



FOSS4G Conference Programme

The Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) conference has announced the lineup of presentations that features more than 140 individual talks with noted plenary speakers. FOSS4G is the premier international conference focused on open source geospatial software, to be held 12th to 16th September 2011 in Denver (CO, USA). The selection of presentations was very competitive, with 300 submissions for roughly 150 session slots.

The five-day event includes two days of workshops followed by three days of sessions that cover a broad range of technical topics, tool-specific tutorials, application case studies, lightning talks, panel discussions and overviews. The breadth of content address a full range of technical expertise, applications, regional interests, and business purposes.

Among the programme highlights regarding the use of open source software are: a full-day introduction to geospatial open source with case studies and business cases; workshops and tutorials on popular open source geospatial tools; workshops and sessions organised by educators for educators; sessions regarding open spatial data and spatial data infrastructure directives and timely sessions addressing such applications as mapping the BP oil spill. monitoring flood waters, and responding to the earthquake in Japan.

Plenary speakers and topics for the event include Michael Byrne, geospatial information officer of the Federal Communications Commission, talking about the National Broadband Map, which is based on an open source software stack, and implements some innovative ideas regarding open data. Peter Ter Haar, director of Products at Ordnance Survey, the national mapping agency of Great Britain, will be speaking about their experience with open data initiatives and open source software. Steve Coast, founder of OpenStreetMap, is scheduled to be talking about the past, present and (mainly) future of this wiki-style collaborative geospatial data creation phenomenon and Paul Ramsey, a team member of OpenGeo and founder of the PostGIS spatial database discussing different open source business models.

The deadline for early registration, with the cheapest price, is June 30.

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