Announcement of LibreOffice 7.1 Community

Italo Vignoli
Timeline

1985: Marco Borries releases StarWriter
1990: StarOffice with StarCalc & StarBase
2000: announcement of OpenOffice.org
2006: ODF (Open Document Format) 1.0
2010: announcement of LibreOffice
2014: ODF (Open Document Format) 1.2
2020: LibreOffice 7.0 with ODF 1.3 Draft
2021: LibreOffice 7.1 Community
LibreOffice: Product to Platform

• 2010: LibreOffice only for the Desktop
• 2020: LibreOffice for the Desktop, LibreOffice LTS optimized for Enterprises, LibreOffice Online for the Cloud, LibreOffice Mobile for Android & iOS, and LibreOffice for Chrome OS
• All these products, from different organizations, share the same engine, which is common to all modules
LibreOffice Technology

- LibreOffice Technology is the result of 10 years of development in the right direction
- Same processing engine common to all modules
- Based on a cleaned and refactored source code
- With a focus on code quality and consistency
- Supported by easy and extensive APIs
- The best open source platform for personal productivity tightly integrated on desktop, mobile and cloud
LibreOffice Technology Based SW

- Desktop (TDF, Red Hat & SUSE)
- Enterprise LTS (Collabora & CIB)
- Online / Cloud (Collabora & CIB)
- Android (Collabora)
- iOS & Apple Store (Collabora)
- Windows Store (CIB)
LibreOffice USP

- The best open source office suite ever, backed by a strong community and a strong ecosystem
- Based on the ODF standard file format for interoperability and digital sovereignty, and providing the best compatibility with DOCX, XLSX and PPTX proprietary document formats outside Microsoft
- The best of FOSS, with professional support available for organizations using office productivity for production and for strategic business contents
LibreOffice Versions & Users

Beta / RC
- Early Adopters
- Quality Assurance
- Feature Testing
  (power users)

Community
- Community
- Individual Users
- SMB Deployments
  (desktop users)

Enterprise
- Enterprises
- Large Migrations
- Large Deployments
  (professional users)
LibreOffice 7.1 Community Main New Features
DOCX Compatibility

• Improvements of DOCX import/export filter
• Added PRODUCT, ABS, SIGN & COUNT table formulas for Word interoperability
• Added a workaround to import ABOVE/BELOW/LEFT/RIGHT arguments in SUM, AVERAGE, etc. table functions, to convert those arguments into cell ranges like <A1:A10> and saving them to DOCX as a cell range
• Support for change tracking in floating tables
• Support to preserve the spacing below the last header paragraph in DOC/DOCX files
PPTX Compatibility

SmartArt improvements when importing from PPTX
General Improvements

- Show all supported files by default when adding a new extension in Extension Manager
- Improve finding a matching printer paper size for the printed document
- Print preview is now updated asynchronously to not block UI when adjusting settings in print dialog
Writer Improvements (1)

- Support for anchoring shapes relative to the bottom of the page content frame
- Default anchor for newly added images can be set per Tools > Options > LibreOffice Writer > Formatting Aids
- Support of locale-independent templates
- Added Styles Inspector to display all the attributes of Paragraph & Character Styles and manually formatted (Direct Formatting) properties
Writer Improvements (2)

• Input fields can be toggled with View > Field Names
• Empty fields can be selected with the mouse
• Word compatible Fields can be toggled to hide either the command or the result with View > Field Names
• Unicode type can be detected even if the imported file does not have a BOM (Byte Order Mark)
• Improved performance of find/replace operations
Calc Improvements

• Option to disable paste with Enter key
• Autofilter function: additional selection options and improved performance when searching
• Now INDIRECT function supports sheet-local scoped names
• Improved spell checking performance
Draw & Impress Improvements

• Impress allows changing animations for several objects at once
• Addition of a "Pause/Resume" and an "Exit" button to the Presenter Screen
• Added realistic soft blurred shadows to objects
ScriptForge Libraries

• Extensible and robust collection of macro scripting resources for LibreOffice, which can be invoked from user Basic or Python scripts

• Help to overcome LibreOffice API’s challenges as they offer easy access to and management of windows and documents, automation of Calc sheets, ranges of cells and cells, management of dialogs and their controls, and access to data contained in databases
• Reactivated extended tips in dialogs
• Added syntax diagrams for all Basic statements, including a new How to Read Syntax Diagram page
GUI

New dialog to select the User Interface flavor, aiming to pick the right UI at first start
Localization

• New languages/locales with locale data
  • English Kenya [en-KE] and Hong Kong [en-HK]
• Improved proofing tools and language support
  • Updated spelling dictionaries: English (GB), French, Italian, Portuguese (BR and PT), Spanish (all)
  • Updated hyphenation dictionary: Hungarian, Italian
  • New spelling dictionary: Korean
**Platform Compatibility**

- **Windows**
  - LibreOffice is available for Windows Arm64, as a cross-build from Windows x64 (early development with some known limitations)

- **macOS**
  - LibreOffice is available for M1 ARM-Based Mac
LibreOffice 7.1 Community
Main New Features
Who Pays LO Development?

• 68% of development is paid by customers of ecosystem companies selling a LibreOffice Enterprise product
  • The majority of this activity is focused on new features and improvements to interoperability
• 28% of development is provided by volunteers, and paid by their willingness to contribute to the project
  • The majority of this activity is focused on the UX (user interface and usability), with many notable exceptions
Donations & Contributions

• 90% of donations to The Document Foundation are from individuals and 10% from SMBs
• Based on estimates, less than 5% of all LibreOffice enterprise users – including governments – contribute in any way to the project, including buying any kind of product/service from ecosystem companies
• In the long term, this is an issue for the sustainability of the project's model
Educate Free Riders
LibreOffice to LibreOffice Community

with a growing number of enterprises using the product without providing anything back and not paying for LTS versions the sustainability is at stake and we have to educate free riders about contributing to FOSS

LibreOffice

risk of progressive obsolescence because of the shrinking number of ecosystem companies supporting the project

LibreOffice Community

tomorrow
Communication Strategy

• Leverage LibreOffice Technology to foster the growth of the best FOSS suite and the adoption of the best open standard format for office documents (ODF)
• Improve the positioning of LibreOffice Community as the best FOSS office suite, based on volunteer support
• Make it easier to associate the LibreOffice brand with all products released by ecosystem companies, which are not always branded as LibreOffice
Continuous Improvement

• Carefully analyze end user needs, to evaluate features which are missing or need to be updated
• Evaluate potential channel opportunities, to check if the product is attractive for specific applications
• Evaluate existing and potential support options, to see if there are other monetization opportunities
Thanks

Italo Vignoli
The Document Foundation
italo@libreoffice.org
italo@vignoli.org