

Open or closed? The ODF debate spills into LinuxWorld

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The debate surrounding OpenDocument and open file standards over the past year has resulted in a rollercoaster ride of events, but oftentimes a simple question can be overlooked as advocates of open standards battle Microsoft for the fate of the office application suite.

Do users know the difference between the open standards-based OpenDocument format (ODF) and proprietary ones like Microsoft Office Open XML?

This week at LinuxWorld, you might think attendees would know the answer to that question, but John Walker, the chief technology officer of Windows-to-Linux migration vendor Versora, said he believed the answer is not cut and dried as some may think. Walker explained that each format has had its share of praise and criticisms that should be evaluated before wading into either side of this debate.

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