



# IBM NetRexx moves to Open Source

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# Agenda

- § A brief history on how the journey started
- § What has been achieved to date
- § What we are currently working on
- § What is next

## Brief History

- § Rene Jansen presented initial plan to move IBM NetRexx to open source at the 2008 RexxLA.
- § Refocus in team members
- § Revived initiative in 2009

## What We Have Achieved

- § IBM and The Rexx Language Association - signed INLA agreement to proceed with the plans to move NetRexx to open source
- § The Rexx LA has started work on the proposal to IBM for administering the open source version of NetRexx
- § Mike Cowlshaw and Rene Jansen completed the final code review

## What We Are Working On

- § Completed first OSSC documentation requirement - sent for legal review
- § Pam Taylor, who worked on the transition of Object Rexx to ooRexx, is working on the proposal from the Rexx LA
- § Rene Jansen completing final build
- § Licensing Requirements

## The Next Steps

- § Final build will get copyright registered
- § Review/Approve RexxLA proposal
- § Business Executive review
- § Create/Present OSSC presentation to IBM  
OSSC review board



# Backup

## **IBM Contributes Scripting Language to the Rexx Language Association Encourages Innovation Around REXX Application Development**

**BÖBLINGEN, Germany -- Oct. XX, 2004** -- IBM and the Rexx Language Association (RexxLA) today announced that IBM is contributing source code of the Object REXX Interpreter Edition to the RexxLA. The source code for Object REXX for MS Windows, AIX, Linux, and SUN Solaris is available from RexxLA (<http://www.rexxla.org>) under Common Public License (CPL) V1.

By contributing this software to the Open Source community, IBM is encouraging innovation around REXX and Object REXX applications.

Today's news is a natural evolution of IBM's engagement in the open source community. Currently, IBM participates in and contributes to more than 150 open source projects, more than any other company. These projects include Linux, the Globus Alliance, Eclipse, and an already established relationship with Apache.

Mike Cowlshaw, IBM Fellow and inventor of REXX, commented, "The ANSI standard REXX language is available for almost every platform, thanks to the efforts of the open source community and RexxLA. I'm delighted that programmers and users everywhere will now benefit from the same freedom to use Object REXX."

"The REXX Language Association is delighted that IBM is contributing Object REXX to the open source community," said Chip Davis, President of RexxLA. "We are targeting the first release of Open Object REXX for early 2005 and are enthusiastic about the opportunities to introduce an ever increasing community to the ease and power of programming in REXX."

### **About Object REXX**

Object REXX is an interpreted scripting language based on Programming Language REXX, ANSI X3.274-1996, and extended to support object-oriented programming.

Object REXX for Windows was first announced in February 1997. Since then it has been ported to AIX, Linux, and SUN Solaris. Object REXX includes support for TCP/IP sockets, regular expressions, mathematical functions, and ActiveX/OLE. For more information on the IBM Object REXX products, visit

<http://www.ibm.com/software/awdtools/obj-rexx/>

### **About the Rexx Language Association**

The Rexx Language Association (RexxLA) is a worldwide, independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the use and understanding of the REXX programming language. For more information about RexxLA, visit <http://www.rexxla.org/>



Propose consideration for open source of the REXX Stream I/O library - - transferring ownership to the RexxLA.

The library binaries have always been free from IBM. Currently it's on an IBM web site, free for download. (??) Currently the code is written in PL/X, an IBM Confidential language. Code has been converted from PL/X into assembly. Currently the Stream I/O library is used by the z/OS interpreter and the REXX compiler. My (VirgilHein) team offered to give the code to Bill Yurkovick (POK z/OS REXX interpreter owner), - - not interested.

This library, even though it has known bugs, is very actively used in the z/OS community. External users desire this library to get their code to run properly on the z/OS interpreter. z/OS's REXX interpreter is still on level 3 of the REXX language (1989). Level 4 of the language (1991) added the Stream I/O functions, but POK never added this function.