

Ryukyu Soft Business Support Center

Supporting the development of business environment using
Open Source Software for IT enterprises in Okinawa.



Director of the Center

Hikaru kanemura

About the Center

Business model from contract to “product/service entric”

The business model for many of those enterprises in Okinawa is still based on contracts, and the Ryukyu Soft Business Support Center provides the means to turn their business model from contracts to “in-house production/service centric” for high profits and enhancement of competitiveness. Ryukyu Soft Business Support Center is established to support business opportunities for the IT enterprises in Okinawa by handling the operation of the equipped environment by “Okinawa Software development promotion business”, which is a supporting measure taken by Okinawa prefecture for the enterprises that plan to create products and services using open source software (OSS).

About the Center

Okinawa Software Development Promotion Business

The OSS should be an effective means for the low-cost product development, however, it is not easy to find promising product materials from enormous number of software, and use them for business requires special know-how. Therefore, it is difficult for IT enterprises in Okinawa to independently apply them for the business since most of them are small to medium-sized enterprises.

In order to improve the situation, Okinawa Prefecture implemented “Development Project for Establishing the Technical Standard for Developing OSS Product Material and Supporting System Environment” to support the development of commercial products using the OSS by the IT enterprises in Okinawa . These are for; screening, which continues to search for the OSS candidate product material, researching the markets, verifying that the OSS is working, evaluating the quality, verifying the comprehensive functions, verifying the license, providing the manual for localizing to Japanese or internationalizing processes, and providing the system needed for each phase.

Services

■ Support for Open Source Software product

Provide the support system environment that judges the quality of the target OSS material by the comprehensive evaluation based on predefined skill standard schema, when developing the software products using OSS.

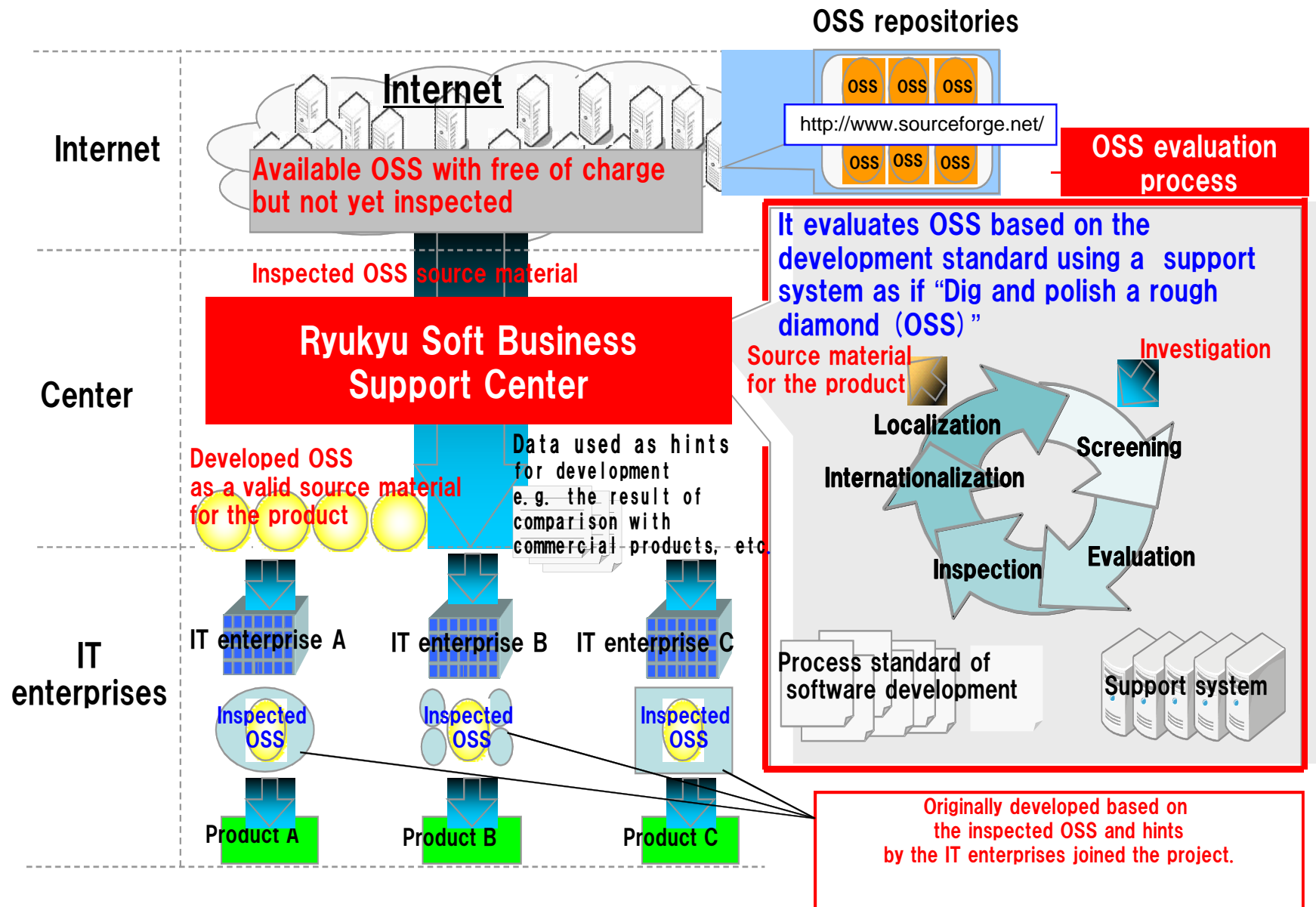
■ Support for sales and publicity of Open Source Software product

Provide websites for product introduction and product demonstration as a promotional support of OSS based products which are developed by member enterprises.

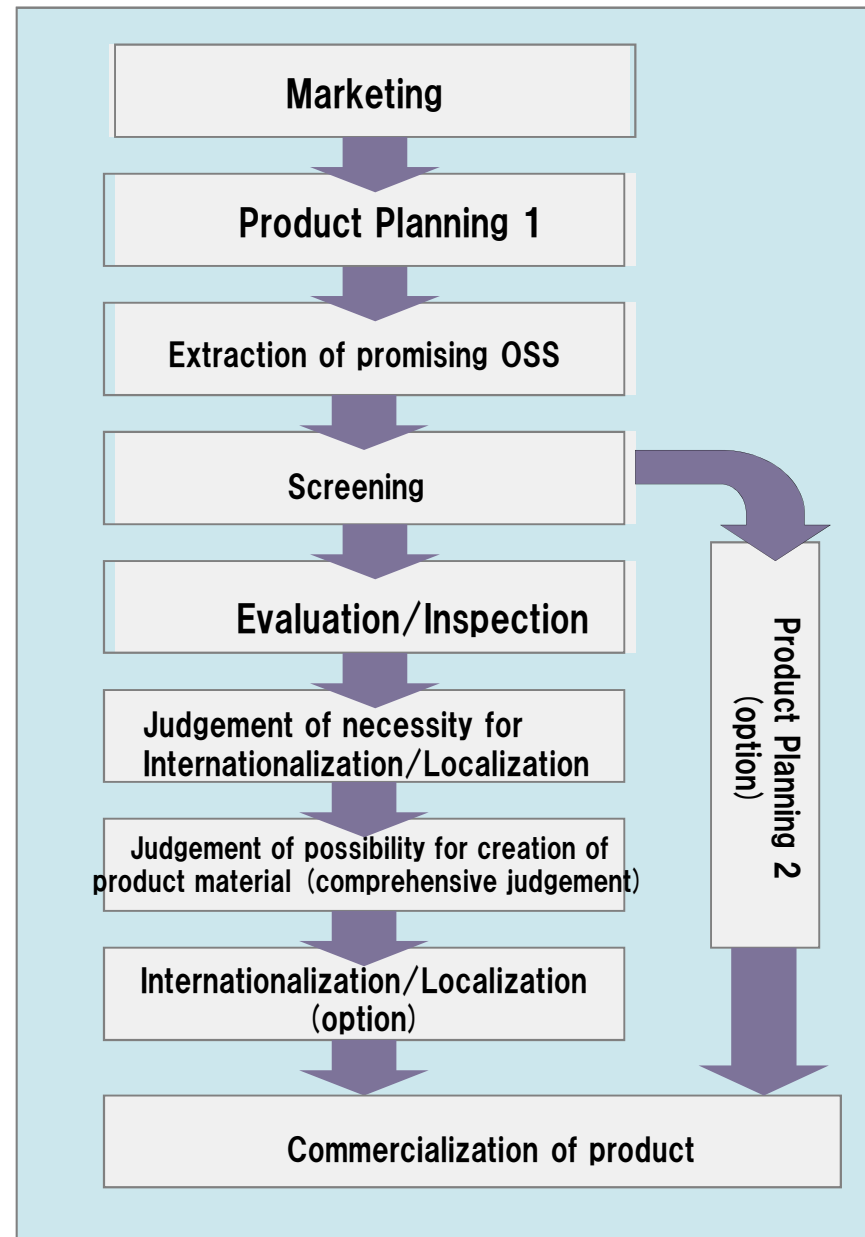
■ Support for human resource development of Open Source Software

From the view point of development for the next generation of engineers, support human resource development in cooperation with educational institutions and universities by arranging internships for product development projects.

Services



Flow of Creation for OSS Product Material



Flow of Creation for OSS Product Material

Marketing

Products should meet the market demands. First, find attractive software categories in high market demands (Extract promising software). This process is conducted once or twice a year by persons in charge of the Center.



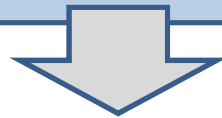
Product Planning 1

Determine the attractive software categories according to the result of marketing by the Center, and the expert or attractive field of enterprises



Extraction of promising OSS

Since there are many OSSs in the attractive software categories, choose OSSs which will be candidates of next process "Screening". Latter processes are separately conducted by persons in charge of each enterprise of the Center users.



Flow of Creation for OSS Product Material



Screening

Evaluate(Screening) candidate OSSs of "Evaluation/Inspection" whether they are promising as products or not.



Evaluation/Inspection

Some OSSs may be unstable, poor quality, or have copyright issues. Therefore, evaluate issues of its quality or copyright.



Necessity judgement for internationalization/localization

Some OSSs developed overseas are not adapted to Japanese, but if you can adapt them to Japanese, it is equivalent to adding original functions to the OSS. Therefore, the OSSs have to be judged whether the internationalization/localization(adapt to Japanese language) is necessary or not.



Flow of Creation for OSS Product Material



Judgement of possibility for creation of product material (comprehensive judgement)

Comprehensively judge the possibility of creation of OSS product material based on the result of screening, evaluation/inspection, and necessity judgement for internationalization/localization.

Option

Internationalization/localization (option)

Internationalize/localize OSS product material, if internationalization/localization is required in the process of necessity judgement for internationalization/localization.

Product planning 2 (option)

Consider product planning and evaluate the possibility of OSS as a commercial product when commercialize OSS.
Since this process depends on the strategy of each enterprise such as a sales target and a business model, no support is provided in this process. This process is separately conducted by persons in charge of each enterprise and its result is managed by each enterprise.

Ryukyu Soft Business Support Center

The Center is serving to manage the equipped environment for the projects. It provides the equipped environment for the projects and the technical standards. It also supports product promotions for the enterprises in Okinawa and human resource development in cooperation with educational institutions and universities by “delivery seminar” and arranging internships for the purpose of training the next generation of engineers.

Okinawa was once called “Ryukyu” when it resided as an independent country.

During the Age of Exploration, pioneers of Ryukyu had trading relations with China and other Asian countries actively.

While the Center inherits the spirit of the pioneers and actively enhancing the business to main land of Japan and overseas, it hopes that the business among them be successful.

Thank you

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