

The focus on this proposal is Australia as the organisation IS the Open Source Industry Association. OSIA does not rate highly in exposure, in my opinion, within Australia [DuckDuckGo][Google (AU)][Bing]. For OSIA to be an effective industry body this needs to change.

Following is a series of points that if addressed, I believe, will do just that. These points are not just to increase the exposure of OSIA but to also enhance the benefits for members such that OSIA becomes an attractive place to carry out and support member businesses.

Member support

The first item is to produce an up-to-date website with, at least, the following functionality.

Searchable database of members abilities with attached testimonials.

Merchandise store,

Advertising slots,

Discussion pages similar to reddit/voat/gab.ai/minds etc

Individuals Employment page, both I'm available and I want.

This construction of the website should be carried out through a RFT.

Business:

Set up formal alliances between OSIA and other recognised bodies.

Engineers Australia – most notably for embedded and IoT.

Australian Computer Society – in general

Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter highlighting one specific area of Open Source.

Includes OSIA related companies

Hot topics.

Intels page table isolation issue - does AMD have the same issues.

USA's net neutrality changes

India's IT contraction.

Australias 457/TSS visa vs USA H1B

Engagement

CEBIT is not the only conference exhibition at which OSAI should have a presence.

Just in the next few months a quick check shows:

- International Conference on Engineering & Technology Computer Basic & Applied Sciences
- International Conference on Computer Modeling and Simulation
- International Conference on Intelligent Computing and Applications
- National Youth Science Forum
- International Conference on Electrics, Electronics, and Computer Science
- Oh! and LCA should be a given.

LCA:

Google open source is a sponser, OSIA is not.

There is no OSIA/business specific mini conference.

There are no specific OSIA talks at LCA 2018. There are a few community related talks that seem relevant such as:

- Open data for political and financial transparency
- You're fired :(Now what ? - Staying employed and staying employable

Schools:

I believe OSIA should be more involved at the high school level. At LCA this year there is a hands on seminar for programming FPGA's. At past conference there have been construction based seminars using audinos. These projects are all built around simple and inexpensive kits. This approach could be easily expanded into a OSIA road-show visiting various High Schools to teach open source concepts.

Other:

Advocacy

- Jack Burton's leadership in the advocacy on the TPP is a typical example of what needs to be done
- Pia Waugh's advocacy on open standards (not sure if this is still relevant, I'm not sure what she is doing these days)
- My opposition to innovation patents.
- Scrutiny of Australia's privacy legislation.

Startups

OSIA should also offer advice on
Introductions to starting your own business
Legal Frameworks such as licenses and insurances

So as you can see there is a considerable number of areas in which OSIA could shine and thus raise not only its profile but its relevance to Open Source and software in general in Australia.