Free Alternatives to Microsoft Office

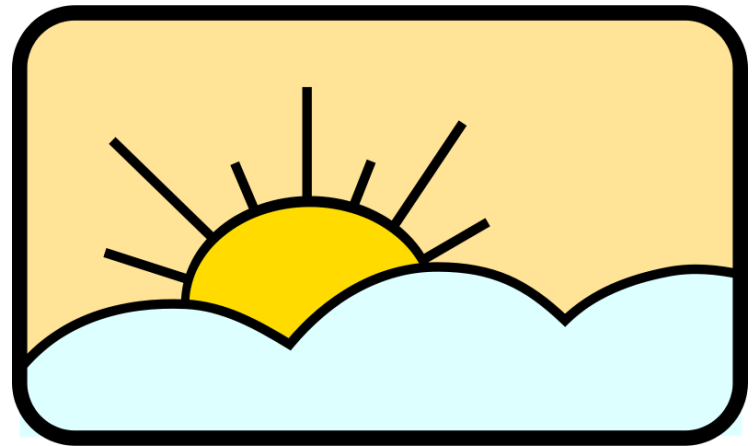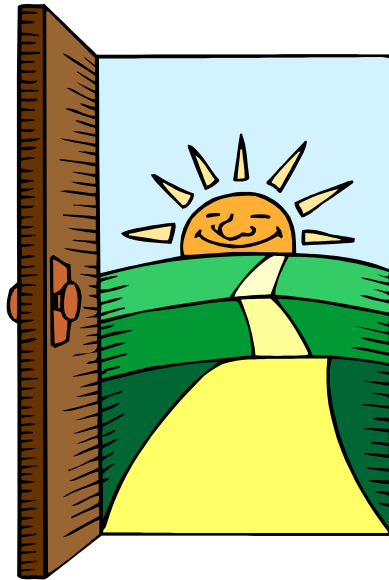**PCS**

March 14, 2014

Ray Carlson

Made with Kingsoft Presentation

OPEN OFFICE

- Began 2000 by Sun Microsystems as open source project
- Several volunteer programmers ontributed
- First version released to public in 2002
- Included wordprocessor, spreadsheet, presentation, database manager, drawing & formula editor
- By 2004, had 14% of office market
- Sun also sold Star Office based on same program
- Initial versions required a paid version of JAVA, but this was changed in 2006
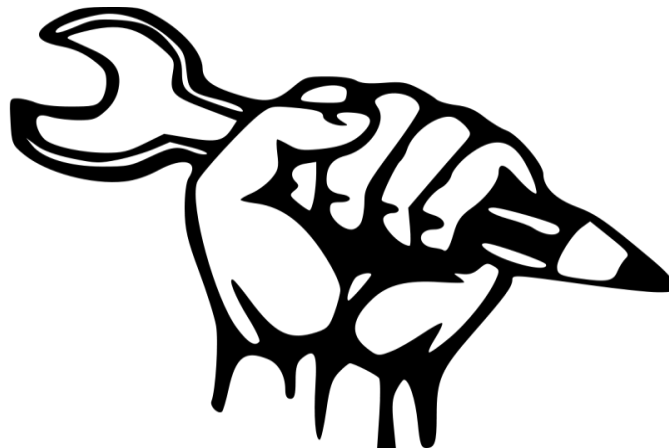- In 2010, Oracle acquired Sun & continued as before

LibreOffice

- **In September 2010, several programmers left & created The Document Foundation which redeveloped Open Office as [Libre Office](#)**

- **Oracle decided to close the project and, at IBM's suggestion, turned over the code to the Apache Software Foundation, who created [Apache Open Office](#) using mostly IBM employees**

- **LibreOffice attracted more developers & generated more features & more updates & reputation**

- **NeoOffice developed as a related project for Macs**

LibreOffice Features

- *Writer (LibreOffice) has (almost) all the features of Word (Microsoft) and is similar in appearance to recent versions of Word*

- Compatability of files between the two is good except for some formatting such as columns

- With some features like tracking changes, Writer is easier to understand

- *With Calc (LibreOffice), simple spreadsheets are identical to Excel*

- Both make macros, formulas to do multiple steps, but Calc has trouble interpretting Excel's, but not the reverse

LibreOffice Features

- *Impress (LibreOffice) has most of the features of PowerPoint (Microsoft) but does not import Power Point files well*

- **Impress lacks slide animations, video imports and some collaboration options**

- **Impress has more export options and does not require specific software to open presentation**

- **Base (Libre) and Access (Microsoft) createreasonable databases but Access works mostly with Microsoft software, can work more independently and handles larger amounts of data.**
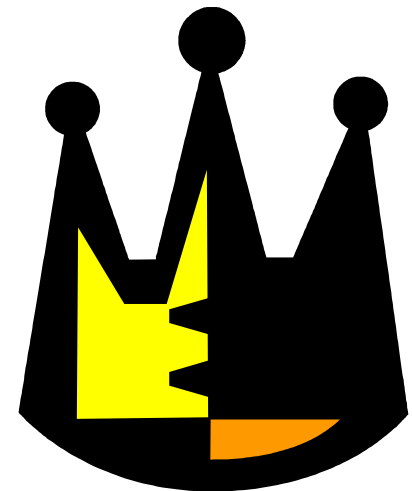
LibreOffice Features

- **Has own format for files, e.g. odt, odp, but can save (and open) all Microsoft, rtf, txt, html - default is odt**
- ***USB version of LibreOffice is available, but not for Microsoft Office***
- **See comparison of LibreOffice and Microsoft at https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/Feature_Comparison:_LibreOffice_-_Microsoft_Office**
- **2 versions -- fresh & stable**
- **Available for Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, <u>not</u> android**
- **Download at: https://www.libreoffice.org/**

Come in we're
Open

Business Hours

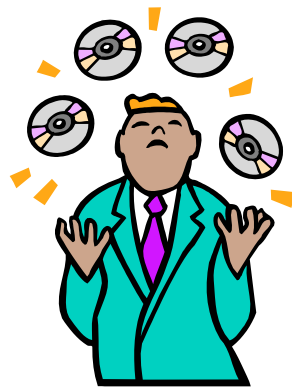| Monday	9:00 - 5:00
Tuesday	9:00 - 5:00
Wednesday	9:00 - 5:00
Thursday	9:00 - 5:00
Friday	9:00 - 5:00
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	Closed

ODP
Document

Kingsoft Office

- **Kingsoft is a Chinese company who offer a free and profesional version of Office**

- **Free version now recognized as a major alternative to both Microsoft and LibreOffice becuase**

  - **Classic design of Writer is like Office 2003 so easier to learn for those who prefer dropdown menus to ribbons**

  - **Better sharing of files including columns**

  - **Drag and drop paragraph layout**

  - **Tabs for multiple files**

  - **Simpler than LibreOffice**

  - **USB available**

Kingsoft Office

- **Major Limitations**
  - **Only Writer, Spreadsheets & Presentations, no email, database, drawing, publishing**
  - **Will not open OpenOffice unless saved as rtf or Microsoft,**
  - **? about Office 2013, no pptx for output (soon)**
  - **No 3D, translation, grammar, thesaurus, clipart**
  - **Macros limited to paid version**
  - **No in-program help, but manual & FAQ on-line and can email questions**

Kingsoft Office

- **Versions for Windows, iOS, Andriod and Linux**
- **Download at**

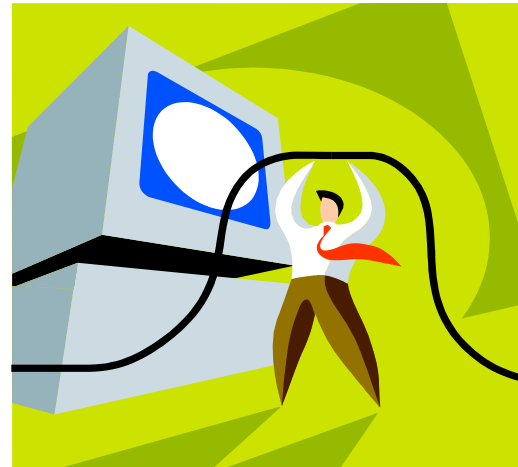**http://www.ksosoft.com/downloads/app-downloads**

- **Professional version makes macros including visual basic ones and costs about $70 or $30 for a year.**

MARKET SHARE
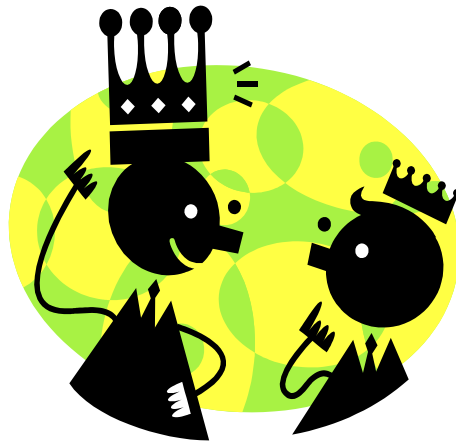
- In 2011, users of non-Microsoft suites already estimated at 10 million
- Now, 75 million plus
- Most businesses have stuck with Microsoft but are gradually shifting to cloud - see below
- Microsoft Office 2010 is strongest
- Several foreign governments have formally adopted LibreOffice

Changing Recommendations

- **Kingsoft rarely used outside of China but positive publicity during last six months should change that**

- **Now being recommended for those wanting an easy, very compatible basic suite**

- **Most common recommendation: Try It & See**

- **Comparison of all office suites:**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_office_suites

Cloud-based

- **Google Drive - Docs,Sheets, Slide Presentation, Forms, etc. Allows collaborative work - 15 GB - See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Drive**

- **Office On-line - just improved accessibility - 7 GB free**

- **iWork with iCloud - fewer features - free with new device - 5 GB - see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IWork**

- **Zoho Docs - word processor, Spreadsheet & Presentation - 5 GB free. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoho_Office_Suite**

Thank You

Thank You

Kingsoft Office

Make Presentation much more fun

t **@Kingsoft_Office**

f **kingsoftstore**