
credativ expands UK business as demand for free software rises

Linux and Free Software specialist, credativ, grows European operations

Rugby, UK. 26 February, 2008 - credativ, a leading international free software consultancy, today announced the expansion of its European operations as a result of increased demand for its Open Source support and consultancy services. New premises in Rugby, UK, and additions to credativ's team - increasing numbers to 42 across its offices in the UK and Germany - accompany the company's ongoing growth strategy.

credativ's expansion follows the recent launch of its UK Open Source Support Centre (OSSC) in November 2007, bringing new customer wins in the web services and education sectors. The consultancy's comprehensive support packages for Open Source Software go beyond the level of support provided to customers of commercial software vendors and are key to encouraging more organisations to adopt open source systems instead of proprietary technologies.

Chris Halls, Managing Director of credativ UK, commented: "Growing demand for both our consultancy and support services indicate that organisations have confidence in the knowledge that their free software implementations are supported by the highest levels of expertise. Increasingly, businesses are deploying Open Source software as they look to reduce the total cost of ownership and increase the stability and reliability of their systems. In 2008, we believe more companies will adopt free software as they become more aware of the quality support services that are available today."

credativ's UK successes are set to mirror those of its counterpart office in Germany by providing one-stop Open Source support from an in-house technical team of software engineers. Its support team is also enhanced by its active participation in the development of many Open Source projects. Further, the credativ team's wide experience allows it to take complete ownership of its customers support process, saving the customer valuable time which might otherwise be spent calling multiple support providers to fix each component of a problem.

"Many of our customers have benefited from working with one service provider able to

support several Open Source projects and provide consultancy services. Our straightforward cost model allows all of our customers' users and systems to be covered under a single agreement," added Halls.

The credativ support service is modular and tailored to the needs of SMEs, large enterprises and public sector organisations, giving businesses the flexibility of choosing a support package to meet their needs. It offers tier 3 support and direct contact to the experienced credativ team from the moment a customer calls into the OSSC. Packages range from Basic (at £135 per month, 2 hours support with an 8 hour response time) to a Comprehensive 24/7, 365 days a year package.

Distributions and applications supported by credativ include: Debian, Ubuntu, SUSE, Red Hat, Xandros, Gnome and KDE, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Kolab Groupware, eGroupware, Asterisk, Apache, Samba, Nagios and Xen. The company also provides support for free software that is integrated into mixed OS and proprietary environments to service the use of combined platforms and operating systems.

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About credativ

credativ Limited is an independent consulting and service company situated in Rugby, UK. credativ specialises in the planning and implementation of professional IT systems through the use of free software since 1999 in Germany and in the UK since 2004.

credativ has operated the Open Source Support Center (OSSC) in Germany since 2006, and the UK since 2007, offering professional 24x7 business support for many open source projects. credativ has 42 employees across its offices in the UK, Germany and Canada.

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