



TOF-E

The Open Forum-Europe is dedicated to raising awareness of the performance and cost benefits that open source software brings to European private and public sector organisations. TOF-E will establish a series of portals to help guide users in selecting software that best suits their needs.

The benefits of open source software will help increase the competitiveness and richness of services offered by European businesses and institutions. However, the many of them remain unaware of the wide selection and value this software brings.

The Open Forum-Europe (TOF-E) raises awareness of open source software and the benefits it can bring to European public and private sectors. TOF-E will accomplish this goal by establishing Internet portals that will help users select software based upon their current and future needs.

Open source software is developed in a collaborative effort by software developers who create applications out of their interest in seeing affordable programmes available to everyone. What distinguishes open source software from commercial closed source software is that the underlying programming code that makes it all function is available to users so they may change it according to their own needs. The software is also supported by a community of programmers who work together to improve the code so that the software provides the latest technology and features.

TOF-E will establish local community portals addressing the needs of different users. This approach ensures that the benefits of open source software will be customised according to the needs of each country and industry. Businesses and public institutions will benefit from the software solutions and advice on the TOF-E sites.

The TOF-E consortium includes:

- Chelgate Ltd (coordinators), UK
- Open Applications Consulting Ltd, IE
- Sybernet Ltd, IE
- Sirius Corp, UK
- Magenta ApS, DK
- PKF Consulting A/S, DK
- Catpipe Systems, DK
- OFE Ltd, UK

EU Funding	598.195 €
Duration	September 2005 – February 2007
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Participating Countries	Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom