

LINUX WORLD NEWS

SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE WITH OWN OPENOFFICE VERSION

São Tomé and Príncipe, the equatorial island republic off the west coast of Africa

and home to about 163,000 inhabitants, got its very own version of OpenOffice.org, adapted to the needs of the country's public administration.

The fork, dubbed STPOffice.org 3.1.1 and featuring the national colors, was launched at the first National Congress on New Information and Communication Technologies held at the beginning of October. The event was organized as part of the government's project "Kitembú Digit@l" with the aim of turning the country into an information and knowledge society.

Kitembú means "to join all forces to build something" in Santomé, the most

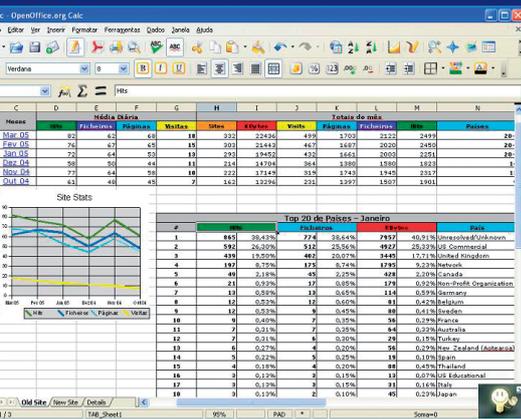
important of the local creole languages. Although these local languages don't have the status of official languages, they have influenced the official Portuguese language in a way that justifies a variant localization.

Customization, support, and quality assurance for STPOffice are provided by Linux-centric, Lisbon-based service provider Caixa Mágica.

<http://www.stpoffice.org/> (in Portuguese)

http://www.caixamagica.pt/pag/f_notc00.php?id=230 (in Portuguese)

<http://www.kitembudigital.st/> (in Portuguese)



AND THE WINNER IS ...

Barcelona hosted the Second oXcars Festival celebrating free music and video on October 29. The oXcars awards went to Spanish writer/blogger Alberto Vázquez-Figueroa, French comedian Rémi Gaillard, and the Electronic Frontier Foundation for a parody remixing the bunker scene from the 2004 movie *Downfall*.

Among the participants was English film director Ridley Scott of *Blade Runner* and *Alien* fame, himself a three-time nominee for the Best Director category at the Oscars. Together with his director brother An-

thony "Tony" Scott (*Top Gun*, *Beverly Hills Cop II*, and others) and his son, Luke, he is to produce a project called "Purefold," a series of Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 licensed films.

The oXcars festival made a energetic opening for the four-day Free Culture Forum, an "open space for drawing up proposals to present the position of civil society on the privatization of culture and access to knowledge."

The event, streamed live and covered by a live microblog on identi.ca in Catalan, Spanish, and English, attracted more than 1,000 people from 20 countries. It closed with the launch of the "Charter for Innovation, Creativity and Access to Knowledge," which aims to have an impact on the Spanish Presidency of the European Union.

<http://oxcars09.exgae.net/?lang=en>
<http://fcforum.net/>
<http://www.networked-politics.info/>
<http://freeknowledge.eu/>
<http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2009/05/when-fair-use-fairly>
<http://identi.ca/fcforum>

BRITISH UNCONFERENCES FLOURISH

While many established IT conferences suffer economically, "unconferences," in which participants organize the program for the gathering spontaneously, have become increasingly popular. The OggCamp, organized by the presenters of the Ubuntu UK Podcast and Linux Outlaws in Wolverhampton on October 25, and the BarCamp2 in Manchester on November 7-8 both attracted hundreds of software and web developers, artists, and interested public. The sessions offered ranged from technical talks on security, version control systems, Arduino, OpenStreetMap, and policy talks on community management and youth digital education, to cultural activities such as street dance, British sign languages, and curry cooking.

Bubblino, a Twitter-monitoring, bubble-blowing Arduino-bot, caught a lot of attention at BarCamp2 and drove many participants to tweet. Whenever anyone mentioned the hashtag of the event, Bubblino would blow bubbles. The remaining funds of the Barcamp went to Contact Theatre, a theater for young and emerging artists that housed the event.

<http://www.mcqn.com/bubblino>
<http://bcman2.eventbrite.com/>
<http://oggcamp.org/2009/>
<http://podcast.ubuntu-uk.org/>
<http://linuxoutlaws.com/>

