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Introduction to Libre Office

by Alan Royal

Background

The latest open source office software is Libre (french=free) Office (LO). It is an alternative to Open Office (OO) and (the relatively expensive) Microsoft Office. For what most of us want from office software our needs will be met by the free office applications.

OO development has been managed by Oracle. It is suggested that Oracle tended to exert too much control over OO thus delaying development.

The outcome, was that the Document Foundation produced LO as an alternative.

At this stage there is no obvious divergence of the two products i.e. one cannot be described as 'better' or 'worse' than the other.

One expectation however, is that, compared with the close control of Oracle over OO, the LO may develop faster.

Users of both OO and LO should recognise that the packages downloaded are in the 'raw' state i.e. there are a wide range of extensions that can be added to either package to extend there versatility beyond what most users will need.

Files included on this disc

- ⤴ [Libre Office v3.3](#) (214 MB PDF) note that the latest Open Office is v3.2
- ⤴ [A Conceptual Guide to OpenOffice.org 3: Second Edition, Gabriel Gurley](#) (11.7 MB PDF)
- ⤴ [Lesson files link](#) for the Open Office Guide above
- ⤴ [Open Office free ebook](#)
- ⤴ [Creating Large Documents with Open Office](#)
- ⤴ [A directory of tutorials for Open Office](#)
- ⤴ [Open Office educational presentation](#) (514 KB PPT).

To view the PDF files above, install the [free Sumatra PDF reader](#) from this disc. It is a small (4.1 MB) programme.

Approach

In the time allotted it is not possible to actually tutor on the application. What will be done is to introduce you to, and discuss the resources included on the disc.