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OpenPrinting

By Linux Foundatio... - October 23, 2009 - 8:07am

OPENPRINTING PRINTING



We have resources to help with printing under free operating systems like GNU/Linux and the BSDs or under commercial UNIX-like systems such as Solaris and [Mac OS X](#). Looking for configuration or driver help? Try our [CUPS Quick Start](#) or look for your printer in the [OpenPrinting Database](#). For more detail, try [Till's Tutorial](#). If all else fails, ask a human in the [forums](#). Researching a printer purchase? Simply browse [our database](#). Looking for software? We host [Foomatic](#), [printer driver packages](#), and some [other programs](#). Want to help? [Here's how](#).

You are a student? You want to earn money this summer? You want to do it with an interesting job?

Then you are right here. We offer you a lot of interesting projects in development of free software as part of the [Google Summer of Code 2011](#). This year you can work on things like

- Web app for editing, merging, and approving user-contributed printer/driver entries on the OpenPrinting web site
- The same printing dialog for all desktop applications
- Easy-to-use and feature-complete printing dialog with support for color management
- Job Ticket infrastructure for printing on networks and with mobile devices
- Windows/Mac printer drivers under Linux

See [our project ideas list](#) for more information and help us to make printing under Linux "just work".

The application period has started! Please go to the [GSoC site](#) and click the link for student applications, the choose "The Linux Foundation" as mentoring organization. Deadline is Friday, April 8, 2011.

OpenPrinting Summit 2011 on April 6-8 in San Francisco, CA

5 Years of OpenPrinting Summits!

It does not take long any more and the next [OpenPrinting Summit](#) will take place, as usual on the [Linux Foundation Collaboration Summit](#) in the [Hotel Kabuki](#) in San Francisco, CA. This year our Summit will take place right after the [PWG](#) (Printing Working Group) meeting on April 4-6 at Apple in Cupertino, CA. So you can travel once and attend two great events.

Main topics will be the Common Printing Dialog, downloadable printer driver packages, mobile printing, color management, quality assurance, and 2011's major issues of Linux printing.

See you in April!

OpenPrinting successfully participated in the Google Summer of Code 2010

As part of the Linux Foundation we have participated in the [Google Summer of Code 2010](#). Although we were not very successful in finding students for our [projects](#), only having one single student working for us, this project was a success.

This one student was Vitor Baptista from Brazil, working on the project **Compression of locally installed PPD repositories**. The project is about developpeing a compression method for PPD (PostScript Printer Description) files to make the footprint of printer hardware support in Linux distributions vastly smaller. With a [small software package written in Python](#) he reduced the space consumption of PPD files in an installed system by 10-20 times.

He also completed the problem in time for the Feature Freeze of Ubuntu Maverick (10.10.10, to be released on October 10, 2010) so that several MB of space on the live CDs clogged up by PPDs will be used for more translations or additional software this time (and even all PPDs which are part of Ubuntu will make it onto the CDs).

Congratulations and thanks to Vitor!

Making Printing "Just Work" - Volunteers and/or Sponsors needed!

For getting a great user experience with printing there is still a lot of coding needed. Your contribution, either work or funding, is highly appreciated. As we want our work to get a standard, we will let every completed project get into the major Linux distributions, so your work will help a lot of Linux users and will make Linux a better OS.

Enter the amazing world of free software and help fixing [bug #1](#) of Linux.



OpenPrinting

- You must [register/login](#) in order to post into this group.

Announcements

- [Foomatic 4.0.6 Released!](#)
(by till on Dec 15, 2010)
- [Foomatic 4.0.5 Released!](#)
(by till on Aug 16, 2010)
- [Welcome to the new OpenPrinting Web Site!!](#)
(by till on Feb 19, 2010)
- [Foomatic 4.0.4 Released!](#)
(by till on Feb 15, 2010)
- [Foomatic 4.0.3 Released!](#)
(by till on Sep 01, 2009)

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Recent Blog Posts

- [Camp KDE Preview: All About Mobile](#)
March 30, 2011
- [Announcing the 2011 Linux.com Gurus](#)
March 28, 2011
- [LF Collaboration Summit Preview: OuIC's Mark Charlebois](#)
March 24, 2011
- [Seats Are Still Available for the Open Compliance Training Class Offered in Conjunction with Collaboration Summit](#)
March 21, 2011
- [2.6.38: making things Just Work](#)
March 16, 2011
- [LF Collaboration Summit Preview: Andrew Morton](#)
March 16, 2011



[more](#)

Currently, we appreciate volunteers/sponsors for these projects:

Completing the Common Printing Dialog and Modifying Desktop Applications so that they use it: One of our projects we are working on is the Common Printing Dialog, one unified, feature-complete, easy-to-use (designed by OpenUsability) for all applications and desktops. To get ready-to-apply patches for KDE, GNOME and independent applications like OpenOffice.org, we need volunteers/sponsors to complete the implementations of the dialog and to patch the GUI toolkits and the desktop applications to use the new dialog via its D-Bus API.

Use SQLite for locally installed Foomatic Printer/Driver database: If you are setting up a printer under a modern Linux distribution, it always takes some time before you get the list of drivers (or before the printer setup tool selects the driver automatically). This is due to the slowness of the XML database used for the printer info. With a proper SQL database this will get much faster.

Vendor WIN32/Mac OS X drivers made available to Linux applications: Make many more printers working under Linux by creating a wrapper framework for the manufacturer's Windows/Mac OS X drivers, like the ndiswrapper for WLAN cards.

JTAPI implementation: The OpenPrinting workgroup has designed a Job Ticket API (JTAPI) already. You can help us by writing an implementation of this API (libjtapi). We especially also need an implementation of the JDF Job-Ticket.

Find more information and contact info on our [project implementation](#) page.

We appreciate your participation on these projects.

Second Generation of OpenPrinting Database Pages Online!

We have switched over to a new generation of web pages to browse and manage our printer/driver database. The pages are not only looking nicer and better fitting into the general web site of the Linux Foundation, they give also much quicker access by being backed by a relational database and two mirrored servers and we will not get so many useless printer entry contributions any more as login with a Linux Foundation account is required for contributors now.

In addition we have now facilities for driver developers and printer manufacturers to easily contribute driver and printer entries via a web interface.

[More info.](#) Start browsing: [Printers](#), [Drivers](#)

Enjoy the new OpenPrinting database web pages!

For Developers

The goal of the [OpenPrinting workgroup](#) is to develop and promote a set of standards that will address the complete printing needs of embedded, mobile, desktop, enterprise, and production environments, including management, reliability, security, scalability, printer feature access and network accessibility. This is achieved by

- [creating a Common Printing Dialog for all applications and desktops](#)
- [developing standard APIs for printing](#)
- [collecting information about printers and printer drivers and providing the drivers in distribution-independent packages](#)
- [integrating them in existing operating systems](#)
- [providing the tools for publishing printer drivers in distribution-independent packages](#)
- [Switching to PDF as Standard Print Job Format](#)

OpenPrinting has [merged with the former linuxprinting.org](#) and provides now a one-stop location for printing with Posix-style operating systems. OpenPrinting organizes several [meetings](#) throughout the year to bring the important people on the area of printing together. Meetings recently held are:

- [OpenPrinting Summit 2010 in San Francisco, April 2010](#)
- [OpenPrinting Summit 2009 in San Francisco, April 2009](#)
- [OpenPrinting Meeting in Tokyo, July 2008](#)
- [OpenPrinting Meeting on the LF Summit in Austin \(TX\), April 2008](#)
- [OpenPrinting Meeting in Tokyo, Nov 2007](#)

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