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The First Russian Open Source Forum

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On April 27-29, 2005, the first Russian Open Source Forum took place in Moscow, Radisson SAS Slavianskaya Hotel. The main goal of the Forum was to bring together the leaders of Open Source industry from Russia, Europe and the USA; representatives of government bodies and universities ? and generally all the users interested in using stable and reasonably priced software. Open Source Forum Russia was organized by RUSSOFT Association, its official marketing agency Fort-Ross Ltd, VNIINS and Linux Ink, the oldest Russian Open Source company which lend the technical and ideological support to the Forum. More than 2400 visitors attended the conference and the exhibition.

On April 27 OASIS Open Standards Day section was organized, where the leading experts of Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards made several reports about open standards and service-oriented architecture.

The commencement meeting of the Forum started with a show-program. The visitors could enjoy picturesque views of the Northern Europe followed by symphony orchestra and panoramic images of urbanized cities. A flock of Penguins struggling with a gale was demonstrated as a symbol of Linux. It was a metaphorical illustration of the way how Linux invented by Finnish student Linux Torwalds became a worthy alternative to proprietary operating systems.

On the first Plenary Section Jon maddog Hall made a speech about ?The Death of Proprietary Software - the rebirth of service?. In the exclusive interview Mr. Hall said that at the conference there was a nice mixture of business and users of Linux.

Larry Wall, the creator of Perl, shared his impressions: ?I am surprised by the excitement, and it is not surface excitement, but a deep one. This is how things happen!?

The success of the First Russian Open Source Forum, the keen interest of giant corporations to Linux and the growing popularity of Open Source software give us confidence that next year Open Source Forum Russia will present an outstanding communications platform for meeting with customers and partners!

More than 60 newspapers, magazines and publishing houses have supported the Forum.

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