

Zope Europe Association v2

Xavier Heymans
1st Plone Belgium meeting
Royal Museum for Central Africa
November 16, 2004

- **Zope/Plone : an international success**
 - Leading open source application server and CMS
 - Core developers : 300+ mostly in 21 EU countries
 - Users : over 150 universities in EU + public users + private
- **Success brings increasing complexity**
 - Coordination, marketing, project management, legal

Zope Europe Association

- Focus
 - Content management deployment
 - Fund open source development through projects
- ZEA management
 - Paul Everitt : Founder and Product Leader, France.
 - Xavier Heymans : CEO, Belgium.
- ZEA partners
 - Key players in Zope/Plone communities
 - Austria, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, France, Germany

Results 2004 : organisation

- ZEA v2
 - Set-up bases for future development
 - Designed for collaboration
 - Now open to new partners
- Plone Foundation support
 - Start-up, IP & Trademark
 - Paul executive director

Results 2004 : technology

- First consulting project for an international NGO
 - 6 ZEA partners involved
 - Linguaplone, versioning, multisite, kupu editor
 - International project management
- ZEA results & public interest
 - Users get an improved technology

EU Challenges

by Marcel Crochet, UCL former Rector, Belgium. June 2004

- Priority fields : nano / bio / information technologies
- Increase R&D budget and results
- Transform R&D into products
- Develop transnational cooperation
- Collaboration with emerging economies

-> Matches Zope Europe and Zope businesses activities

Common challenges

EU, Universities, public users, users, developers

- Develop knowledge and skills
- Professional open source
- Durable impact
- Safety and assurance

- **Developers challenges**
 - Want to focus on their expertise
 - Financial burden of R&D, sprints, events
 - Need of central coordination
- **ZEA challenges**
 - Support professional Zope businesses
 - Fund central services & activities
 - Develop collaboration : EU FP6

Virtuous Cycle

- Society needs open source CMS software
- Customers needs professional service delivery
- Consultants need sustainable livelihood
- ZEA supports public software by connecting customers and consultants

A partner for collaboration

- ZEA offers :
 - Key developers : Zope 2 & 3, Plone, Silva
 - Expertise in applied research and deployment
 - International management
- Looking for :
 - Consulting projects
 - Partners for EU projects
 - Sponsors to fund central services

Opportunities

- EU projects as FP6 : partner in consortium
- Universities collaboration in R&D (150+)
- Regional funding
- Users : spectators or active players?
- Events : sprints, conferences, R&D, ...
- ...