Open-Xchange Facts Paper

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Open-Xchange™ Server

Service Pack 1 (SP1)

Features and Benefits

v1.31

1.   Open-Xchange Server 5 - Feature Upgrade March 2006

Open-Xchange is announcing a comprehensive feature update for Open-Xchange Server 5. This Service Pack will be released mid March, 2006. This Service Pack offer Open-Xchange's customers more than 100 improvements, all of which are designed to improve the usability and integration capabilities of the leading open source collaboration software.
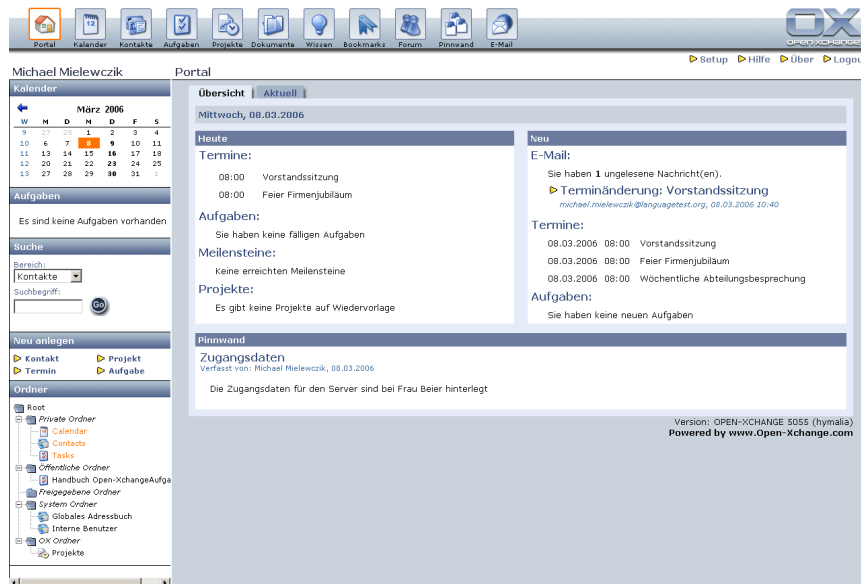
Customers with valid subscription to the Open-Xchange Maintenance Portal will get immediate access to the Feature Upgrade after official release -- without extra charge:

<div align="center">http://portal.openexchange.com</div>

Feature Highlights

- Enhanced usability for Microsoft Outlook users -- push technology ensures real-time connection for Outlook users and reduces server load, enhanced support of global address book, and user modification within Microsoft Outlook vacation notice, filter rules, password, etc.
- Extended search capabilities
- Contacts and Calendar functions have been improved to include customizable layout for contact lists, extended print functionality for selected contacts
- Improved project management capabilities
- RSS feed support
- Security Enhancements -- added encryption protocols SSL and TLS support to ensure secure mail (IMAPS, SMTPS), internal server communication (LDAPS) to secure ALL connections between clients and Open-Xchange Server
- Distributed Mail Server Support

To get the full picture, check out the detailed and feature list, ordered by sections and modules:

- Security & Integration
- Usability
- Administration
- Outlook OXtender
- Web Mail
- Contacts
- Calendar
- Projects, Tasks

2. Security & Integration

SSL and TLS support for Web Mail

SSL and TLS encryption ensures secure mail for IMAPS and SMTPS protocols

### Secure Internal Server Communication (LDAPS)

Secure connections for **ALL** communication between client and server, e.g. Groupware to LDAP, Groupware to IMAP-Server. This functionality is not activated by default and can be modified within the configuration files.

Enhanced Integration of 3rd Party Modules

Ability to define additional object classes and attributes in the Open-Xchange administration front-ends. Example: Adding Fax applications or Instant Messaging applications and using those applications by clicking the Fax number or the Instant Message address.

Integration of 3rd Party Administration Modules

Ability to integrate complete third party administration modules based on the Open-Xchange administration framework. The Samba integration with Samba OXtender is based on this technology.
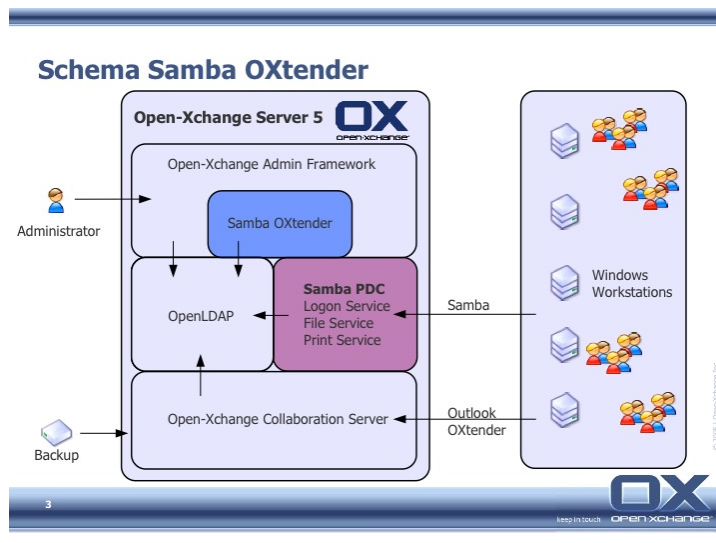
More about the Samba-integration can be found at

`http://www.open-xchange.com/DE/product/samba.html`

Integration of external LDAP address books

External LDAP address books can be added into the Open-Xchange Contacts lists and be used with Web Mail, Calendar, Tasks, Project participants, Contact distribution lists and the Contact search.

Different address sources can be used in a combined way.

Efficient communication and team building across companies.

Distribution lists can be created with external and internal contacts.

Subsidiaries of large organizations using separated LDAP servers (or LDAP enabled servers such as eDirectory) can thus make their contact information available to the whole organization.

Address books, which are used as the "master" system, such as HR or CRM systems, can be linked.

Integration of 3rd party applications

With text based configurations telephone, fax and mobile phone field types can be activated to call external applications. This enables, for example, phone system integration into Open-Xchange Server. Example: By clicking on a telephone number in Open-Xchange Contacts, recipient's telephone number is transmitted to the phone system, which rings the person.

Integration of 3rd party folders

Additional 3rd party folders can be added beneath the Open-Xchange Server folder. This allows to add applications being accessible and used within the Open-Xchange framework.

Read/Write database and LDAP support

The backend technology was enhanced for multi location support to provide the ability to have multiple servers with replicated data. LDAP (or other directory) replication is provided by the used directory service, data base replication depends on the solution being used.

Dynamic Class Loader

It is now possible to add configuration files and add functionality located in classes. This allows integration of third party modules without touching the Open-Xchange code itself.

Integration of directory services with users distributed in different sub trees

Additional enhancement to support the integration other Directory Services, such as eDirectory.

3.   Usability

RSS feed support

Open-Xchange Server supports RSS (Really Simple Syndication) technology, which allows comfortable subscription of selected web contents. This functionality can also be used to easily provide centrally managed company bookmarks to employees of the company.

Portal Page Enhancements

The portal page displays upcoming events. New events or entries for the future are shown in the current tab. Users can modify their settings to show future events (tasks and appointments) on the portal page 1-10 days in advance.

Event handling and push technology

Open-Xchange Server supports push technology which reduces network traffic and server side work load.
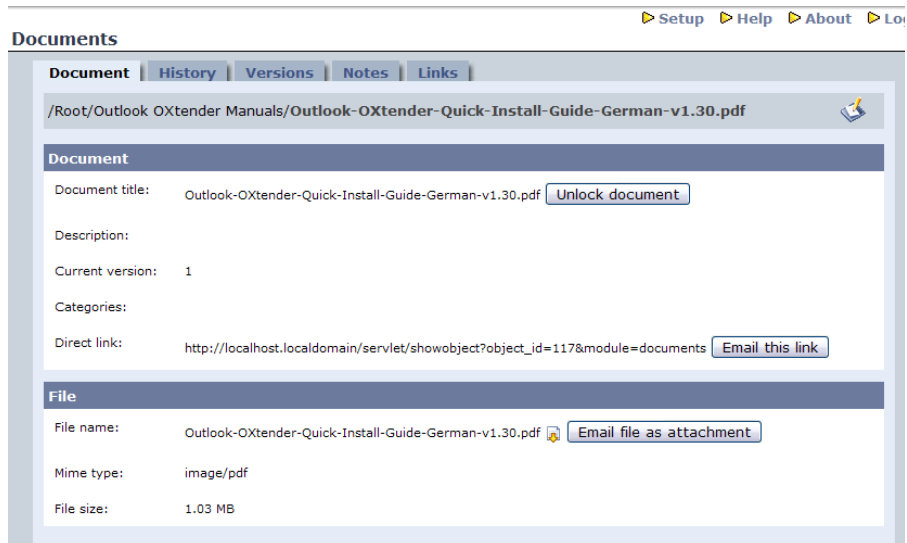
Extended Search capabilities

Faster and enhanced Search capabilities and extended search functionality for Documents, Bookmarks, Forum and Knowledgebase. Calendar entries can be searched for in public, private and shared folders. Search can also be executed across "all folders"
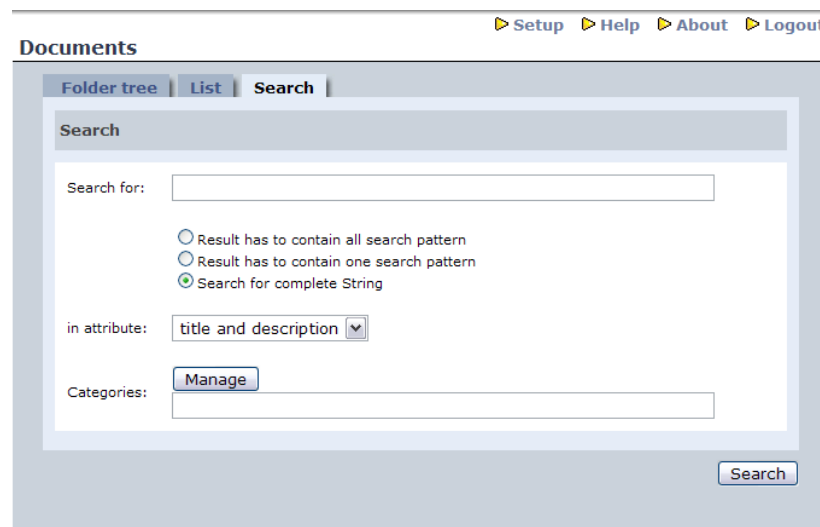
Direct access to all Open-Xchange objects

Open-Xchange Server provides the ability to directly jump to a linked object as soon as a link is selected.

4. Administration

Distributed Mail Server Support

Efficient mail routing between locations with the same top level domain. Functionality can also be used for different domains within the same environment. Example: A company has locations in New York, Munich and Amsterdam. Administrators now can create groups of employees for those locations. Any mail that is sent to the central mail server is automatically routed to the server in the subsidiary, if they are used in a distributed mail server environment.

Enhanced Command Line Interfaces

Configurations and settings handled through the graphical user interface can also be executed through command lines. This allows scripting of commands and makes mass changes more efficient, such as mass import of users.

Holiday Import Capabilities

Import of holiday files, with capability to set a custom conflict level, based on iCal. This allows companies to import publicly available holidays as well as company events to the calendars. Conflict level can be chosen, e.g. „ignore conflicts" or „display conflict".

Enhanced configurations for IMAP server

IMAP server can be configured that the folders are handled differently, e.g. underneath inbox, or all at the same level.

Enhanced user management

Configurations for users (e.g. Quota and Group) can be defined within a single step.

Integration of 3rd party administration modules possible

Ability to integrate complete third party admin modules based on the Open-Xchange admin framework. The Samba OXtender for example adds file and print services for Windows® Workstations. Users have full access to and seamless integration with Linux-based Logon, File and Print services for Microsoft Windows workstations through Open-Xchange Server 5 - giving customers the option to fully replace Microsoft® Exchange® as well as Microsoft® Windows® Server.

Edit configuration files within administration front-ends

Administrators can now remotely edit configuration files from any workstation within the environment.
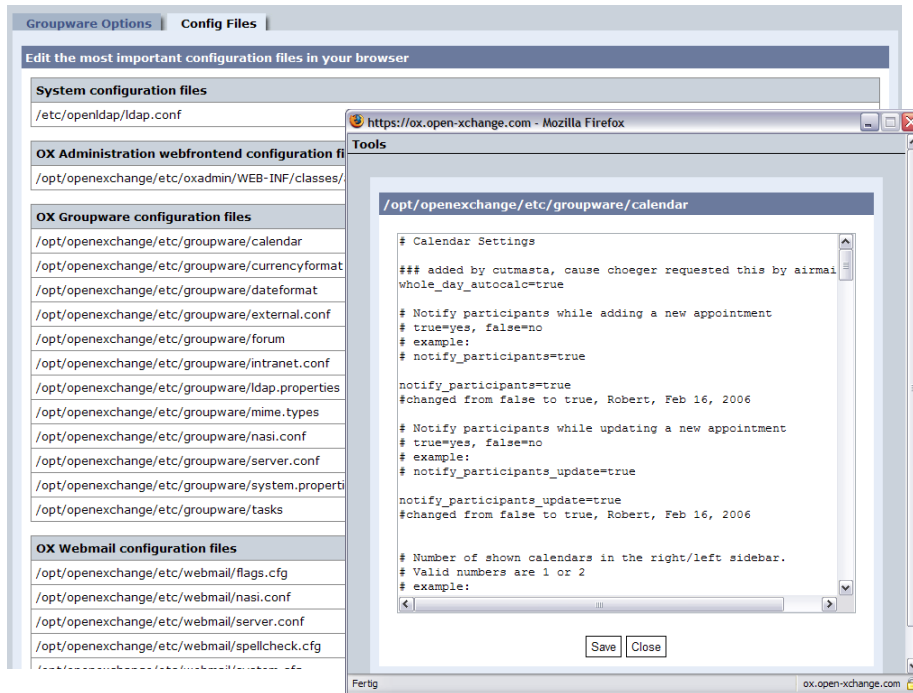
Enhanced system information capabilities

Administrators can access more system information directly within the administration module, without the need to start the command line. This enables the administrator to easily view settings remotely from any workstation.
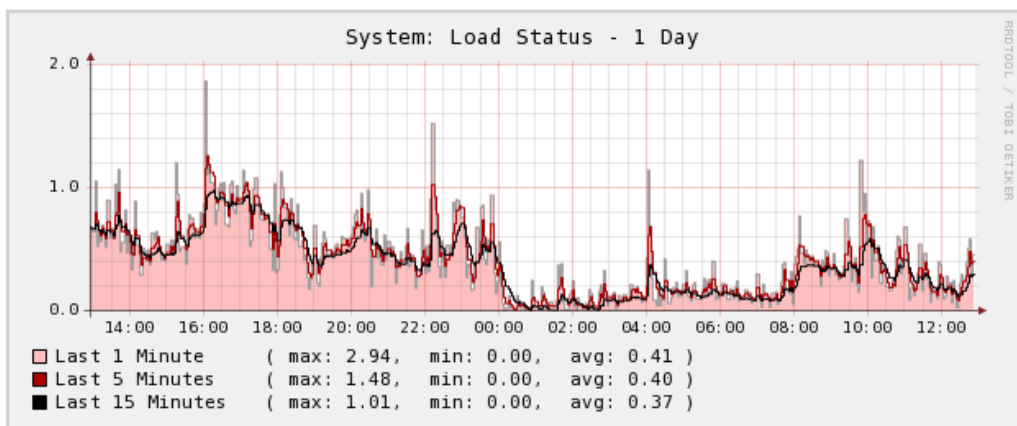
Customer defined names of IMAP folders

IMAP-Folders can now be named based on an xml-file with multiple languages and styles. This way mail folders can be named and configured to reflect the client's terminology.

Ready for plug-in

By inserting plugin.jar file with properties file the logic of that plug-in can be used for every user/group create/del/edit action. This enables 3rd party applications to take advantage from user/group specific administration for their application.

Tab hiding for end users

Administrators are able to disable tabs for the users setup section. This is useful, if company processes shall not allow users to modify their data, their Groupware settings, their vacation notes, etc. This functionality is available within the web front-end.

5. Outlook OXtender

Support of push technology

Push technology shows changes like new appointments or tasks immediately in Outlook. And push technology reduces network traffic and server side work load.

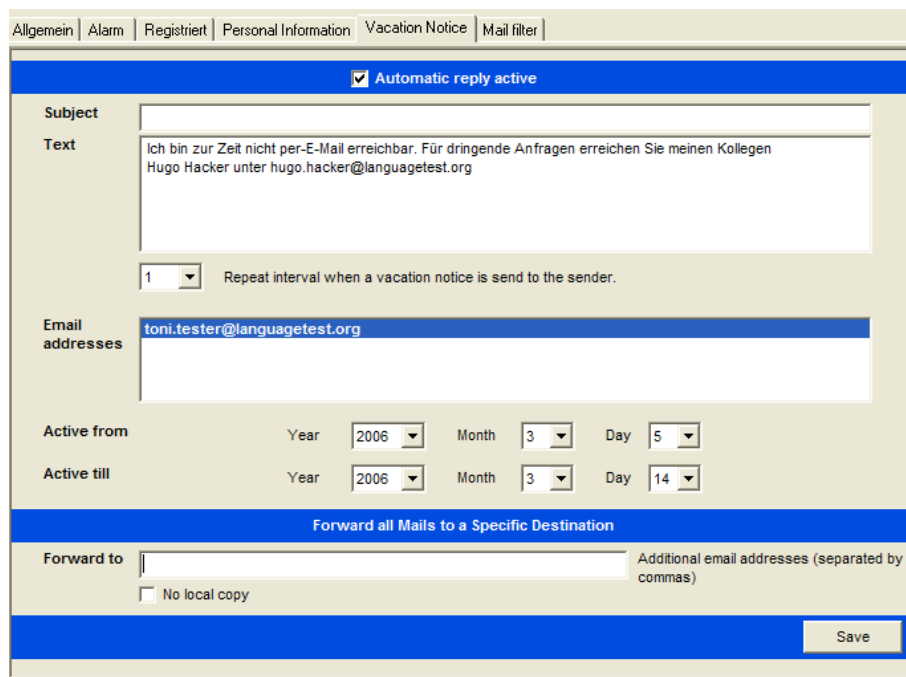### Enhanced support for global address book

All fields of the global address book (incl. telephone number, etc.) are supported in Outlook.

Enhanced Outlook user functionality - personal information

Personal Information stored on the Open-Xchange Server such as telephone number, birthday ... can be entered in Outlook directly. Users can change their own information in a well known environment using Outlook.

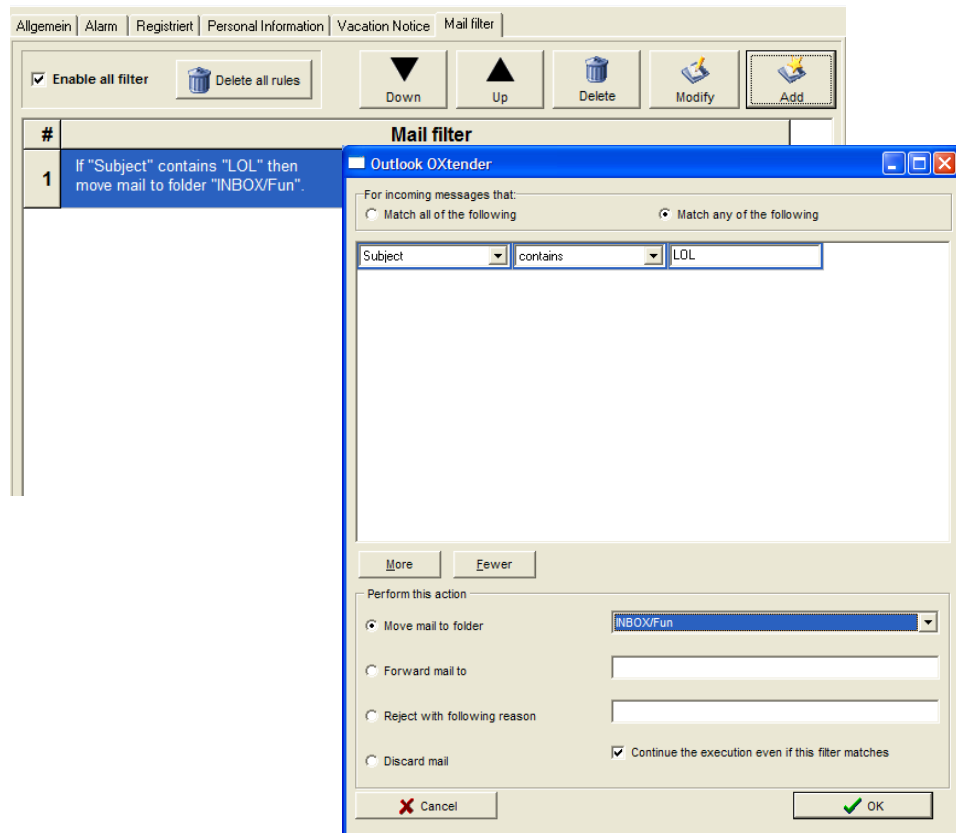### Enhanced Outlook user functionality - vacation notice

Users can add and modify vacation notices directly from within Outlook.

Enhanced Outlook user functionality - filter rules for mails

Users can directly create filter rules for emails in Outlook.

Enhanced Outlook user functionality - change password

The password for the Open-Xchange can be changed from within Outlook.

Outlook OXtender Update Tool

This tool automatically checks for new Outlook OXtender updates – and gets them automatically without user or admin interaction needed.

Enhanced installation parameter validation

Each parameter inserted during the installation contains a plausibility check.
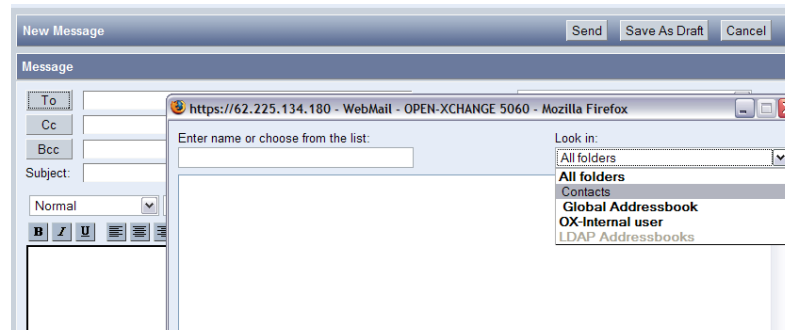
6. Web Mail

Plain text conversion of "HTML-only" messages

To prevent insecure elements like scripting within HTML-only messages, those messages can be converted into plain text messages.

Web Mail uses contact search across all address books

The web mailer leverages the enhancements made in Contacts to be able to search for contacts in the global address book and LDAP directory and in external LDAP address books.


Improved Layout - Fixed Positioning of the Web Mail navigation frame

Scrolling through the list of email is now possible without moving the navigation elements. This really increases productivity and user comfort.

Quick page selection

Users can set up how many mails are shown in the list view within their setup. If a folder contains more mails than shown in one list view, page selection and navigation is now possible with navigation by arrows (next and last page), as well as quick selection by choosing the page through the drop down menu.
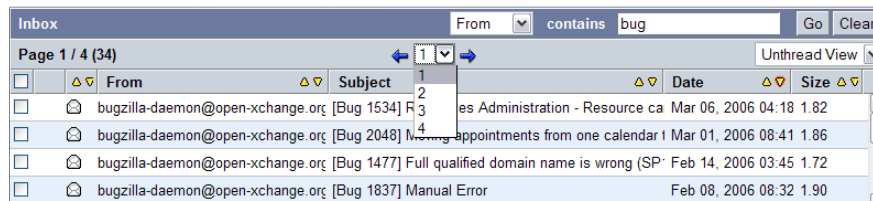
Store attachments directly into the documents section

Users can directly store an attachment of an email into the Documents section by using the export button. This allows fast access to the appropriate content and reduces email traffic and mail storage needs as only the respective link is sent. In addition, this guarantees the reader of a mail always gets the latest version of the document.
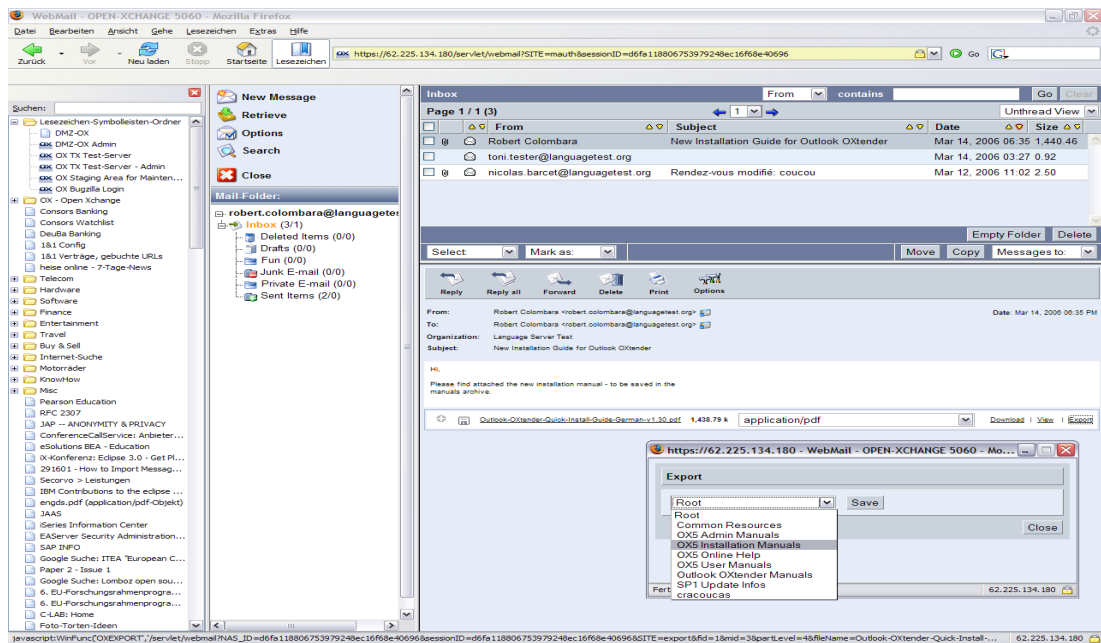
Enhanced spell-check

Optimized and enhanced interface, language specific dictionaries.

Confirmation email for appointments and tasks

Users are now able to check at any time the current confirmation status of a task or an appointment.

Content type modification

Users are able to change the 'Content-Type' before viewing an attachment.

This allows a user to open documents at the browser without the need to save them first if the content type has been set wrong by the sender.

Enhanced parsing of links, quotes and graphical emoticons

The enhanced parsing of links, quotes and graphical emoticons provide easier to read messages.

7. Contacts

Integration of external LDAP address books

External LDAP address books can be added into the Open-Xchange Contacts lists and used within the complete collaboration suite. This enables efficient use of multiple address sources in a combined way. Example: A subsidiary of large organization uses separate LDAP servers and wants to make the information available to the whole organization.

Enhanced search capabilities

Search capability is extended to every folder, subfolder and LDAP directory. This enables efficient search on ALL available contact information with a SINGLE search dialog.

Customizable layout for Contacts

Layout of Contact information can be modified individually which increases user comfort. Example: Most used Contact layout for daily work only shows name, first name, business telephone, email and IM address. Additional details such as address, personal phone and birthday are accessible, but not shown in the default view.

Ability to print Contact detail view

Printing capabilities are included in the contact detail view to directly print details of selected contact.

Drop-down ability on the Contact detail view

Multiple contacts from one company can be linked together. This enables efficient administration of all people that belong to a single company or subsidiary. Example: If a company moves to another location, address has to be chanced only once.

8.   Calendar
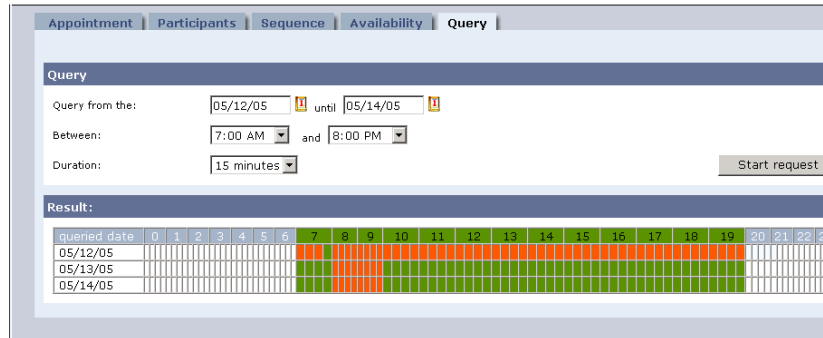
Colored Appointments

Appointments can be colored in all views based on individual defined categories, which gives user a better overview and allows to highlight priorities.
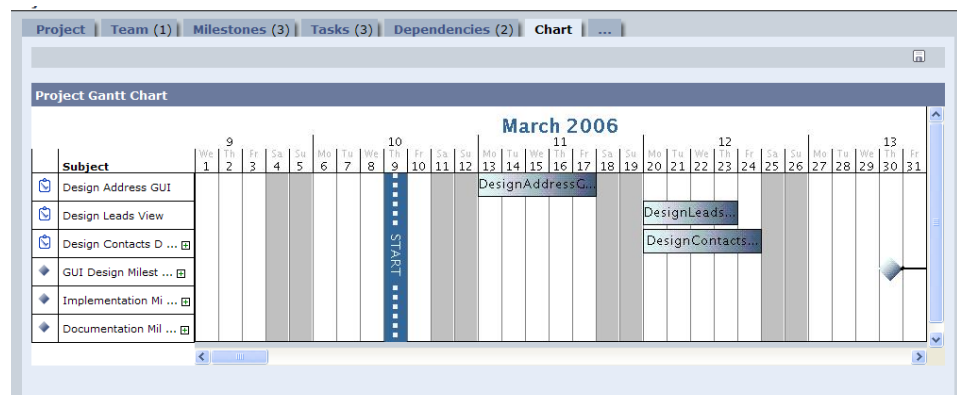
Start Day of a Week can be defined

Depending on the language used, different settings can be configured for different location to have either Sunday or Monday start the week.

Work Week View

New view added to the calendar section which increases user comfort significantly by using Web2 technology.
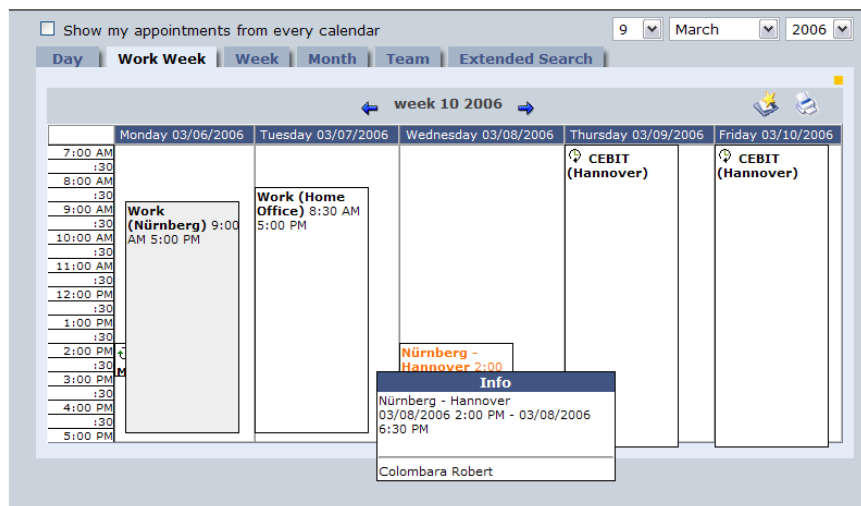
9. Projects, Tasks

Complete rewritten Project Module

All relevant information of a project can be linked together: associated people, documents, milestones, tasks, discussion forums, dependencies - all full integrated into the collaboration environment. Project Tasks show up in the Task list of the individual contributors. So called Gantt charts document the progress of a project.

Projects are stored in special Project Folders

Gives a structured view on company projects with internal and external people

Project Team Creation

A project team can be created efficiently by using existing groups as well as search through internal and external contacts. A cross company project team can be defined through search mechanism for system users and contacts.

Project Role Management

Role based definitions such as leader, manager, staff or chief for the project participants help grouping the team.

- Leader: single system user who has full access to all project related objects
- Manager: A system user or contact who possesses the same rights as the leader
- Staff: A project member who can view and edit project related objects in which he occurs as a participant, but has no delete permissions
- Chief: A view-all-only user or contact who does not hold any change permissions.

Folder Permission Management

The folder permissions reflect the internal project's permissions and ensure the success of the project.

Task Folder assigned to Project

Creation of a dedicated task folder which stores all tasks assigned to specified project

Milestones and Task Dependencies

Milestones and Tasks can be linked by defining one of the following dependencies:

- Finish-to-Start
- Finish-to-Finish
- Start-to-Start
- Start-to-Finish

Task Module with customizable Views

Ability to change the fields being shown in the tasks list views. Customizable list views can be created depending on the company's needs.