

EOFS

European Open File System

Foundation of the European Open File Systems SCE
The European Open File System SCE was initiated on December 15, 2010 at headquarter of ParTec CCC GmbH in Munich, Germany



As a legal form the Societas Cooperativa Europaea (SCE) was selected.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Thomas Lippert, Director of Jülich Super-computer Centre, stresses the fact that this is the first time that a European-wide consortium engages in the Open Source development of high speed file systems. This European OFS SCE initiative will become a strong player on an international level.

Jean Gonnord, Chef de Projet Simulation Numerique at CEA/DAM stated: "Having an Open Source file system is a necessity for high end supercomputers producing massive amounts of data. Such an important piece of the file system software cannot be made proprietary with no absolute guarantee of future access. This is the main reason why CEA has supported and will continue to support LUSTRE

as an Open Source file system. As with any Open Source software, LUSTRE should be supported by the largest community of users. We hope that the organization will prioritize its development efforts to continually improve the functionality and stability of an Open Source code base."

"I am very pleased that the OFS SCE is now founded. I believe this co-operative provides a crucial platform for the development of an European centric Exascale file system, whilst maintaining an important bridge to similar development efforts in the United States." said Hugo R. Falter, Chief Operating Officer of ParTec Cluster Competence Center GmbH.

The purpose of this enterprise is to promote the establishment and adoption of an Open Source parallel file system, sustain and enhance its quality, capabilities and functionality and to ensure that the specific requirements of European organizations, institutions and companies are considered.

The following 16 organisations and companies have currently joined the cooperative:

- Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
- Bull GmbH
- CEA/DAM
- Data Direct Networks
- Universities of Zürich, Switzerland and Paderborn
- GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH
- credativ GmbH
- T-Platforms
- HPCFS
- Hewlett-Packard
- Whamcloud
- Leibniz Rechenzentrum (LRZ)
- ParTec CCC GmbH
- EUROTECH S.p.A.
- Xyratex Technology Limited

Furthermore Rechenzentrum Garching (RZG) expressed its strong wish to cooperate with the European OFS SCE in the field of Open Source parallel file systems.

The purpose of the EOFS is the promotion and servicing of the members. The subject matter is:

- To promote the establishment and adoption of Open Source parallel file-systems, sustain and enhance its quality, capabilities and functionality and ensure that specific requirements of European organizations, institutions and companies are upheld.
- To facilitate the extension of business operations to non-members.

- To initiate projects or to collaborate with existing projects at regional, national, European and international level in order to support Research & Development activities concerning Open File Systems.
- To ensure that engagement and activities with other organizations will not directly or indirectly interfere with the intellectual property or other contractual and legal obligations of its members.
- To operate as a non-profit organization.

EOFS agrees on the following and decided in March 2011:

- We all agree on one repository for Lustre currently hosted by Whamcloud.
- We fully support the upcoming 2.1 community release of Lustre.
- We acknowledge our members' efforts to continue contributing to the further development and support of Lustre and add features/patches to the single repository.
- We encourage further contribution.

On LUG'2011 the representatives of "OpenSFS¹" and "HPCFS²" announced the intended merger of both organisation and the close collaboration with EOFS to establish a single unified Lustre community.

The European EOFS group will remain as a separate entity eligible for EU funding, but will form an "alliance" with the newly combined OpenSFS group. For all practical purposes, this agreement unifies the Lustre community as it seeks to go forward with its software roadmap.

¹ a consortium led by LLNL, ORNL, DDN and Cray

² an entity to form a community surrounding Lustre