# Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

## "Open Source Software: Economics, Law and Policy"

**organized by the**
**Institut d'Economie Industrielle (IDEI)**
**and the**
**Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)**

**Toulouse, France**
**20-21 June 2002**
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In recent years, scholars from different fields have begun to conduct serious academic work on the software industry, especially Open Source Software. We believe that it is time to take stock of the work that has been done, to assess what we have learned, and to refocus the research agenda for the next few years. The aim of this high-level academic conference, entirely dedicated to open source software, is to facilitate this process. In order to do so, it will bring together academics (mainly economists, lawyers, and business school faculty) practitioners (programmers and managers involved in open source and commercial software), and policymakers. The general idea is to have a relaxed, discussion-friendly and nonpartisan atmosphere on themes such as a) optimal licensing policy for open source software, b) the patentability of software, and c) emerging mixed business models with an open source-commercial interface. There will be both academic-style presentations and panel discussions.

A preliminary list of participants can be found at http://www.idei.asso.fr/ossconf.html. It includes many of the best scholars in the field as well as important industry participants. Join them for exciting and challenging discussions.

If you would like to present a paper, or just to attend, please send an e-mail before **1st April 2002** to ossconf@cict.fr (with, if relevant, a copy of your paper). Detailed abstracts will be considered, but preference will be given to completed papers. **Please note that this conference is likely to be popular and that attendance will limited in order to promote interaction.** Even if you only plan to attend and won't participate as speaker or discussant, **please register your intention to attend as soon as possible.**

Funds are limited and participants from government and industry are expected to pay their own travel and lodging. Lunches and dinner on the 20th (as well as dinner on the 21st for the speakers) will be provided by the conference. More information (including housing, programme, things to do in and around Toulouse, etc.) can be found at http://www.idei.asso.fr/ossconf.html.

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