Open and closed source systems

Technology, Information Technology

Open Source Operating System Open-source software (OSS) is computer software which is available with not only the source but also the right of redistributing the source code along with all the modifications and the works derived. Moreover, the license of the open source software allows the users to learn, revise, modify, upgrade, and also to share out the software without any cost. (Open Source Initiative, n. d).

Currently, there are a huge number of categories of the open source software that include but not limited to the Application Software, Operating Systems, Programming Languages and Server Software. Under each category there are many items / applications, for example, the application software include: Mozilla Firefox – a web browser, OpenOffice – an office suit, Eclipse – an integrated development environment, 7-zip – a file archiver or compressor etc. The operating systems include: the Linux, Android – a mobile OS, FreeBSD etc.

Closed Source Operating System

Closed source software also known as proprietary software is computer software which is only available without source code and licensed under limited legal right as per provided by the copyright owner. The buyer of the propriety software is permitted to use the software having restrictions on modifications, redistribution, update / upgrade or reverse engineering and it is typically owned by a single organization. In other words, the proprietary software is the property of the owner / developer / publisher that cannot be copied or modified, with an appropriate price and need to comply the license agreement (National Taiwan University, 1991). There are several examples of Operating Systems including Microsoft Windows 7, Microsoft Server 2000,

and Microsoft XP etc.

References

Open Source Initiative. (n. d). The Open Source Definition. Retrieved from:

http://opensource. org/docs/osd

National Taiwan University. (1991). Proprietary Software. Retrieved from:

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