

Open Source Software Services and Support



UNISYS
imagine it. done.

Why Are Unisys Clients Using Open Source Software?

By now, most of our customers either already use or plan to deploy Open Source software (OSS) products into their IT infrastructures. And we think there are plenty of good reasons to do so. Let's take a brief look at some of them.

OSS Reduces Costs

You can't argue with zero. Cost is the most compelling reason that businesses deploy Open Source products. Since there are no software licensing fees, they can be thousands, even hundreds of thousands of dollars less expensive than their for-profit counterparts. Even better, OSS service and support fees most often cost less than similar, for-profit offerings.

OSS Offers Security

Though some for-profit software vendors may take exception, many OSS products are even more secure than their proprietary counterparts. There are several reasons we can cite for strong OSS security:

- **Source Code Transparency:** Because Open Source code is available to everyone, bugs (including security bugs) are found sooner and resolved faster.
- **Vertical Integration:** Since OSS tends to be more compartmental and not vertically integrated, it's generally easier and faster to repair any problem. For instance, when a security flaw is found in a proprietary database management system that has considerable operating system dependencies and perhaps special code in the operating system, changes might be required not only to the database code, but also to the operating system code. The equivalent Open Source product usually has fewer dependencies and, as a result, the correction is often simpler and therefore faster.

- **Reputations:** Leaders of the top OSS projects are most often identified and well known, so their reputations ride on writing good code and quickly fixing any bugs that are found. Reputation is a tremendous motivator.

Proprietary software products aren't any more secure than OSS products simply because their source code isn't available. Even so, most good hackers can work with only the proprietary product's machine code version, which is publicly available. To do just that certainly isn't an impediment; in fact, it often makes it even more interesting to hackers.

OSS Can Speed Up Your Development Projects

It's true. There's no new project that absolutely has to be built from scratch! Considering how much OSS code and how many components are readily available, many OSS projects can supply you with a part of – or perhaps even a whole solution.

OSS Gives You Freedom of Architectural Design

Let's say that, in order to contain costs, a systems architect must design a solution that minimizes the use of proprietary (software) servers and components. For example, fewer application servers are used because each costs thousands of dollars. On the other hand, a solution architected using Open Source Software will face no such constraints. And, if it's advantageous to use five servers instead of three, the architect can make that recommendation without facing cost constraints.

Why Are Unisys Clients Using Our OSS Services and Support?

A Mile Wide...

Take a look around. You won't find many, if any, other IT companies that can offer you such a complete range of Open Source Software services and support. Support you'll need to keep your OSS products up and running at their optimum potential. Unisys offers you:

- Support for a complete OSS suite of software components tested for enterprise usage and lifecycle managed
- Consulting services for architecting and implementing your Open Source Software
- Consulting services to help you build applications using OSS
- Technical services to tune, analyze and ensure the smooth operation of your software
- Managed services for outsourcing your processing, asset management and security
- Security services to ensure that your Open Source environment is protected
- Added security to ensure the safety of your Web-based Java applications

... and a Mile Deep

We've been creating, integrating and supporting software environments and solutions for a very long time. Open Source software is all about integration and support. And they're just a few of the things Unisys does best.

Many Unisys solutions have been built using OSS components. In fact, we use many OSS solutions ourselves. We've developed an in-depth understanding of what it means to create OSS-based solutions and keep them in top shape too. Our consulting practices are staffed with experts not only skilled in domain knowledge, but also trained and experienced in all major Open Source components. Unisys clients take advantage of this unique depth of knowledge and expertise.

We also have a very skilled and talented pool of engineers with in-depth knowledge of operating systems, communications, application servers and databases. We're one of only two companies that have both built and supported every one of these major IT components. We've been supporting our customers' mission-critical software – across all major industries and governmental bodies – with distinction. Our clients trust us to get the job done, not just for a few years, but over the lifetime of their systems, often spanning 20 years or more.

For more information and client references, contact your Unisys representative.

Or call:

1-800-874-8647, ext 365 (U.S. and Canada)

00-1-585-487-2430, ext 365 (Other countries)

In a hurry to learn more? Visit:

<http://www.unisys.com/go/opensource>

For even more details, visit:

<http://unisys.com/es7/guide/community>

OASIS

The Open and Secure Integrated Solutions (OASIS) framework from Unisys addresses the key requirements for a secure, open, integrated software stack, along with enterprise platforms and the end-to-end support needed for an application infrastructure built upon Open Source software.

We bring together the best-in-class Open Source solutions, then add even greater value; we heighten the security, reliability and manageability of the Open Source stack. And we provide you with the services that help you safely migrate to an enterprise-class, Open Source based infrastructure. Learn more about OASIS at:

<http://www.unisys.com/go/opensource>

“It is the first time that a major IT service provider has offered a fully integrated set of services—including installation, configuration, maintenance, and enhancement—for a predefined open source stack.

“With the OASIS set of services offerings, Unisys steps ahead of most competitors in open source services by offering customers a robust suite of services at great prices and with strong service-level agreements (SLAs).”

Forrester Research, Inc.

“Unisys Pioneers The Right Model

For Open Source Services.”

July 6, 2006.

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