

libvisio - an open source library for reading Visio documents

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Import filters and ODF adoption

Do import filters prevent ODF adoption

- ODF is the future of the humanity
 - humanity does not know about it as of now
- Other de facto standards
 - Different people use different applications

Interoperability good for ODF

- Legacy documents have to be read
 - Leave legacy applications
 - Support legacy file-formats



Agenda

How we did it

- Framework used
- Missing file-format documentation
- Collaboration patterns

What we support

- Supported features
- Missing features



How we did it







No wheel reinvented

Reuse, embrace and extend

- ODF as interchange format
 - Way import filters communicate with LibreOffice
- Libwpg's application programming interface
 - Reusing OdgGenerator class implementing this interface

Speedy development

- No need to write any boilerplate code
- The core written as a standalone library
 - Faster testing





File-format documentation

None:)

- Marginally useful user and developer documentation of MSDN
- Possibility to save using the VDX (xml) file-format
 - Basically XML dump of the binary
 - The same concepts

Reverse engineering

- Based on re-lab's work
 - oletoy





The team







Opensource collaboration I

Focus on getting "some" result early

- First embedded raster images
 - Libreoffice is able to render them without further processing
- Next graphic primitives
 - "Everything is just a path"

Develop tools along the implementation

- Introspection tool improved constantly
 - Driven by the need of the implementation
 - Reflecting growing understanding of file-format
 - Don't solve problems that don't exist





Opensource collaboration II

Design the software as you go

- Some code is better then abstract design
 - Project financed by Google as part of Summer of code
 - Possibility to find and fix real bugs
 - Little communication overhead
 - Communication by code
 - Learning by doing mistakes and fixing
- Release soon, release often
 - A release every 2-3 weeks
 - Good to have intermediary targets



Level of completion







Supported features

- Graphic primitives
 - Converted or emulated
 - Uniform and non-uniform rational splines, Infinite lines
- Stencils
 - Linked objects
- Styles
 - Fill
 - Colour, opacity, colour and opacity gradients (within the limits of ODF)
 - Line
 - Colour, opacity, dash-array (within the limits of ODF)
 - Text formating
 - Paragraph, Character and Text block properties (within ...:-)





Missing features

Text objects

- Rotations and flips
- Enhanced support of fields

Line and fill

- Custom line and fill patterns
- Enhanced line start and end markers support

Embedded raster

Flips and rotations

One picture better then 100 words

A demo





When can I try it?

For the braves, immediately!

- http://dev-builds.libreoffice.org/daily/
 - Builds produced by tinderboxes

LibreOffice 3.5

- One of the flag features of the upcoming release
 - Possibility to view Visio diagrams on Unix, Linux, Mac

Patches welcome

- Anybody can contribute
 - A missing pet feature
 - An annoying bug





LibreOffice in short

Contacting us

- Development: libreoffice@lists.freedesktop.org
- Localization: I10n@documentfoundation.org
- IRC: #libreoffice on freenode.net

Useful links

- Planet: http://planet.documentfoundation.org
- Wiki: http://wiki.documentfoundation.org



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