasons (as provided by open source Business survey) individuals or organizations choose open source software are

1. Lower cost
2. Security
3. No vendor 'lock in' and
4. Better quality

The main advantage of this software is a good way to achieve penetration of the market. Companies that offer open source software are able to establish an industry standard . it has also to build developers fall empowered and have a sense of ownership of the end product. Moreover, lower costs of marketing and logistic services are needed for OSS. OSS also helps companies keep abreast of technology development.

USE OF OPEN SOURCE IN LIBRARY

In modern day, library use software for their essential activities i.e. housekeeping and information retrieval..

Association of Research Libraries stated, Libraries will create interoperability in the systems they develop and create open source software for the access, dissemination , and management of information.

Digital Library Federation (2004) of USA considers and advocates use of OSS in libraries in its draft report on the basis of fallowing reasons :-

- a) OSS is an economical alternative to libraries reliance upon commercially supplied software
- b) Oss is essential if libraries are develop software and systems that meet their patrons need.
- c) Ubiquitously available to libraries.
- d) Capable of being lailored to suit the needs and circumstances of individual libraries.
- e) Documented.
- f) Modified and corrected more effectively

OSS ALSO USE IN LIBRARIES BECAUSE

- a) It can motivate and empower systems librarians and related technical staff by encouraging creativity and positioning them to make a difference.
- b) We use the OSS in libraries irrespective of the type of size of the library.

NAME OF THE OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE IN LIBRARY

1. Koha
2. Open Book
3. Avanti
4. Open Biblio
5. Karuna

CONCLUSION

In our library field, librarian use open source software because we can available it free of cost. We also get the freedom to add new feature into the software librarian are not depended any particular vendor. It is the new opportunies for the development of library.

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 - b) <http://creativelibrarian.com/tibrary-oss/>