A Vision For Libre Internet Application Services

User Access & User Environment: Emacs Office Environment (EOE)

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1 About EOE

This publication applies to E-O-E – Emacs Office Environment as implemented for systems equiped with GNU-Emacs.

E-O-E is a collection of generalized commands, programming tools, software libraries, and related publications. Typically, an application programmer, a system manager, and a casual end user will require access to different subsets of this collection.

This manual is expected to function as a *Roadmap*. It enumerates the collection and the integration facilities that make the collection a cohesive environment. Each element of E-O-E is described in some detail. Where appropriate, reference to other sections of this publication or other related publications will be made.

Anyone coming to E-O-E for the first time will find it useful to read through an overview of concepts and facilities.

1.1 About The E-O-E Package

The E-O-E Package is distributed through http://www.mailmeanywhere.org/

1.2 Basic Office Services

All office workers independent of their specific disciplines need a set of ”Basic Office Services”. Electronic Mail, Time Management, On-Line Dictioanry, Thesaurus, Personal Phone Book and Corporate Phone Book are examples of such Basic Office Services.

These generic office services are independent of the specific nature of the discipline (Accounting, Programming, Engineering, Legal, ...) that office worker is associated with.

These basic services are often provided at the workgroup level. In large organizations, many soultions to address these basic office requirements co-exists.

1.3 Emacs Office Environment

GNU Emacs is an advanced, self-documenting, customizable, extensible, real-time display editor. The underlying part of GNU Emacs is written in C and includes a Lisp interpreter. Most of editing commands in Emacs are written in Emacs Lisp (elisp). Elisp provides for practically unlimited extension of GNU Emacs.

GNU Emacs runs on 100s of hardware/software platforms. Emacs runs on almost all flavors of UNIX. VMS, TOPS-20, ... are among other operating systems that Emacs has been ported to. GNU Emacs provides a unified level of service adequate for providing most basic office services on many hardware/software platforms.

What is needed to augment standard distribution of GNU-Emacs to a complete office environment is a set of co-operating pieces of software that are available on various ftp sites on the internet. Difficulty of locating the right version. Porting and configuring it your target environment. The importance of matching set.

There are many strategic advantages in using emacs as your ”Office Environment”. Here is a partial list of some of the advantages.

1. Uniformity of access to ”Basic Office Services” through a Consistent User interface across diverse hardware/software platforms.
2. Hardware/Software Vendor Independence.
3. Open and extensible.

4. Integrated and Consistent.
5. Portable.
6. X-Windows and Character Based.
7. Conservation of Skill Sets.

E-O-E is a very rich environment and is targeted to sophisticated users.

Solving the problem once inside emacs and then using other programs from within it.

2 Configuration

Order of setting the parameters is:

pkg: The pkg itself sets the variables.

eoe: The eoe.

byname: bp-byname-

site: bp-byname-

group: bp-byname-

user: bp-byname-

2.1 Site Customization

2.1.1 eoe-load

2.1.2 eoe-require

3 Overview

4 Overview

4.1 Categories of Services

Through out this manual we categorize the Basic Office Services into three categories.

1. Golbal Services.
   These are capabilities that you want to have at your disposal independent of what you are doing. For example, You want to be able to run the spelling checker or the file completion capabilities when you are using your manipulating e-mail, entering calendar items, doing your desk top publishing or writing code. You want your spell checking and file completion capabilities to work uniformly independent of the specific task that you are doing.

   (a) Spell Checking (ispell)

(b) Dictionary Look-up (webster)
(c) Thesaurus
(d) File Name Completion (filec)
(e) Printing (lpr-buffer)
(f) Corporate Phone Book (finger)
(g) Personal Phone Book (rolo)
(h) On Line Help (manual-entry, info)
(i) Desk Top Management (window-)

2. Generic Services.
   These are the individual capabilities expected in the general office. In Emacs, these are typically associated with major modes.

   (a) Interpersonal Massaging (Rmail, MH, GNUS)
   (b) Time Management (Calendar)
   (c) Information Retrieval (info)
   (d) Unix Shell (cmushell)
   (e) Calculator (calc)

3. Specific Services.

   (a) Software Development (C-mode, C++-Mode, Lisp-Mode, GDB)
   (b) Desktop Publishing (Tex, LaTeX, TeXInfo, LaTeXInfo)

References