



SpagoWorld, the Open Source Initiative by Engineering

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This article is a case history of the experience of a large Information Technologies (IT) firm in developing and managing free open source software projects (OSS). It is intended to examine reasons, strategy, relations with the communities and results, and to provide lessons learned as a base for further developments and initiatives. In the first part, we introduce the company, its role and involvement in OSS activities. The article then presents the reasons behind the corporate strategy decision to enter in OSS and the business model of SpagoWorld, Engineering's main OSS initiative. Finally, the double role of commercial activities and community building and management is investigated with focus on the of the model's sustainability.

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