LibreOffice configuration management

tools, approaches & best practices

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What, Why, How

- Customize LibreOffice – repeatably
- Makes your life easier, happier & more secure
  - Large-scale deployments
  - Improved user experience
  - Lockdown / policy / compliance
- LibreOffice can do (most) of that out-of-the-box!
The LibreOffice config subsystem
Architecture

<?xml>

Hardwired Configuration Schema

<?xml>

Administrative Configuration

<?xml>

User Configuration

<?xml>

Hardwired Configuration Schema
<oor:component-schema>
  <group oor:name="MyGroup">
    <prop oor:name="MyItem" oor:type="xs:string">
      <value>A Sample</value>
    </prop>
  </group>
</oor:component-schema>

DDTD Link

Hardwired Configuration Schema
<oor:component-data>
  <node oor:name="MyGroup">
    <prop oor:name="MyItem" oor:type="xs:string">
      <value>A Modified Sample</value>
    </prop>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>

In a read-only location for plain users, e.g.

/usr/lib64/libreoffice/basis3.5/share/registry/main.xcd
User Layer

User Configuration

```xml
<oor:component-data>
  <node oor:name="MyGroup">
    <prop oor:name="MyItem" oor:type="xs:string">
      <value>An even more modified Sample</value>
    </prop>
  </node>
</oor:component-data>

- Tools->Options
- Extensions
- ...
```

Few more sub-layers:
Layer priorities

- Normally, upper layers win
  - Admin config overrides schema defaults
  - User config overrides admin value
- Not helpful for lock-down / security policies:
  - Use `oor:finalized="true` then in lower layers
How to customize LibreOffice
Clean install approach

- Hint: start with a completely new, clean user
- Configure LibreOffice via Tools->Options
- Extract changed config items:
  - ~/.config/libreoffice/3/user/registrymodifications.xcu
  - ~/Application
    Support/LibreOffice/3/user/registrymodifications.xcu
  - %AppData%\LibreOffice\3\user\registrymodifications.xcu
Grok `<?xml>` Approach

- Digest schema files from http://cgit.freedesktop.org/libreoffice/core/tree/officecfg/registry

- Type up / amend your `registrymodifications.xcu`

- Just kidding -
Install OOConfig extension

- http://users.freedesktop.org/~thorsten/extensions/ooconfig.oxt
- Tweak config, including hidden config items

- DEMO -
(Also note my package in OBS)
How to deploy customizations
Create a customization extension

- Contains just .xcu file as payload
- Example here: http://users.freedesktop.org/~thorsten/extensions/config_only_sample.oxt
To prevent your users from changing your setup:

Perform an administrative installation

- `/usr/lib64/libreoffice/program/unopkg --suppress-license --shared add path/to/config_only_sample.oxt`
- `"%PROGRAMFILES%\LibreOffice 3.5\program\unopkg" add --suppress-license --shared path\to\config_only_sample.oxt`
A Sample Deployable RPM

If you have an RPM-based deployment:

- Here's a sample package in the opensuse buildservice
- Grab the src rpm and tweak the contained oxt for your setup
- Do your own rpmbuild, or branch the package on OBS
Further information

- LDAP sample config
  - Plain LDAP
  - Active Directory-based

- Articles / Blogs
  - Configuration details (German)
  - Deployment & Migration
Helpful links

Contacting us

- Development: libreoffice@lists.freedesktop.org
- IRC: #libreoffice on freenode.net

Useful links

- Extensions: http://extensions.libreoffice.org/
- Wiki: http://wiki.documentfoundation.org

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