General Public Licenses!
GNU GPL v.3, AGPL v.3, LGPL v.3
- the Benefits and Risks of Freedom

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Abstract - **Currently we followed a discussion on the internet with software developers from all around the world and realised how "little" actu-ally the knowledge is about Licensing their pro-grams under a GNU License. This is especially important for the educa-tional sector, where we should avoid using pro-prietary software products as much as possible. Only free open source Programs will give us the Freedoms we need for educating our students to be and act as righteous, social interacting and sharing free people themselves. There are a lot of Open Source Licenses available people can choose from when they release their works. We will have a closer look to the three GNU Licenses under Version 3 and their pros and cons to choose them for your next release. To demonstrate how these licenses are work-ing we will have a closer look to the Lisense Change history of ODOO9: TinyERP - Open-ERP - ODOO8 - ODOO9 - ??? and the Tryton Fork, as well as why Kuali, another ERP Sys-tem, is doing good business with an AGPL v.3 License. We will have an inside look to why we should not use an LGPL v.3 License for our next releases and why the AGPL v.3 is actually the best license for your product. Usually a project start with an idea and mostly only on developer is involved. The lack of man power, but also the lack of financial re-sources is often the reason that developers de-cide to publish their code as Proprietary Soft-ware in the hope people are buying it or to re-lease it to the public in the hope that more people will contribute to it with their own re-sources and man power. Not seldom years later proprietary software gets released to public as the owners realised that it might be better to work together with oth-ers and enhance their own ideas. In many cases this leads to a growing participation of people in developing the product and i.e. modules and templates etc. After a certain time running under a GNU GPLv.3 License owners realise Service Providers don't share their codes anymore, so they change The Product to the AGPL v.3 Li-cense and now everybody, even service pro-viders from cloud solutions need to share their improvements again. It is a win win strategy. Unfortunately some software companies like to switch their product again to be more "pro-ductive" in terms of making money for them. So they intend to close down again parts of their products and release them under i.e. LGPL li-cense before they finally cut out the "hearts" of those programs and are than able legally to in-tegrate the surrounding into their proprietary code. This behaviour is in our opinion a great danger for the educational sector, and we will talk about possible solutions and the benefits of them to (re)unite people in the world again. Be Free, Be Open, Be Legal, Be Happy!**

Keywords - **GNU License, GNU GPL v.3, AGPL v.3, LGPL v.3**

Remark: The full paper may be found in www.eLearn2015.siamtechu.net