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IBM and Open Standards Fact Sheet

We are on the cusp of a new, vastly more open society that is fueled by open source software and open standards that empower that software and the Internet itself, and an open, global community that values collaboration and sharing more than secrecy where innovation and promise are concerned. IBM has played a global leadership role in driving, defining and supporting a positive, rapid evolution towards an open society.

IBM's Leadership in Open Standards:

- IBM is a member of hundreds of standards organizations across multiple industries and leads working groups, edits specifications, and is on the boards of directors in many of them.
- IBM is an integral player in industry standards, including telecommunications, healthcare, energy, financial services, retail, media & entertainment.
- IBM is an outspoken leader for standards and has helped champion, shape and participate in the standards at the core of the Internet.
- Examples of standards bodies that IBM participates in, and plays a leadership role in include OASIS, W3C, IETF and Global Grid Forum. Additionally, IBM is involved with national, international and industry-specific standard bodies such as ACORD, ARTS, AIAG, HealthLevel 7 (HL7), MPEG-4 and others.

The Value of Open Standards

- Open standards enable collaboration and innovation.
- Open standards are the answer to creating large-scale, meaningful solutions at the societal level all the way to the industry level.
- IBM is leading by example to support standards that drive new business. Open standards allow IBM to build integrated, interoperable and collaborative industry solutions that give customers choice.
- Open standards act as a blueprint, an insurance policy if you will, that allows a variety of technologies and industries such as health care, financial services, automotive, retail, energy and others to share information and link it faster, easier and at lower costs. Interoperability is the goal to deliver better goods, services and intelligent data. Open standards gives businesses choice, that interoperability, rather than one closed, proprietary solution.

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- As the performance of information technologies continues to increase while their cost is constantly declining, powerful technologies, combined with open standards and the Internet, are building a global infrastructure which gives people access to all sorts of resources worldwide.
- The resulting environment will become more cross-industry and characterized by collaborative innovation driven by open standards. Open standards will be the foundation that will allow industries to link disparate systems together faster, easier and at lower costs to deliver a variety of new solutions that will benefit industries and end users alike
- IBM is leading a worldwide effort to accelerate standards in and across the industries. For example, open standards will propel the convergence of health analytics to allow data from clinical genomics, research, pharmaceuticals, financial and more to be quickly and easily accessed and analyzed to accelerate personalized medicine and improve patient centric care.

Examples of Open Standards

There are many standards, though sometimes these vary by geographic location:

- Building safety codes
- Electrical current and voltage; wire gauges; and designs of plugs, outlets, and light receptacles
- Gasoline octanes
- Computer hardware connectors
- CD and DVD disk encodings
- How web pages describe how they are to be formatted

Open standards in the IT industry:

- HTML, HTTP, XML for web and information structure
- SOAP, WSDL, WS-Security for web services and SOA

As a comparison, here are some examples of open source IT:

- Apache web server
- Linux operating system for desktops & datacenters
- MySQL and Apache Derby databases
- OpenOffice desktop suite
- Eclipse integrated software development environment
- Firefox web browser

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Examples of Open Standards in Vertical Industries

- In healthcare, standards are driving a new era of health analytics - from clinical genomics to biomarkers - that hold the promise to bring more personalized medicine by allowing health information, research, and pharma data to be retrieved from a variety of areas and analyzed faster and easier; standards are allowing healthcare, retail and financial industries to collaborate to deliver a new era of patient centric care.
- New intelligent energy solutions, all made possible by standards, will help in the production and delivery of efficient, environmentally-friendly energy and allow the industry, government and consumers to collaborate to make our energy systems "smart" to fuel our global economy, and to protect our planet.
- In a future world filled with smart transportation — smarter roads, smart shipping systems and smarter public transit systems --- open standards will be the driving force that will help bring all the complex systems together so people, vehicles and shipments arrive on time and arrive safely.
- Standards are the glue in the new converged communications market that will allow telecom, consumer electronics, media/entertainment to deliver new consumer services.
- As the retail industry grapples to improve customer satisfaction, the use of self checkout, personal shopping devices, kiosks, pay at the pump and other point of sale solutions beyond the traditional cash register are gaining momentum because of an open standards based infrastructure that allows existing POS customer data and business systems to be easily integrated so information can be shared seamlessly.

Weitere Informationen zu IBM finden Sie unter: www.ibm.com/de/

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