

OpenOffice: Future Uncertain

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Created 23/04/2009 - 1:09am

Submitted by srlinuxx on Thursday 23rd of April 2009 01:09:48 AM Filed under [Interviews](#) [1] [OOo](#) [2]

Florian Effenberger is co-lead of the international OpenOffice.org marketing project. Our sister publication LinuxCommunity asked him how the deal between Sun and Oracle would affect OpenOffice.

LinuxCommunity: Will the paid OpenOffice developers become unemployed because of the takeover of Sun by Oracle?

Florian Effenberger: Very few details about the takeover are known at this time. Many analysts are of course speculating, but right now I have no information regarding developers' jobs in OpenOffice. Personally, I don't foresee any serious danger for the further development of OO.o. Firstly, and Oracle for sure is aware of this, OpenOffice has an important place in the world of free software. Secondly, there are very many free developers and companies actively involved in the project.

LC: Will the current developments influence the next release of OpenOffice 3.1?

FE: No. The current delay is because of technical reasons and has nothing to do with the takeover. The second release candidate is due to be published in a few days and shortly after that version 3.1 will be officially released.

LC: Do you personally believe in Oracle's intended financial engagement in OpenOffice or StarOffice?

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