

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Standards are of fundamental, critical importance to everyone who uses or develops information technology. However, when compared to the resources devoted to say, managing the software development lifecycle, there is surprisingly little attention paid to understanding and optimising standards or the standardisation process.

Now in its 6th year, Open Standards is an event that uniquely focuses on how to leverage IT standards with this year's theme being the valuable role played when open source software supports open standards. This value happens not because open source projects necessarily provide a perfect implementation, but because they can act as a transparent reference that benefits all stakeholders.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Across the board, IT standards are creating stable, low risk environments to implement solutions. Anyone responsible for influencing policy from public, private and academic sectors should consider attending.

CONFERENCE TUTORIALS

The conference includes half a day of classroom-style tutorials aimed at providing attendees with a task-oriented, small-group educational experience of specific skills and methodologies. Please specify your tutorial choice when you register.

CONFERENCE VENUE

The Grace Hotel
77 York Street, Sydney



The Grace Hotel is just 20 minutes from Sydney's International Airport and is right in the heart of the CBD. It occupies a prime position on the city block bordered by York, King and Clarence Streets.

ACCOMMODATION

- Grace Hotel - 77 York Street, Sydney
- Blacket Hotel - 70 King Street, Sydney
- Westin Hotels & Resorts - 1 Martin Place, Sydney
- Radisson Plaza Hotel - 27 O'Connell Street, Sydney

Please note: despite our best efforts, the conference program is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Updated information is available at : www.open-standards.com.au Please also check the notice board during the conference for last minute changes, cancellations and additions. Refer to the conference site for speaker biographies and following the conference, most proceedings will be available for downloading.

Wednesday October 29th

Track A Track B

9:30 Tutorials

Overview of XBRL
Rick Jelliffe - Topologi



The Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) is a language for the electronic communication of business and financial data which is "revolutionising business reporting around the world". Governments are using XBRL as a core part of their Standard Business Reporting initiatives and international companies are adopting XBRL for the interchange of performance data. This tutorial is a valuable introduction to XBRL instances and XBRL taxonomies for developers.

An Introduction to Document Engineering
Tim McGrath - UBL



Much of the business transacted on the Internet takes place through information exchanges that are made possible by using documents as interfaces. This tutorial is an introduction to the document engineering approach for understanding these documents and the business processes that use them. The objective is to enable attendees to gain the practical skills needed to analyse, design, and implement interoperable business documents.

12:30

Lunch Break - 1 hour

1:30 Opening Keynote Presentations



Greg Wilkins
Founder, Mortbay & CTO, Webtide

Greg Wilkins is the creator and lead developer of the highly regarded Jetty open source servlet server used by many commercial and open source projects. He has played a key role in developing and implementing standards.

2:15



Chris Messina
Vidloop

OAuth is a fast moving standard that is rapidly being adopted by some of the Web's major players. In addition to being one of OAuth's originators, Chris Messina has been heavily involved with Microformats, BarCamp and the Spread Firefox movement.

2:55

Coffee Break - 20 mins

3:15 Conference Sessions

Comparing Open Source and Open Standards
Ram Kumar - Sakthisoft



Open standards and open source are now becoming part of mainstream IT. This has started to place significant challenges and pressure on product vendors in the way they conduct their business in terms of building products and selling solutions. Though open source and open standards have been in the industry for over 10 years, there is still confusion between the two and their ROI and benefits they bring to the IT community. This presentation will compare open source and open standards for a clear understanding.

HTML5 - The Evolution of a Standard
Lachlan Hunt - Opera



The web is constantly evolving with new and innovative websites continually pushing the boundaries. While HTML 5 promises to substantially improve the next generation of web-based user interfaces, it is potentially the standard that will have direct consequences for more people than any other. Laclan Hunt has been heavily involved in the unusual evolution of the HTML 5 standard and will provide a unique insight into its development.

XML-based Document Standards
Gerald Goetz - Allette Systems



As publishing moves from the desktop to the web, the landscape for XML-based document standards continues to shift, though not necessarily in lockstep with technology. Given that documents often outlive the technology that creates them, making the right decision when adopting a document standard can create long term value for an organisation. This presentation will look at the options for XML-based authoring and content management, including DocBook, XHTML, DITA, OOXML and ODF plus various wiki options.

Annodex Case Study - The Creation of Open Specifications and Open Source Implementations
Silvia Pfeiffer - Vquence



In 2000, whilst working for the CSRIO, Silvia had the idea of using audio and video files to create videos webs that could be browsed from the comfort of a remote control. Now, eight years later, Web standards bodies and browser vendors are starting to adopt the Annodex standard for networked media that grew from Silvia's original ideas. This presentation will use Annodex as a case study for spreading an innovation through open specifications, open source implementations, community activities, and also the creation of an independent organisation (the Annodex Association).

4:40

Cocktail Party

Please come and join us for the cocktail party. The Open Standards 2008 cocktail party is an exclusive event for conference attendees to network or just enjoy a few drinks and canapés with industry peers and friends.

6:30

Thursday October 30th > Conference Sessions

Track A Track B

9:30 Conference Sessions

Open Data Standards for Better Business
Tim McGrath - UBL



The exchanging of business documents has been at the core of business for thousands of years. Computers and electronic documents have changed the way business is done, but some issues are the same. Businesses need to be in control of how their data is represented, so that they don't end up restricted in their operations. This presentation focuses on how open data standards are the key to this problem, returning choice to both big and small businesses.

Content Management Interoperability Standard - How Alfresco Leverages Open Source to Provide Open Standards
Alex Lee - Lateral Minds



The Content Management Interoperability Services (CMIS) promises to become the SQL for Content Management. The largest vendors, IBM, Microsoft and EMC have been joined by Alfresco, OpenText, Oracle and SAP to create working versions of the protocol. With the results of an interoperability session, this group of companies will submit this specification for standardization by OASIS. Alfresco released their implementation as Open Source. This presentation will discuss the implications of CMIS for the future of Enterprise Content Management.

10:55

Coffee Break - 20 mins

Openly Excited: Microsoft, Open Source and Open Specifications
Lawrence Crumpton - Microsoft

Microsoft's long history in the open standards community is not well known. However recent moves to engage with the open source community via Apache and Source Forge demonstrate that Microsoft is realising, like many organisations before them, that open models are good for business. This presentation will explain the value that Microsoft is realising through "open".

The Architecture Warfare Where Nobody Wins
Vish Viswanathan - CCANDC



No one disputes the need for disciplinary architecture based approaches, be it EA or SOA to bring order to the chaotic IT world. For many organisations this seems to be an insurmountable problem and in desperation they indiscriminately try to outsource the problem to someone else. This presentation questions the how, why and when will the industry learn to tackle the architectural chaos through open standards-based frameworks.

12:40

Lunch Break - 1 hour

ICE Project Case Study - Adhoc Standards
Peter Sefton - University of Southern Queensland



The Integrated Content Environment (ICE) is an open source and open standards based word processor developed at the University of Southern Queensland. With no single standard appropriate, ICE is positioned between a number of standards, notably OOXML, ODF and HTML. This case study will present the challenges and the adopting process used by the USQ in designing their own standard rather than an existing one.

Late Breaking Session

Open Standards has reserved this time for a late-breaking session.

2:30

Open Source meets Open Standards in Learning, Education and Training
Allyn J Radford - Learnilities Pty Ltd



Corporate and government sectors already have a history and a growing demand in Open Source and Open Standards. More recently, the motivation for these types of efforts within all levels of education and training have become sufficiently powerful to seed a vast range of new initiatives and changes. This presentation will focus on the success factors of Open Source and Open Standards and highlight the similarities between "Open" models in both software and content.

A Complete Software Development Process Using Open Source and Open Standards
Evan Leybourn - Looking Glass Solutions



By using open source software, organisations can lower their development cost, and can leverage off a world-wide support base to help achieve best practice. This presentation will look at the application end standards available to help project planning, resource distribution, staff communication, source control, database development, unit testing, issue tracking, compiling and distribution.

Beyond Design-by-Committee: How to Push Alternative Ideas through Open Standards and Open Source
Liming Zhu - NICTA & UNSW



As many standards are dominated by major industry players and burdened with heavy processes, it is increasingly difficult to revamp a standard or introduce new ideas into it. Such slow-adapting design-by-committee standards sometimes hurt industries. This presentation will explore how some lightweight open standards are introduced through non-traditional ways, from small industry coalitions to academic publications. These standards are often fully equipped with open source implementations to bootstrap their adoption.

Developing Your Own Standards
Nick Carr - Allette Systems



The value (or costs) of standards can be just as tangible when the standard is created by an informal group as when it is created by global agencies. While reduced costs and higher quality solutions are realistic objectives for informal standards initiatives the demands of the process should not be underestimated. This presentation will look at the practical issues involved in developing your own standards.

The Role of Architectural Principles and Standards in the Adoption of Open Source Software
Gopal Hariharan - SystemicLogic



Integrating components from different software providers can be made easier and more predictable through the use of some clear processes and a solid understanding of interoperability standards. This presentation will explore the issues required for governing integration of disparate software components.

Leveraging URLs
Rick Jelliffe - Topologi



As the complexity of the Web grows, so does the value of good governance. However as system dependencies become deeper and wider, independent verification of systems becomes increasingly difficult. This talk will explore how well thought out URLs and mash-ups can provide a powerful mechanism for the governance of complex systems and data.

3:10

3:30

4:10

Closing Panel

Recognising the intersection between Open Standards and Open Source.