

What's up with Open Standards?

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It is hard enough for people to understand what protocols such as TCP/IP do. These open standards however are invisible to most of them, even if they're using them on a daily basis. Other open standards, such as OpenDocument Format, are probably not conceivable by some people, who think that an office document is ?an extension of Microsoft Office?. I have even heard of teachers, here in France, who refused to even mention ODF because such a thing ?could not possibly exist?. The conceptual distinction between a file and an application has not permeated much, even in the twenty first century.

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