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Unisys to help build open source site

OCT. 11 8:20 A.M. ET Unisys Corp., an information technology consulting and outsourcing company, said Wednesday its Unisys Belgium unit is part of a consortium that will build and manage an open source software repository for the European Commission.

Financial details were not disclosed.

The Open Source Observatory and Repository will be an Internet service and portal where European member states can store open source software and share knowledge, toward the goal of making the countries' systems more interoperable. It will build upon an existing Web site, the Open Source Observatory, a European portal with news about open source projects.

The contract was awarded to Unisys Belgium, the United Nations University's Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology in the Netherlands, Belgium-based consultancy GOPA Cartermill and Spain's Universidad Rey Juan Carlos.

Unisys said it expects the repository to be running by late 2007. The company will advise stakeholders, promote the service, look for open source applications to add to the repository and support collaboration between European open source projects.

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