Florian Effenberger

Deploying OpenOffice.org

Installation and Configuration in a Corporate Network

Linux-Kongress Nuremberg
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Who's that guy?

- Volunteer in the OpenOffice.org community since 2004
- Marketing Project Lead
- Board of Directors at OpenOffice.org Deutschland e.V.

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Houston,
we have a problem!

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You know these?

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What's wrong?

- “Sneakernet“
  - Software is installed once and will never be updated (i.e. neither fixes nor features)
  - Administrator “walks“ from client to client
  - No consistent configuration
- Solutions
  - Workstation cloning (imaging)
  - Setting up a terminal server
  - Software deployment and configuration management

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A bit of theory...

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Software deployment

- How it works
  - All packages are on the server
  - Software database for each client
  - Installation over the network without user interaction (“silent“)
- Problems
  - Software must be a “package“
  - Distribution needs bandwith
  - Nontheless best solution

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Software deployment

- Windows
  - Software not always packaged (MSI)
  - Different (and ugly) setup routines
  - Built-in deployment only with server
- Linux
  - Most software available as package
  - Mainly problems with legacy software
  - Contains basic software deployment

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Configuration management

- Intention
  - Senseful defaults for broad user range rather than “every man for himself“
  - Help supporters and trainers
  - Locking of specific settings
  - Security policies
- Scope
  - Global (“domain wide“)
  - For machines or groups
  - Per user

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Configuration management

- Basics on Windows
  - Group policies via Active Directory
  - Registry keys
  - Configuration files
- Basics on Linux
  - Configuration in /etc and /home
  - LDAP backend

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In medias res

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What about OpenOffice.org?

- Software deployment
  - DEB and RPM for Linux, MSI for Windows
  - Usable with most deployment toolkits
  - Extension deployment with unopkg
- Configuration management
  - XCU files (XML Registry Update Format)
  - Platform-independent format and syntax
  - Nearly all settings are stored as XCU
  - Applies also to extension configuration
  - Parts can be stored in LDAP

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Installation on Windows

- “Silent“ installation and updates possible
- **Please do not package yourself!**
- MSI properties for settings like
  - Installation path
  - Components to be installed
  - MS Office file associations
  - Desktop icon

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Example for Windows

Windows Installer

File types and desktop icon

Do not install Quickstart and Online Update

```
start /wait
msiexec /qb /norestart /i
openofficeorg32.msi
REGISTER_NO_MSO_TYPES=1
REGISTER_DOC=1
CREATEDESKTOPLINK=0
INSTALLLOCATION="C:\OOo"
ADDLOCAL=ALL
REMOVE=gm_o_Onlineupdate,
gm_o_Quickstart
```

MSI package

Destination path

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Installation on Linux

- Package and updates often already shipped by the distributor
- “Community Build“ as DEB and RPM
- Installation is always “silent“

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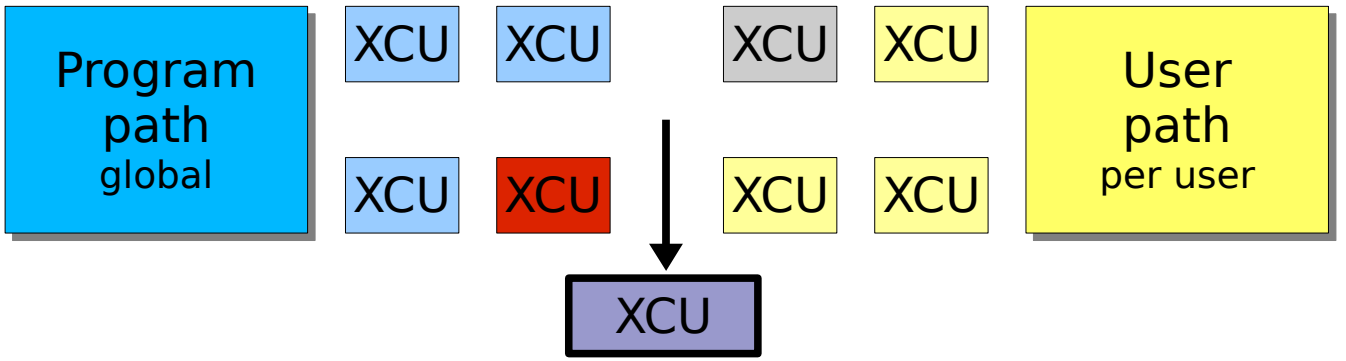
XCU configuration



Global setting is the default,
as long as user doesn't configure something else

If so, the global setting
will be overwritten with the user's configuration

Locked settings are always mandatory

Features and functions can be disabled entirely

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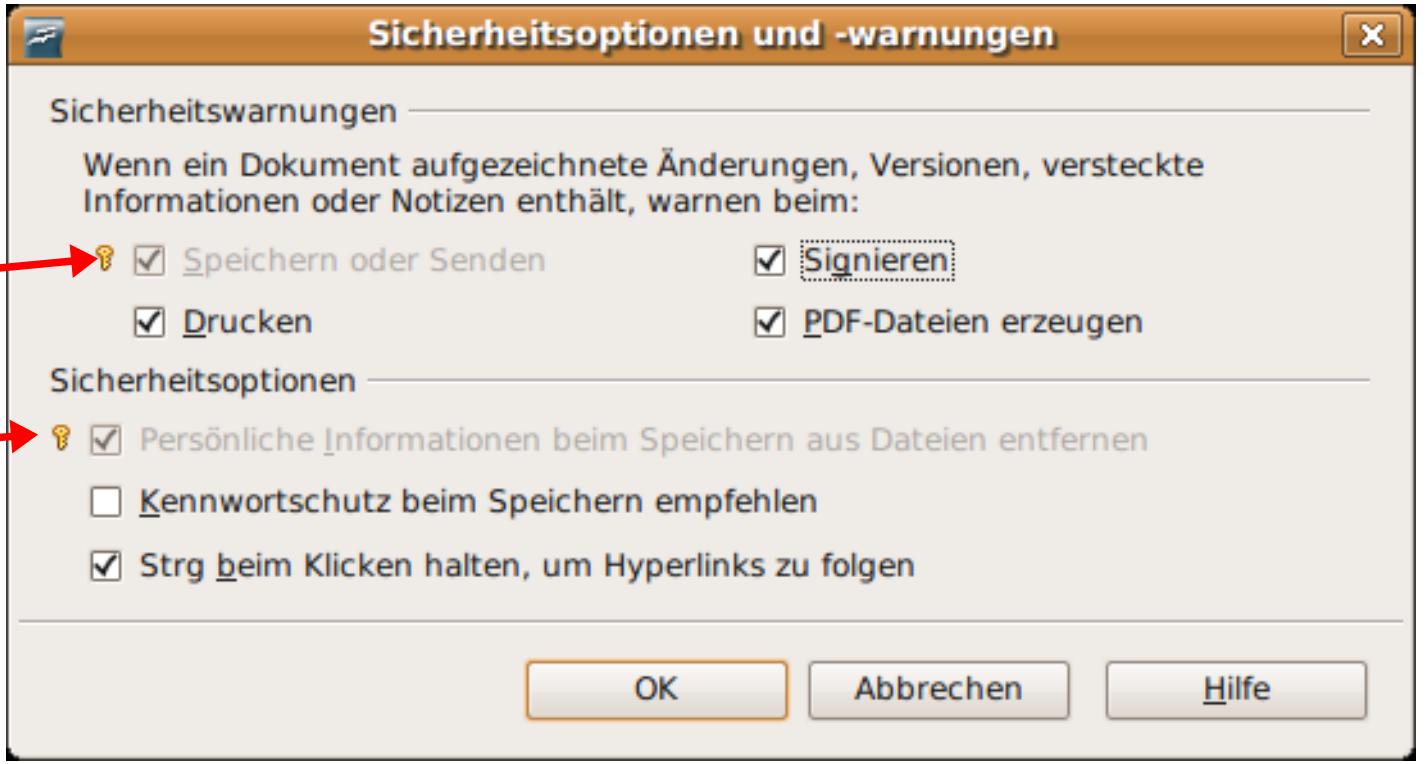
Configuration example



XCU syntax

Node 1st level

Setting

Node 2nd level

Value

Locked setting

```
<node oor:name="Security">
 <node oor:name="Scripting">
  <prop oor:name="RemovePersonalInfoOnSaving"
oor:type="xs:boolean">
   <value>true</value></prop>
  <prop oor:name="WarnSignDoc" oor:type="xs:boolean">
   <value>true</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="WarnCreatePDF" oor:type="xs:boolean">
   <value>true</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="WarnPrintDoc" oor:type="xs:boolean">
   <value>true</value>
  </prop>
  <prop oor:name="WarnSaveOrSendDoc"
oor:type="xs:boolean" oor:finalized="true">
   <value>true</value>
  </prop>
 </node>
</node>
```

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Best practice

- Configure with a test user
- Use resulting XCU files as template
- Copy them to the program path
- Remove path names and other personal settings
- Hint: XCU files can be deployed as extension

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Some more examples

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Macro security policy

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Disabling first start wizard

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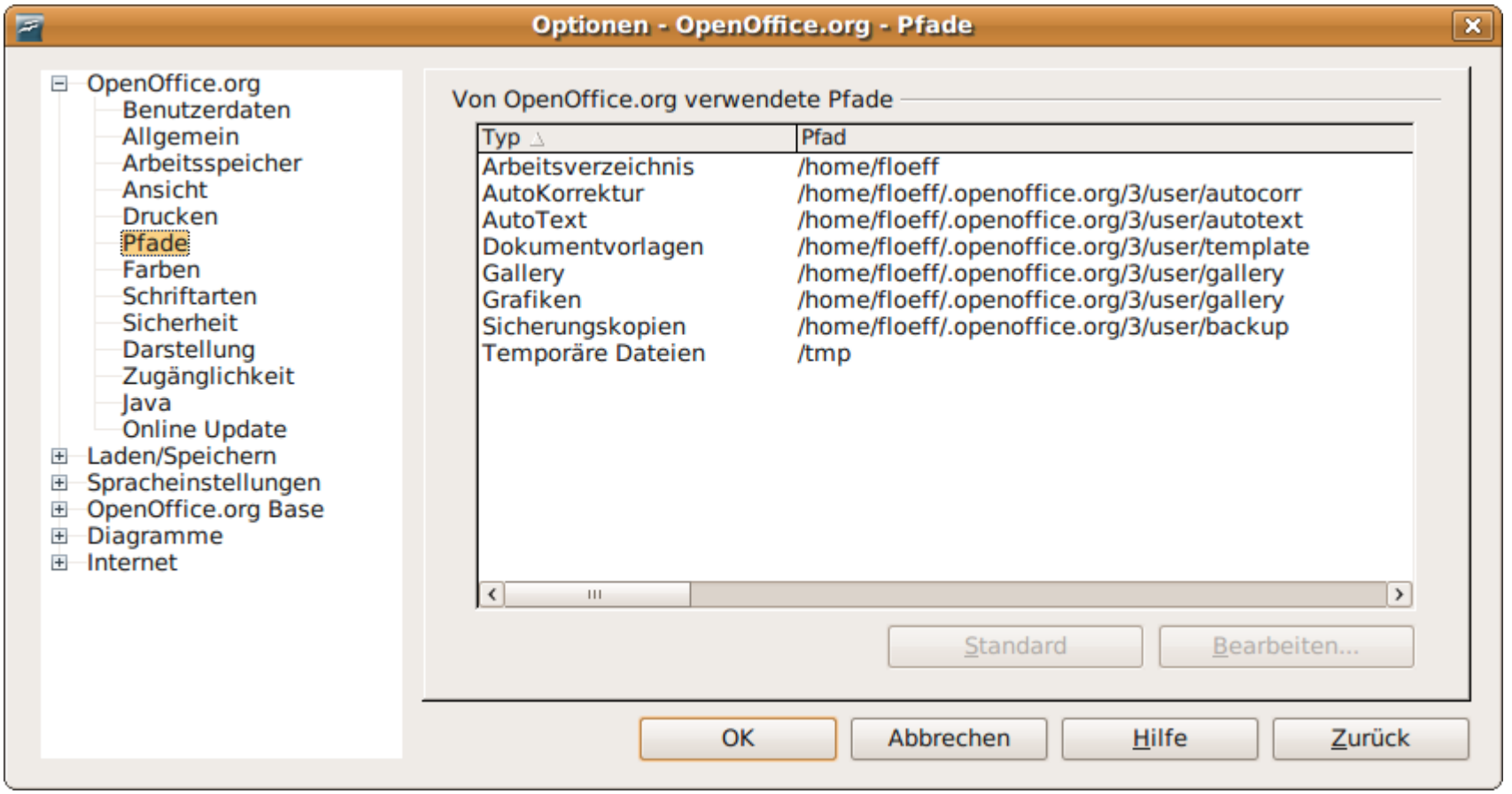
Setting network paths



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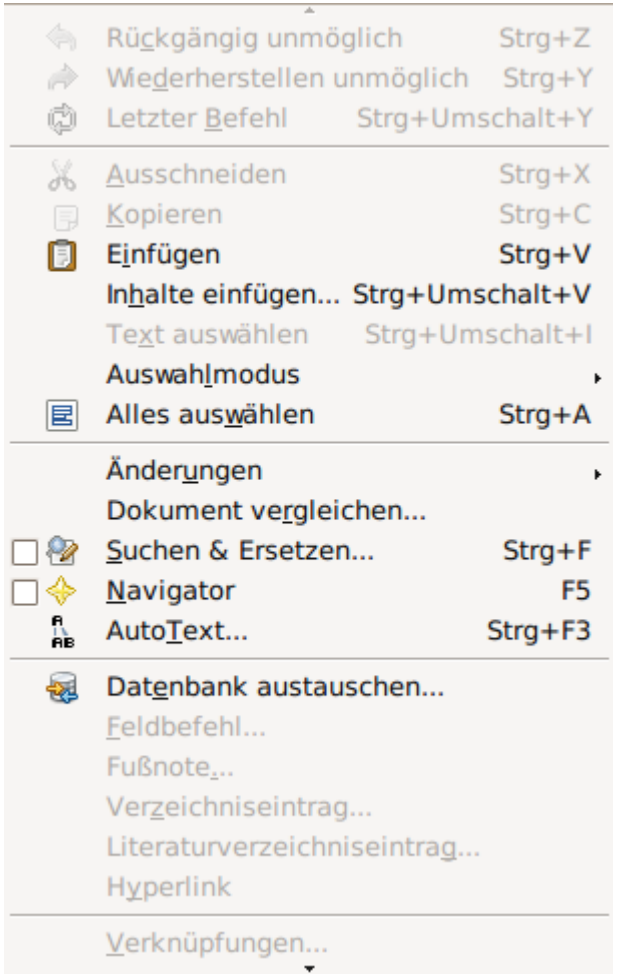
“Hidden“ settings



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In a nutshell...

- Software deployment is a must
  - Up-to-date software
  - Common configuration
  - Security policies
- OpenOffice.org
  - can be easily deployed
  - its configuration is manageable
- Hint: free software deployment solutions are extremely powerful

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Thank you!

E-mail: floeff@openoffice.org
Twitter/Identi.ca: @floeff

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Initial Writer contact(s): floeff@openoffice.org
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Even more examples...

- “Comfort“
  - Network printers
  - Templates and styles
  - Database registration
  - Toolbars, hotkeys and menus
  - Default file format
- Security
  - Certificates and paths
  - Removing metadata
- Disable “nags“
  - User Improvement Program
  - Crash Reporter

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