

Openweb Analysts Ltd

March 2002 Brochure

What We Do

OpenWeb Analysts Ltd specialises in making the most of Open Source software in web situations. Whether that is working with a perl based content management system, or writing Java code for an XML/XSLT based document generation system, OpenWeb Analysts has the skills.

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| Advise | We can help with advice at the beginning of any web project. We have experience in a broad range of technologies and business environments. By accurately assessing your needs at the beginning of a project, we can save you both time and money. |
| Design | We can plan Internet projects for you utilising components from the best Open Source developers in the world thus minimising your own development time and costs. OWAL will work with your team, environment, and software tools to come up with a solution which works for you. |
| Implement | Yes, we can actually write code! We are skilled in most of the internet technologies around today; CGI, Java servlets, JSP, XML, perl, and much much more. |
| Enhance | We can help you enhance and maintain your existing software and website. You might simply need some new web pages, or you might need someone to support an open source software package. Talk to us and we will find a solution together. |



Reasons to Choose OWAL

OpenWeb Analysts Ltd (OWAL) is a small and flexible company which can respond to your needs. We have worked for clients from a variety of business sectors, including financial institutions and electronic publishers.

Since we are not a dinosaur company employing thousands of people we work with several partner firms when specialised knowledge is required. If you need a particular Open Source expertise then we can find it.

Our rates are reasonable. Although large consultancies can charge over a thousand pounds a day we charge no more than a typical contractor. If you prefer we can take on a whole job at a fixed price, or work to a monthly retainer.

Together we can provide you with the solution to suit you.



Strategic Partners

We work with several strategic partners who are experts with skills that complement our own.

Gatekeeper Open-source systems and networks -
www.gatekeeper.ltd.uk

Animation Arthouse Fine art, illustration and animation -
www.animation.arthouse.org

Excolo Information Architecture for financial firms in the
City of London - www.excolo.com

**Open Source
Developers** We would like to thank a great many people and
corporations who have written or contributed to
open source software. Just some of those many
companies are listed in our Experts Section
Experts listed there are people who have produced
some cool software and not necessarily people we
have direct experience of working with



Clients

Here are some of the companies Openweb Analysts has worked for. We have worked for blue chips, financials and small companies.

Lehman Brothers Inc (Europe) <http://www.lehman.com/>

Implementing parts of their Fixed Income Division intranet with Java, Perl, XML and JSP.

Servista.com <http://www.servista.com/>

Software Integration for this internet startup delivering household utilities.

News International <http://www.newsint.co.uk/>

News International wanted a site to complement their Times and Sun websites. With a large content management system and the entire journalist staff as content providers OWAL was asked to provide CGI functionality to very short deadlines.

Deutsche Bank <http://www.db.com/>

Working within the Global Risk Group to productionise a C++ valuation library using Perl.

NATS Ltd (National Air Traffic Service) <http://www.nats.co.uk/>

Design and implementation of a specialised content management system for disseminating weather information to Air Traffic controllers.

Reuters Ltd <http://www.reuters.com/>

Helping to create a standard web platform for installation at Reuters sites all around the world, built out of Solaris, perl, and Netscape servers.

Zuno Ltd

(owned by Mitsubishi) Together, we developed a content management system for academic publisher JS Wiley, using Java, C++ and Corba.

Please note: These websites are not necessarily sites that were in any way developed by OpenWeb Analysts Limited.



Open Source

We use many open source tools and systems to provide:

- a short time to market.
- quick project completion.
- good value for money.

We can help you with choosing and running open source software. For example we can install and configure a weblog or web portal for your company department or whole industry. You don't pay expensive licence fees and we help train your staff.

Here are some of the packages we are familiar with.

Perl	possibly the ultimate text manipulation programming language.
Apache	the most popular web server in the world.
Slash	a perl based weblog and html template tool. See Slashcode for more info
Jyve	a java based project from the Apache Software Foundation. Jyve is an interactive web based information store for such things as FAQs.
fop	a java and XSL based project from the Apache Software Foundation. fop essentially helps produce printable Adobe PDF files from XML data. We look after the main FOP FAQ
MySQL	a free RDBMs which is rapidly becoming one of the most popular for web based applications.
RedHat Linux	A distribution of the popular GNU/Linux operating system and associated programs. Do we need to say more?



News and Press Releases

On our website you can find news relating to OpenWeb Analysts Ltd and developments from the world of open source software.

Stories are categorised under the following topic headings:

Company News and Press Releases	The latest news about OpenWeb Analysts Ltd including our press releases.
Open Source Software	News of open source software that we like.
Open Source Experts	Details of other companies and consultants that specialise in the use of open source software. If you are an Open Source consultant or company please submit your details .
Cool Web Technologies	Articles concerning new and interesting web technologies.



Portfolio

Much of our work is done for bluechip clients and must remain confidential. Here are some case studies we can show you.

- An XML, XSL and XSL:FO project for the SF Foundation.
- DiverseBooks Slash Weblog
- Several Macromedia Flash Examples
- Several XML conversions for Excolo.



XML, XSL and XSL:FO - A Project for the SF Foundation

The SF Foundation is an academic charity based in the UK had a collection of photographs of authors that they wanted to make these available both online and as a printable document. By storing information about the authors as XML data, we could then use Apache cocoon to render the data as either html or, through the use of Fop, pdf format.

The software used included RedHat Linux, and from the Apache Software Foundation: Cocoon2, Tomcat4, Fop Xalan Xerces (and more)

We are currently investigating whether to put the data into an XML Database such as XHive or Apache's XIndex.



<http://news.DiverseBooks.com> - Case Study

DiverseBooks is a news and reviews website for fans of books. The site is made up of two parts; news (news.DiverseBooks.com), which can be updated daily, and an archive of older articles. OpenWeb Analysts used two pieces of Open Source software to create the site, Jyve and Slash.

News on the site is managed by the Slash software. Using this software we were able to create a site that is easy to update and that can accept submissions from users. Articles and submissions are categorised by both topic and section with full search capabilities being included in the software itself. The software is quite capable of handling thousands of hits per minute as proved by its original implementation on the www.Slashdot.org technical news board.

Users can also register with the site, comment on existing articles and receive e-mails giving brief details of recent submissions.

Jyve is used to maintain the archive of book reviews and information that make up the other half of DiverseBooks. Designed to store information for things such as FAQs, OpenWeb Analysts developed this idea to suit the needs of DiverseBooks.com, which were to organise reviews of books in a tree structure by genre, author and title. Jyve is available from the Apache Software Foundation.



Flash Examples

- DiverseBooks quiz - The content for this quiz is supplied by an XML document.
- Matching Pairs Game - Randomly selects a specified number of tiles from a database of Science Fiction author photographs to use in each game.
- Medical Tutorial and Test - An interactive tutorial relating to the menopause. The user is tested at the end of the tutorial and redirected to the relevant part of the tutorial if they give an incorrect response.
- Questionnaire - A questionnaire aimed at informing potential clients of OpenWeb Analysts of the possibilities of Open Source technologies. Each question can display a hint if required and a form is included to collect customer details. The content is provided by an XML document.



Excolo - Case Study

Excolo were involved in a project for one of their financial clients which involved making training documents and sample contracts available on their intranet.

OpenWeb Analysts converted these documents from Word format to XML to conform to a schema supplied by Excolo.



How to Contact OWAL

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United Kingdom

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Or you can contact us by submitting our enquiry form

Company Registration Number: 3381380 - VAT Registration Number: 688 891550



Enquiry Form

OpenWeb Analysts Ltd
88 Poppleton Road
London
E11 1LT

Please complete this form giving brief details of your requirements. To take advantage of our offer of free consultancy, please describe your interest in open source.

Name : _____
Position : _____
Company : _____
Sector : _____
Requirements : _____

Address : _____

Postcode : _____
Email : _____
Tel : _____
Fax : _____

Data protection: The details you provide here will only be used by OpenWeb Analysts Ltd. to respond to your query, and not be distributed to any third parties.



Press Release

19 February 2002

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Free Consultancy" as in "Free Beer"

(London, England) - Openweb Analysts Ltd is now offering free consultancy to London based firms considering Open Source solutions for web development. They can find out more from <http://www.OWAL.co.uk/>

Companies and government bodies who are thinking of using free software can now contact an expert for advice. They should email "advice@OWAL.co.uk" with an explanation of their business and their interest in open source. They will receive a response examining potential open source solutions for their business. Those companies most able to benefit will be offered a free face to face meeting to discuss it further.

Alex McLintock, Managing Director of Openweb Analysts Ltd, says "Open Source developers put time and effort in writing software for free use. The main reason why it isn't more widely used is the lack of Open Source expertise. We aim to provide that"

Openweb Analysts Ltd is putting out a call to other open source developers to register with them and offer their expertise in the same way.

About the Company: Openweb Analysts Ltd, (<http://www.OWAL.co.uk/>) is software consultancy which develops internet services for companies in London. It specialises in using Java and perl components to build complex websites.

About the Headline: Open Source Software is commonly described as "free" in the sense of "free speech" because anyone is allowed to add to it and make any improvements they wish but sometimes also free in the sense of "free beer".

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