



Proposal full title: Open Business Software Platform and Services
Proposal acronym: LIXCHANGE

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Strategic objectives of the IST programme addressed

- *reinforce European strengths in areas where it has established industrial and technology leadership with intelligent solutions*
- *overcome weaknesses in areas which are critical for European competitiveness and for addressing societal challenges by strengthening SMEs roles in business*
- *exploit new opportunities and respond to emerging needs by migration to Open Source*

Proposal abstract

The Open Source movement has developed new concepts of making business based on transparent and co-operative ownership of software. However, many F/OSS development groups lack of resources and marketing channels. The proposed Integrated Project LIXCHANGE will develop methods and tools to better match the results from the F/OSS developer community and potential users at SMEs in various businesses in an unprecedented way.

The Integrated Project LIXCHANGE will bring together relevant software, technology demonstration and training partners in this field and will tackle the following issues:

1. motivations and sustainable business models for open source software provision
2. co-operative design models for authentication to various enterprise services
3. developing and integration of mission critical applications for enterprises, such as shared calendaring, CRM or bookkeeping
4. reference implementations for open groupware and multimedia archiving solutions
5. simplification and visualization of F/OSS legal aspects and licensing

The project aims at a series of dissemination activities to apply this scheme to different types of business areas, especially for SMEs and NGOs. The overall goal within this IST activity is to foster the usage of F/OSS backend platforms and services and to generate new business opportunities for the Open Source developer community. LIXCHANGE is supposed to become an Integrated Projects with a high socio-economic effect for both, the providers and users of F/OSS in Europe, with a special focus on SMEs.

On the development side, the project is arranged around a few core partners, bringing experience and moderating integration to various developer groups throughout Europe. On the demonstration and training side, we are setting up an open structure, geared by partners with hands-on experience. Altogether, LIXCHANGE can be thought as a garden, where we stream incentives on the plants of production, harmonization and usage of Free and Open Source Software for Enterprises.