

LINUX WORLD NEWS

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN SOURCE AWARD

Linux advocates within the municipal government of the Norwegian city of Bergen might feel like prophets without honor in their own country. Last year, they won a Swedish “Linux Open Source Award” for their server migration from Unix to Linux, but despite being nominated for the Norwegian “Free Software Award” 2006, it was the “Foundation OpenOffice Programs in Norwegian” that took this award home at a ceremony held in Oslo on October 26.

The list of nominees was almost twice as long as last year. The jury consisted of previous award winner representatives and Hårek Haugerud from Oslo University College, where everything was organized. The jury had to choose between 25 projects, companies, organizations,

institutions and individuals from around the entire country.

This year’s winner was responsible for the Norwegian translations of OpenOffice and was chosen because their work offers Norwegian OpenOffice users not only the freedom to choose between free and non-free software solutions and between different operating systems, but also the freedom to choose how to write the Norwegian language. OpenOffice is available in a Nynorsk and a Bokmål translation. For the first time in the history of the prize, it was awarded to non-programming Open Source contributors. <http://nuug.no/prisen/> (Norwegian) <http://no.openoffice.org/> (Norwegian) http://www.linux-magazine.com/issue/71/Linux_World_News.pdf



INDIC OPEN OFFICE MINI-CONFERENCE

Although OpenOffice is available in seven Indian languages (Assamese, Gujarati, Hindi, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya and Urdu), regional contributions to the project seem to barely make it into the core, and if there is any regional development, it is almost invisible. Instead, hacks and in-house forks are maintained.

This situation should be changed and the best way to change it would be a

mini-conference for those involved in OpenOffice localization, development, and packaging in India. The event is planned to take place in Pune in January, 2007. Sponsors are still wanted.

<http://sankarshan.randomink.org/blog/2006/10/19/having-an-openoffice-org-miniconf-during-january-2007/>
<http://www.cdacbangalore.in/bharateeyaoo/>

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN SOURCE AWARD II

The Swedish “Linux Open Source Award 2006” was presented in Stockholm, exactly one day before the Norwegian prize. “OP5 Monitor,” a monitoring solution consisting of several open source tools, won the prize for the best application; the prize for the best open source deployment went to Åsö Adult College (Vuxengymnasium) in Stockholm for their Moodle-based learning platform. <http://www.conductive.se/linux2006/LinuxOpenSourceAwards.htm>

ENTER CHINA - WITH A PARTY

Officially, Canonical’s Mark Shuttleworth was in Beijing “to introduce Ubuntu’s OEM channel program to China’s PC manufacturers, especially the ones in the computer exporting business.” Despite the success of his business agenda, he was celebrated as a pop star and “spiritual leader in (the) Open Source world” (as the announcement poster put it) by the 600 participants at the Edgy Eft (Ubuntu 6.10) Chinese launch party on November 2. <http://www.amyjiangsu.com/>

