
Free software in schools

2004 年 12 月 19 日

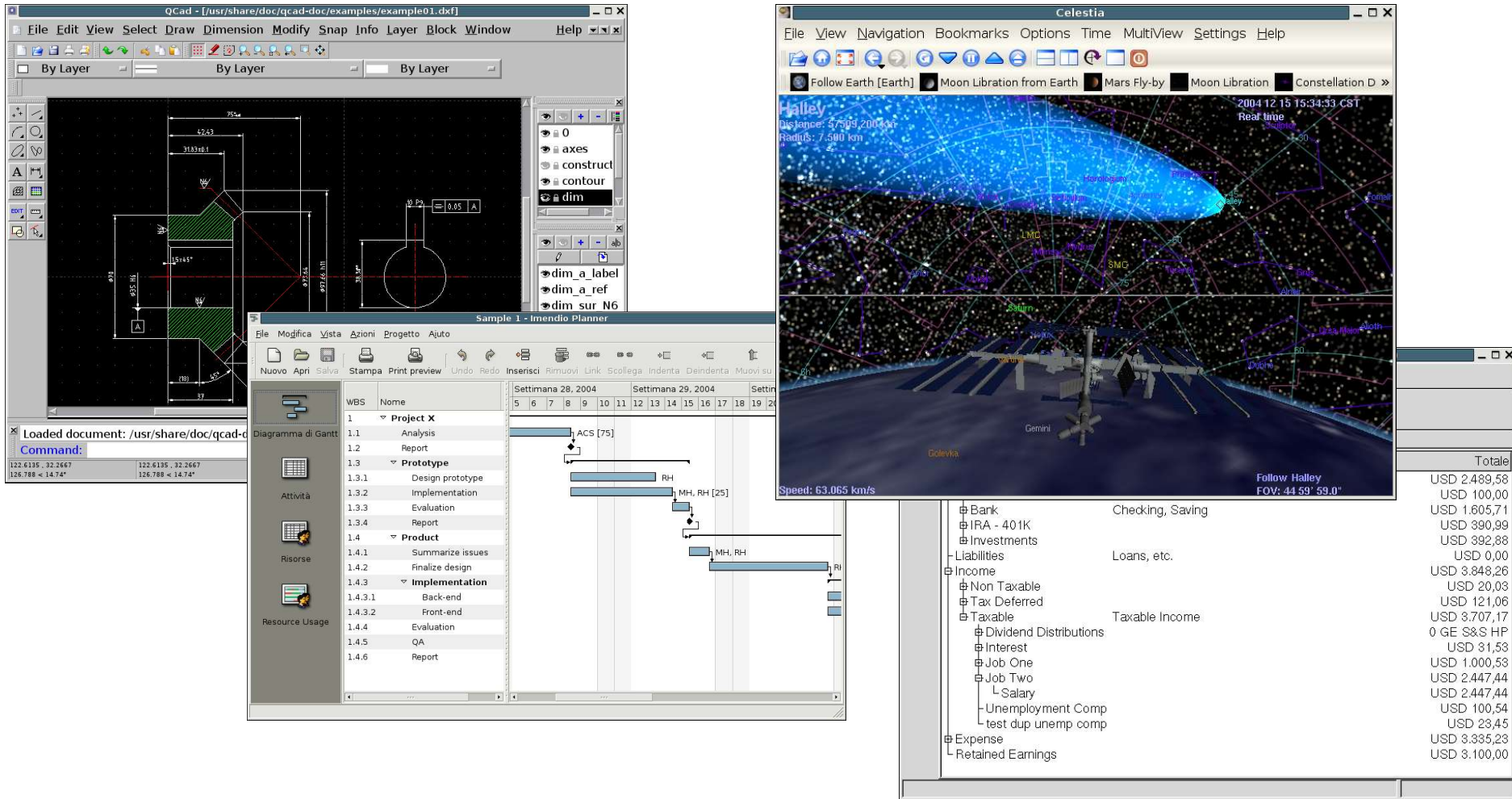
11 slides

Enrico Zini (enrico@debian.org)

What brand of cars does your driving school use?

(and is this any useful when learning how to drive?)

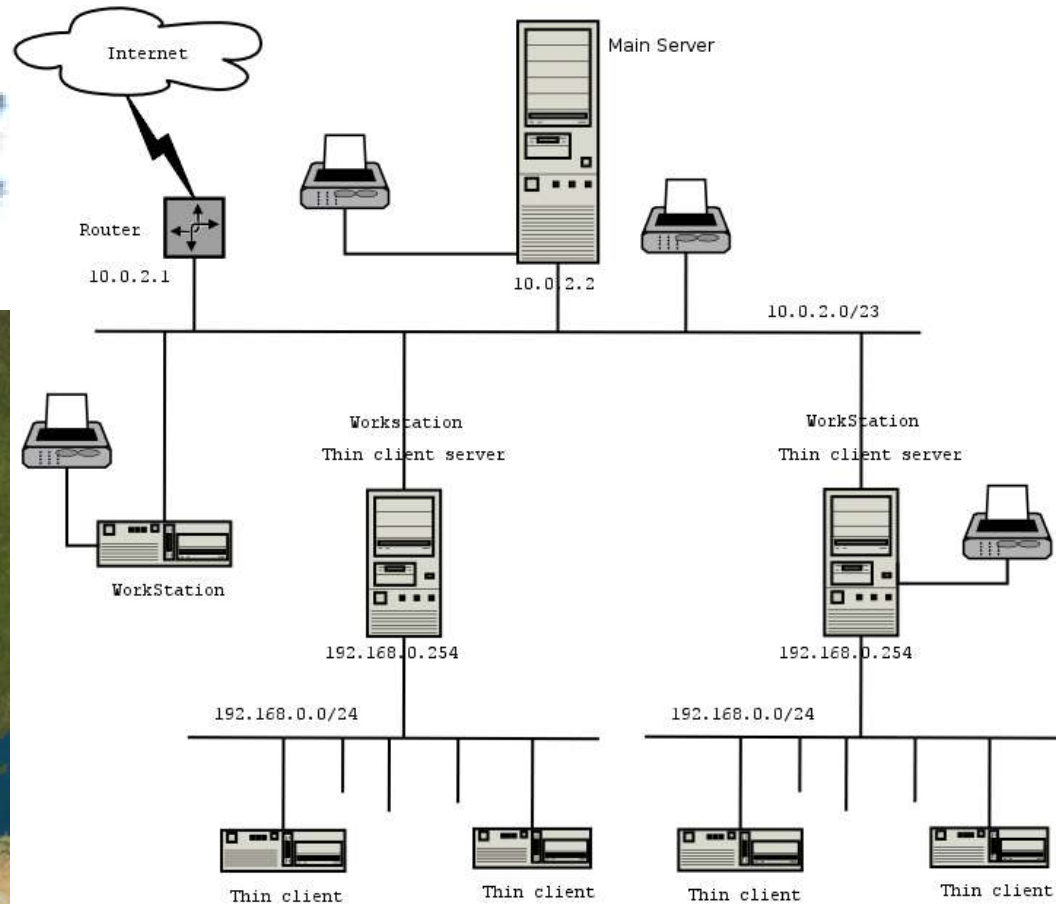
Computers are not only Office



"It is possible to give students the programs used at school so that they can continue the work at home, without imposing expenses on the families and without encouraging the practice of illegal copying."

Daniela Volta, italian and latin teacher, J.M.Keynes High School

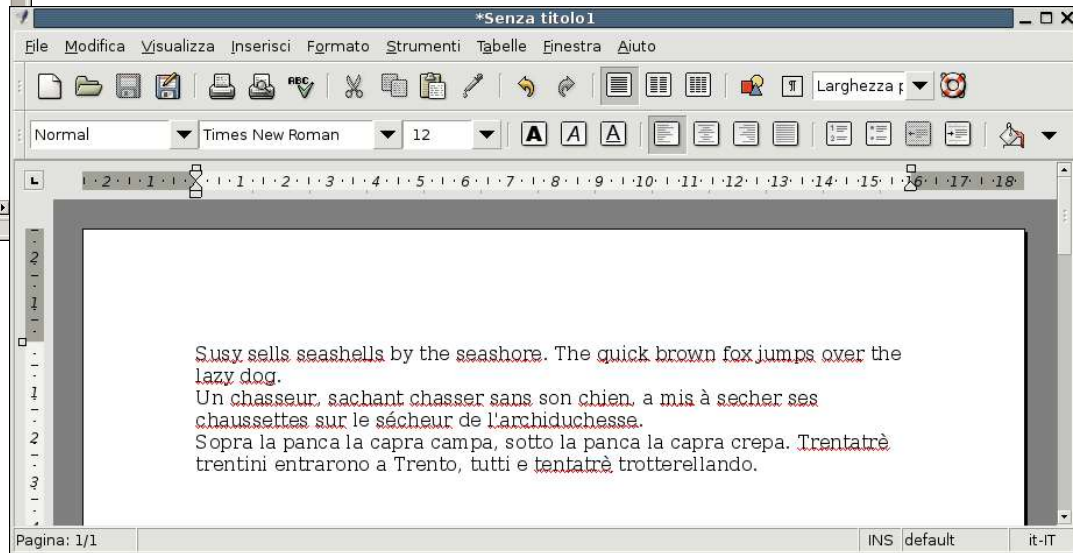
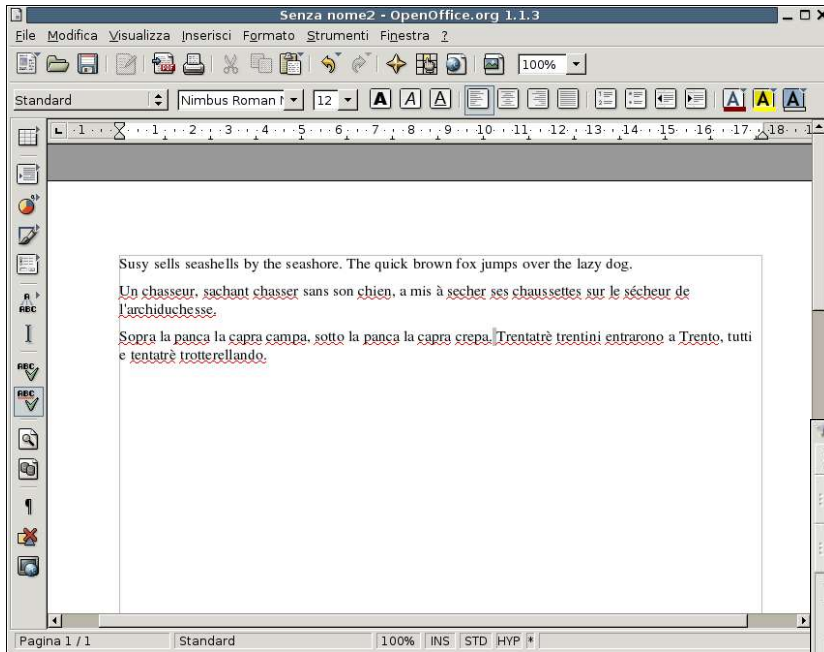
Software needs not to be generic



"Using free and alternative software is perfect for educating students to use computers as tools for study and work"

Daniela Volta, italian and latin teacher, J.M.Keynes High School

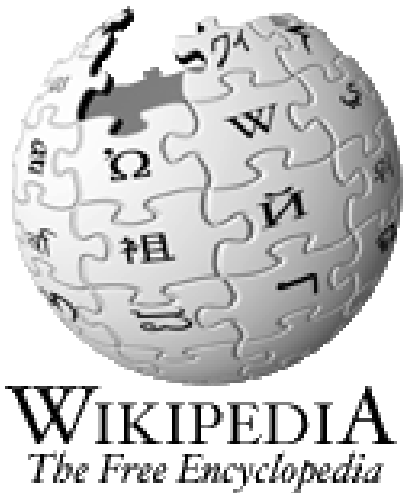
There can be more than one way



"Information technology education must not mean training students to use specific applications. Instead, one should develop skills that are valid with most of the programs that may be installed"

Daniela Volta, italian and latin teacher, J.M.Keynes High School

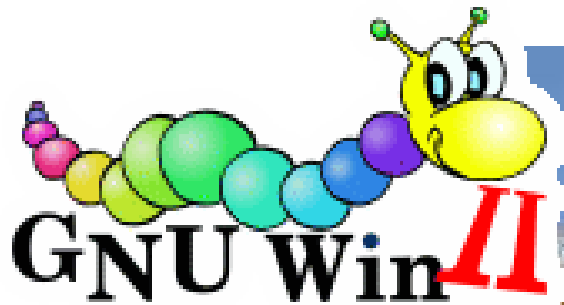
Not only software is free



<http://www.wikipedia.org>
<http://www.gutenberg.org>
Many, many others

"LUCKILY, there are always things that haven't been translated yet!"
Alberto Gistri, Gruppo Operativo Linux Empoli

Free Software also runs on Windows



<http://gnuwin.epfl.ch>

If you can't change operating system now,
you can start with the applications

"Thanks to Free Software, our students can compare the performance of different programs; they know the problems related to different document formats; and they have developed a more critical and informed way of using computers as a working tool."

Daniela Volta, italian and latin teacher, J.M.Keynes High School

You would not be alone



SCHOOLFORGE

Working together to unleash the power of open source tools in education.

<http://www.schoolforge.net>

You can learn together with others.

You can learn from what others have done.

You can create something new, and show others what you have done.

Our staff who created the school's system has grown professionally, gaining many new skills. Free Software allows us to study and find solutions, to modify the system with absolute freedom, with much less legal obstacles, and with the support of a community which is open to sharing technological knowledge"

Daniela Volta, italian and latin teacher, J.M.Keynes High School

Some experiences from Italy...

Individual cases start to link together (2004-11-17 meeting in Empoli)

J.M.Keynes High School:

- Uses Free Software applications on Windows
- Linux servers with lots of internal and external services (started using internal e-mail, stopped using paper)
- Saved on licenses, created one more computer room
- Gives students free CDs with the software they use at school
- Created the Italian thesaurus for OpenOffice.org

Empoli schools:

- Agreed with local administration to work only with Free Software
- Built Linux-based laboratories, migrating courses to Free Software applications
- Cryptography math course
- Started evaluating the Linux compatibility of special hardware like electronic whiteboards

From Spain...



Conclusion



- It can be done!
- It is being done!
- You can do it!
- Do it!