



OpenOffice.org Migration Story

Questions	Answers
Date:	8 th August 2004
Company / Organization Name:	Renton Swan & Partners
Type of Business:	Veterinary Surgeons
Address / Based in (Town/City):	Duns Berwickshire Scottish Borders
No. of Employees:	20
Year Established:	1985
Contact Name:	Rennie Gresham
Contact Email Address:	Hrgresham@stones.com
Your Operating System(s):	Win98 / 2000 (20) debian servers (3)
Version of OOo you migrated to:	1.0
Previous Office Suite (if any):	Lotus smartsuite / MS office
Where did you hear about OOo?	Watching since star office 5
Reason for Migrating to OpenOffice.org:	<p>Loss of support for Smartsuite database connectivity (postgresql) and the disadvantages of MS office as below</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cost up to £450, £250 possible with new box. Bundled packages as hidden cost / works is not office. Different versions home / Professional. Min will add over £100 to new box price 2) Built in obsolescence will require upgrade at more cost to be able to read documents from next version of office and can't always read own files between versions. 3) Isolation e.g. MS are moving towards xml file saving but own version. 4) Licensing, keys, codes, registration, holographic stickers, upgrades, patches, Annual licenses, Site licenses, OEM licenses (Only legal on one computer till it dies). Tracking and checking correct licensing costs time and money. Failure to ensure that only legal software is installed risks heavy fines (up to £10,000 fine per programme for illegal software ms office is up to 6 programmes) Who needs it?
How easy did you (or your users) find it to migrate?	Easy for installer (me). Easy for non users / smartsuite users. Spoilt MS users bit of a pain (have bespoke veterinary database)
Do you use any other Office Suite/Application and why?	1 copy Access for external database interpretation
Do you have any "wishes" for OpenOffice.org?	Own Database / Easy marketing package to allow OO to become the leading office software bar none.
What features in OOo do you like?	All of them?
What do you dislike about OOo?	Would like easier upgrade path uk dictionary templates etc / slow load time / occasional crash (Windows)
Anything else you'd like to say...	Openoffice is not free? I feel I have a moral obligation to support the project if I use it. However for those of us with little computer knowledge it is difficult to contribute. I give copies to everyone including local schools and councillors but a marketing package / idiots guide / optional logo's on documents would help.