Is this software development, or is it a mission?

Maybe it's the challenge of working in a technically demanding environment; maybe it's knowing your expertise is recognised by your peers; maybe it's being thanked by tens of millions of ordinary people around the globe. Whatever the reason, software developers around the world are discovering the rewards of volunteering their time and professional skills to OpenOffice.org.

We are the OpenOffice.org community, home of the world's leading open-source office productivity suite. We are looking for developers to help us take OpenOffice.org forward to version 3 and beyond. Join us – and discover the satisfaction of working on one of the world's most challenging and rewarding software projects.

Core Developers

OpenOffice.org 2 is a big application, around eight million lines of code developed over twenty years, and built on all major computing platforms.

Mastering the code and being able to take it forward requires a high degree of technical skill. Developers must be fluent in one of the core languages (C++, Java), on one or more platforms (Mac OS X gurus are particularly welcomed).

You need to be able to work as part of a virtual team over the internet (mailing lists, IRC, etc.). Core documentation is in English.

OpenOffice.org is organised into projects, and project teams are happy to mentor new recruits who show ability and commitment. Browse the list of projects at http://projects.openoffice.org, decide which is a best fit for your skills, and email the project lead.

Extension Developers

OpenOffice.org extensions provide additional features which can be installed or removed by end users. A well engineered extension has all the features of the core application – menu and help system integration, etc.

Extensions can be developed in a variety of languages such as Java, C++ and Python. Developers need to understand the OpenOffice.org API and its UNO architecture, but do not need the knowledge of the codebase required to be a core developer.

Developers are invited to discuss their extensions on the appropriate project mailing list. Completed extensions may be posted to the OpenOffice.org repository.

For more information, visit http://www.openoffice.org/joinus