FACT SHEET: Collabora Productivity contributions to LibreOffice 26.2

Collabora Productivity, Cambridge, UK, 3nd February, 2026 – Collabora Productivity, the company behind Collabora Online, the feature-rich and compatible open source solution for real-time document editing and online collaboration, has contributed to open source office productivity software and the LibreOffice codebase for many years.

Collabora Productivity is privileged to have been able to work as one part of a broader community of enthusiastic developers, both volunteers and paid, on the new release, LibreOffice 26.2.

This release focuses less on headline-grabbing new features, and more on the necessary refinements that improve the day-to-day experience and performance.

For 26,2, which is due to be announced by the Document Foundation (TDF) on Wednesday, 4th February, Collabora's engineers have worked hard, together with our peers in the community, to provide contributions that fix many compatibility and interoperability issues and improve the experience, speed and responsiveness of both LibreOffice and Collabora Online. This includes making it easier to work with floating tables in Writer, improving scrolling speed in large spreadsheets that have many hidden columns and a huge increase in the number of rows users can paste across spreadsheets (See Contributing to the Code section, below, for details of Collabora Productivity commits).

> *"Collabora Productivity is committed to open source development and the benefits it brings to everyone. This is reflected in the many features we have contributed to LibreOffice 26.2 which brings greater interoperability and document compatibility coupled with better performance.*
> —*Michael Meeks, CEO of Collabora Productivity on LibreOffice 26.2*

Key Facts:

- **Collabora Productivity continues as the single largest contributor to the LibreOffice codebase, as part of a global community.**

- **In 2025, Collabora Productivity contributed 4,627 commits (45% per cent of all commits) from over fifty individuals to the LibreOffice codebase.**

- **For LibreOffice 26.2, Collabora Productivity contributed more than half of 26.2's documented features in the [Release Notes](#).**

- **Part of Collabora Productivity's ongoing support includes maintaining crash-testing automation with hardware support from our partner Adfinis. This involves using over eight-hundred-thousand problem documents per crash-test to uncover crash bugs caused by new commits before they get released. Each test run takes around four days. Since LibreOffice 25.8, Collabora's engineers have fixed 270 crash commits.**

- **Collabora's security engineers contributed fixes for two out of the four security flaws that were found in LibreOffice code and reported as CVEs (Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures) in 2025.**

Collabora Productivity: a Committed Committer

For over twelve years, Collabora Productivity has contributed extensively to the LibreOffice codebase and as per [The Document Foundation's State of the Project 2025](#), the company supplied the time and expertise of 45 engineers for a total of 4,182 commits (or 41%) to the project last year.

Collabora calculates that since the previous major release, LibreOffice 25.8, there have been 5,300 commits (including merges) submitted to the code repository (up to release 26.2.0.2) of which Collabora has committed around 2,000 and, more importantly, fixed over 500 issues.

Contributing to the Code

Listed below are the documented improvements from the official release notes that were contributed by Collabora Productivity. Our engineers have devoted their time to three key areas:

1. **Ongoing work improving interoperability** - all users expect documents to open and be editable (whether or not the issues are caused by third-parties less concerned with open standards).

2. **Continuous testing to ensure robustness via crash-testing** – uncovering bugs that crash documents is a continuous battle that we have devoted years of engineering time to hunt down weaknesses and improve the quality of the code in the project.

3. **Contributing to security maintenance** – Collabora Productivity engineers recognise that the security of the codebase is the responsibility of every contributor and regularly provide expertise when vulnerabilities are uncovered.

Interoperability: Sustained Bug-crushing

"With regard to interoperability, Karthik Godha, software engineer at Collabora Productivity, has fixed literally dozens of PPTX and XLSX export bugs," says Michael Stahl, Senior Software Engineer at Collabora Productivity, whose open source office suite contributions date back to 2007 when he worked on OpenOffice.org. "These bugs caused MS Office to display scary warnings to users when opening documents regarding broken documents to users. The latest fixes are still pending, as the work continues, but many fixes were cherry-picked to go into 26.2."

To improve interoperability, the engineering team uses a tool that round-trips document files in Collabora Online and tests their integrity in Microsoft Office. Results since December 2024 are available [here.](#) Some interoperability challenges remain, but there have been many successes, as mentioned in the release notes, for instance, "Noel Grandin has improved the OOXML validator 'officeotron', says Michael Stahl. "This XML validator is maintained by Collabora Productivity on the TDF's git server, and is used to fix the many PPTX, XLSX, and DOCX export bugs."

In Chart, Kurt Nordback was able to improve the round-trips for OOXML files (from OOXML into LibreOffice and back to OOXML) for MS Office files with charts (see [tdf#168472](#) for details).

It is challenging to Increase interoperability when faced with a standard that has a complex specification and exists for the benefit of extending the reach of proprietary software rather than achieving fully open standards, but Collabora's experts are steadily overcoming the issues fix by fix.

Crash-testing: Building Robustness

"We process 812,729 documents in a single crash-test, which takes four days per cycle, says Caolán McNamara, Principal Software Engineer, one of the founders of the TDF, and a long-time contributor to LibreOffice. "Loading up this huge collection of documents, we see what crashes, and then, typically, we also try to save the documents in the common MS Office formats, see if that also crashes, load what we saved and, yes, you've guessed it, see if that crashes as well."

"We try to run the tests on upstream master continuously; checking the results when they arrive and contact the committer whose change triggered the problem," says McNamara. "And then we launch again, so that we do as many tests as are possible. The fixes from each crash are either committed by myself or by the committer that introduced it. Typically, Collabora will provide many of the fixes, because of the volume of improvement the company produces, "we're statistically more likely to introduce a problem and best positioned to fix it," says McNamara.

The import crashes are listed on a project wiki page for further analysis and an export crash file is created for plotting any potential trends over time. "The whole process acts as an early warning system," says McNamara. "We capture issues that are introduced by new commits and fix them quickly. Essentially, I'm there to prevent an intermediate disaster being released."

"Sometimes the bugs are incredibly hard to find," says Michael Stahl, "We dealt with one bug that made JAWS screenreader crash so much it was unusable. It was important find a fix as Jaws (Job Access with Speech) is a popular accessibility software that enables blind and visually impaired users to access computers independently using speech technology."

Since LibreOffice 25.8, Collabora Productivity has made 271 crash commits. Thank you to Adfinis for sponsoring hardware to make this possible.

Security: Supporting Maintenance

Collabora Productivity assists with some aspects of security. Caolán McNamara, for example, manages the CVE Numbering Authority (CNA) process for LibreOffice, which includes writing the CVE (Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures) advisories.

As part of the company's ongoing support for the LibreOffice project, Collabora Productivity engineers contributed fixes for two out of the four security flaws found in LibreOffice code that were reported as CVEs in 2025. "We've also assisted with security maintenance," says Michael Stahl, "keeping LibreOffice up to date with three libpng releases that fixed CVEs that emerged at the tail end of 2025, including a heap buffer over-read vulnerability."

LibreOffice Writer Contributions

Collabora Productivity's contributions to LibreOffice Writer, collaborating with the community, include making floating tables behave better, improved change tracking and auto insertion of image captions (if configured).

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
Anchored objects: No longer selected after pasting	Users asked for the text cursor to remain at the insert point and not have pasted anchored objects selected in Writer. The old behaviour can be restored in the expert option `Office::Writer::Cursor::Option::SelectPastedAnchoredObject` to `true`. See tdf#167833 for more details.	Michael Stahl
Floating Tables: the keep-with-next/don't split paragraph attributes work better together across pages	Resolves a situation where Writer prioritises keeping a floating table followed by a header together when close to	Miklos Vajna

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
	a page split, pushing both onto the next page, creating a huge gap. Read Miklos' blog post for more details.	
Track Changes: preserves old direct formatting for "format redlines"	Preserves old direct formatting for "format redlines", where, e.g., rejecting a redline format results in the text style changing to default, instead of tracking and keeping the new character style. This required changes in the DOCX import, ODF import and ODF export, too. Read Miklos' blog post for more details.	Miklos Vajna
Track Changes: better handling of interdependent changes	Users can now decide which change to accept in interdependent changes by opening Manage Changes, e.g., you can Accept a format change which might be over the top of a Delete or Insert change that would normally be prioritised. Read Miklos' blog post for more details.	Miklos Vajna
Floating Tables: Improved DOCX interoperability	Solves the problem where the Table Split feature on a floating table results in two tables inside one frame, which then cannot be exported to DOCX as a floating table. See fc53ab8e for more details.	Michael Stahl
Track Changes: cleaner lists while editing numbering lists	Partly-deleted paragraphs are added to the hidden list. This means track changes for partly-deleted paragraphs won't be displayed in the numbering list. See tdf#157596 for details.	Bayram Çiçek

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
Field Shadings: now avoids cutting off the lower part of letters	Writer now takes line spacing into account for field shadings. This prevents an issue where users find the bottom and tails of some letters (e.g., 'Ç', 'ş', 'g', 'p') cut off because of the field shadings background layer. See tdf#167527 for more details.	Bayram Çiçek
Footnotes: compatibility issue fixed with numbering	Users found that lines in footnote style were being numbered when a DOCX file from Word was opened in LO, even when the numbering wasn't on in Word. (See tdf#167202 for more details.	Bayram Çiçek
Captions: Auto-insert a caption	If set correctly in Writer AutoCaption config settings, users can paste a single image from the clipboard and auto-insert a caption. See d072b5e0 for more details.	Michael Stahl

LibreOffice Calc Contributions

A selection of Calc features from Collabora Productivity, with community peers identified , included a number of performance boosts for specific use cases, such as faster scrolling with many hidden columns, faster removal of duplicate entries and quicker reversion of all rejected changes in Track Changes. Support for a number of new formats has also improved the user experience, for example, BIFF12 support increased pasting capabilities from Excel to 1,048,576 rows from 65,536 and adding xmlMaps has made it easier to work with xml data.

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
XmlMaps: for importing and exporting XML data from Calc	Users found that .XLSX spreadsheets lost xmlMaps.xml when opened in Calc and saved as an .XLSX file. With xmlMaps.xml supported, users can create direct, structural links between cells and external	Bayram Çiçek

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
	XML data files, e.g., turning Calc into an interface for managing XML data. See tdf#167689 for more details.	
Clipboard: Increased pasting capability with BIFF12 format support	Previously, Calc could paste 65,536 rows from Excel to Calc. With the Biff12 file format (Excel 2007+) supported, users can now paste 1,048,576 rows by 16,384 columns per sheet. See tdf#127675 for more details.	Laurent Balland (community member), Mike Kaganski
File formats: Excel 2010+ made the preferred format	Excel 2010+ was made the default format when saving as XLSX. It was renamed from 'Office Open XML Spreadsheet' to 'Excel 2010–365 Spreadsheet'. See tdf#165180 for more details.	Justin Luth
Performance: Faster scrolling when columns hidden	Users noted that when many columns were hidden in spreadsheet, scrolling became sluggish. Optimisations have improved performance. See tdf#156297 for more details.	Caolán McNamara
Performance: Faster removal of duplicate entries	In tests, using Data > Duplicates > Remove was very slow, so Noel suppressed the row height calculation during duplicate removals and the clipboard cost to increase performance. See tdf#166121 for more details.	Noel Grandin
Performance: Faster rejection of Track and Changes	Reject all changes in Track Changes was optimised, as users found that with Track Changes activated, selecting	Noel Grandin

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
	Reject All in Manage Changes was slow to revert to the original. See tdf#133557 for more details.	
Performance: Improved export of SVG images with many bitmaps	A user found that exporting a page to SVG was crashing. After debugging, it was found that SVGWriter was repeatedly exporting the same bitmaps, so Noel optimised SVG export for cases where they included many bitmaps. See tdf#169532 for more details.	Noel Grandin

LibreOffice Impress Contributions

Collabora Productivity contributed to only one highlighted new feature for Impress - the only major one for this release. The commits fixed issues with inserting MP4 files into the Windows edition of LibreOffice Impress, adding support for common codecs.

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
Windows / Media: Better common codec support	Users found MP4 files weren't being inserted in Windows, although listed as supported. To improve video/audio playback for common codecs, the Microsoft Media Foundation API was added. See tdf#62408 tdf#105168 tdf#159292 for more details.	Balazs Varga

Chart Contributions

Work on commits for Charts saw some improvements in round-trip support for OOXML files with charts. An issue with a freezing chart dialog was also fixed and the chart data range colour palette in the sidebar gained a mouse-over live preview.

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
Sidebar palette: Quicker styling workflow	A live preview feature, which makes it quicker to select colour schemes, has been added to the Sidebar. When a user mouses over Chart data range colour palette entries, it shows a live preview in the active chart. See 25fa7051 for more details.	Marco Cecchetti
Interoperability: Improved for OOXML. Note: a WIP	Work on round trips for OOXML files with charts have seen improvements (from OOXML to LO to OOXML), but more work is needed as the files open, but style data isn't available or modifiable currently. See tdf#168472 for more details.	Kurt Nordback
Performance: 3D chart freezing issue fixed	An issue was fixed where users found that inserting an X-Y Scatter chart with 3D lines froze the chart dialog. See tdf#148988 for more details.	Noel Grandin

Core Improvement Contributions

Collabora Productivity worked together with other developers to provide some enhancements to the core experience; improving Google authentication (Windows only).

Collabora commits	Commit details	Collabora engineer
Google Drive: authentication improved (Windows only)	Google Drive authentication was improved to use the normal browser method (although this currently only works in Windows). See tdf#101630 for more details.	Mike Kaganski

Filters Contributions (Formats & Interoperability)

Calc: Added Generic XML and JSON Tabular Mapping Support - Kohei Yoshida

Linkable tabular ranges are auto-mapped to sheets in Calc when opened now. A linkable range is a section of a document containing tabular records. When a document contains multiple linkable ranges, each range gets mapped to a single sheet. The notes on this documented commit indicate that automatic mapping is done on a best-effort basis, and it may not work in all cases. XML documents with linkable ranges are handled in a similar way.

Markdown: Added Support for Import and Export - Mike Kaganski & Miklos Vajna

This commit was built on Ujjawal Kumar's welcome contribution during Google Summer of Code, where he developed a Markdown importer for Writer. Miklos Vajna developed Kumar's work, along with Mike Kaganski's minimalist Markdown exporter for Writer to add support for both, including importing via clipboard. See [Miklos Vajna's blog post](#) for more details.

Markdown: Support for ODT/DOCX Templates When Importing – Miklos Vajna

Building on the improvements to Markdown import and export in Writer, users can now import Markdown into a template, enabling users to incorporate such template elements as colours and formatting that would normally appear as the default font and style. See [Miklos Vajna's blog post](#) for more details.
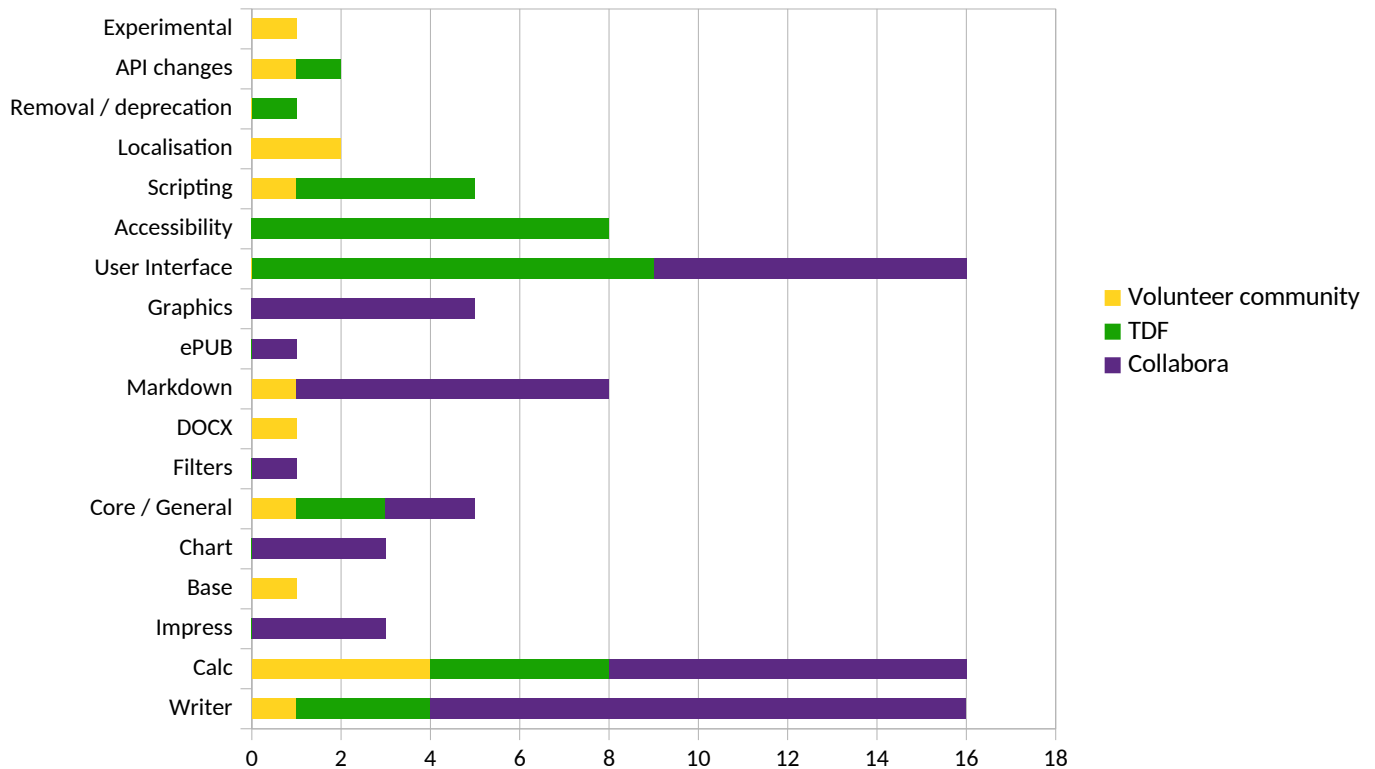
EPUB: Faster Exports with a Progress Bar – Noel Grandin

Users had reported the EPUB exports were freezing and, in some cases taking over three minutes to export. As well as adding a progress bar, to provide much needed feedback to users, the EPUB exporter was optimised in various ways, for instance, by increasing the layout cache size during export which, on its own, reduced export times by 50%. See [tdf#133976](#) for more details.

Chart: What Changed in 26.2?

While not all features are listed in the release notes wiki page by the relevant engineers, and there are huge numbers of fixes under the hood that also tend not to be listed, we can perhaps get a flavour of the changes by charting the number of highlighted features by area like this:

LibreOffice 26.2: Documented Features in the Release Notes (by Category and Contributor Type)

For 26.2, Collabora engineers applied their expertise to areas, such as graphics, UI enhancements, Markdown support. For the core office suite application (Writer, Calc, Impress and Charts), engineers provided commits that optimised performance and created a smoother experience.

Graphics Contributions

Skia: Rendering now Mandatory on Windows and macOS – Noel Grandin

Due to an upcoming patch, Skia, the open source 2D graphics library, was enabled in favour of GDI in Windows and Aqua for MacOS. See 07f480b7, 9f9550a6 for more details.

Performance: Faster SVG Imports and Rendering with Pattern Fill - Noel Grandin

Users found that importing SVG files which had small scaling performed poorly. The slow render of SVGs with pattern fill was optimised by utilising the Cairo backend. See tdf#101083 and tdf#149592 for more details.

Performance: Faster Shape Fill Rendering - Noel Grandin

Polygon rendering with a tiled image fill was noticeable slow, reportedly taking around 10 seconds to render. Native Skia support was committed for bitmap tiling, which improved the performance significantly, (see commit comment image, below). For more details, see tdf#160345.

Dave Gilbert 2024-06-27 15:52:42 UTC	Comment 4 [tag] [reply] [−]

```
Noel's fix makes a heck of a difference;  both on this single polygon and the full
page; it's now only taking a couple of seconds with X pegged.
You can still hammer it if you try zooming a little.
```

Filled polygon rendering was greatly improved by using native Skia rendering for bitmap tiling.

User Interface Contributions

IconView: Better UI Handling - Parth Raiyani

A number of commits focused on replacing the ValueSet with IconView widget. IconView is a native GTK widget, which also improves the web-based LO experience. ValueSet in the Layouts panel of Impress Sidebar (see tdf#166964) and the Theme dialog (see tdf#167074 for details) were both replaced, as well as in Preset and Shadow Style Positions in the Border page dialog (see tdf#167536).
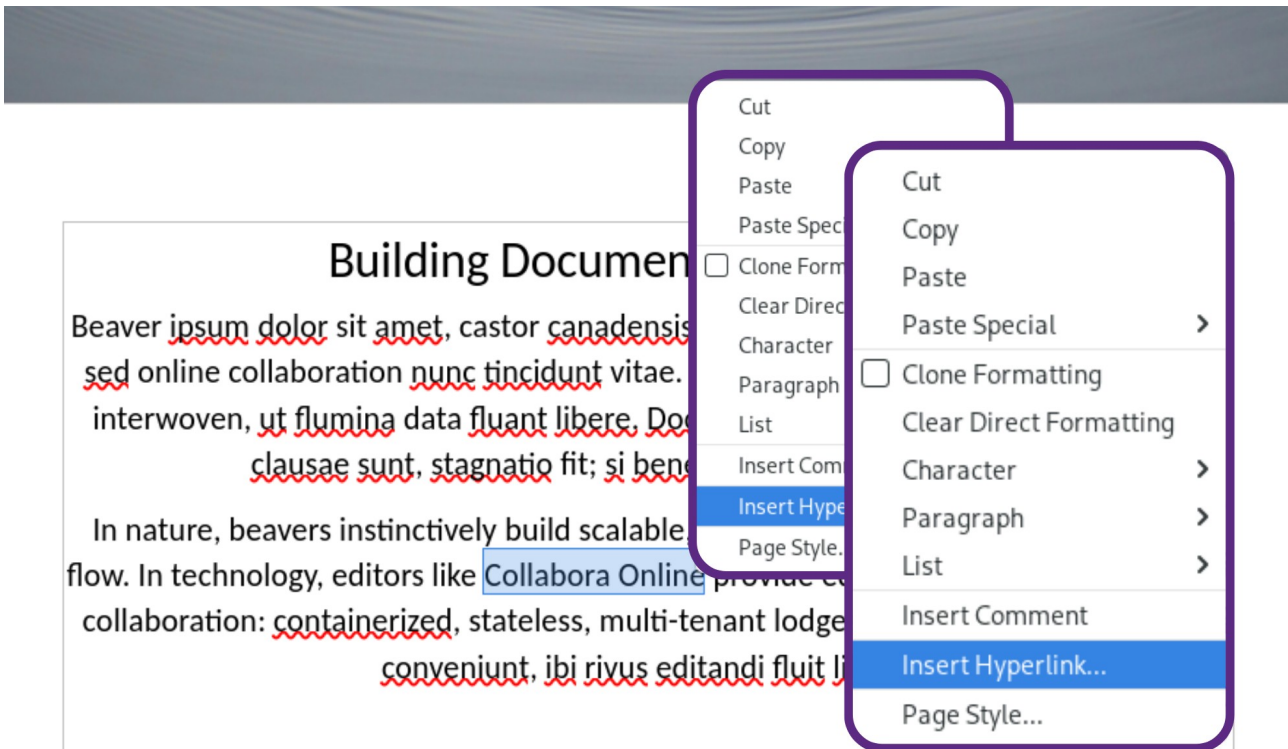
Performance: Go To Page/Slide/Sheet Dialogs Are Now Async - Hubert Figuière

This commit made Go To Page/Slide/Sheet dialogs async, which ensures that the application's UI remains responsive when navigating large documents. See 8b609509, 1beb3252 and 46c25815 for more details.

Insert Hyperlink Option Added to Context Menu – Samuel Mehrbrodt

Users can insert a hyperlink by highlighting text and selecting the option from the Context Menu that automatically appears. See tdf#167544 for more details.

There are many other commits in LibreOffice 26.2, so while we are acknowledging the time and effort contributed by our engineering team here, we want to celebrate the collective contributions of everyone involved in the LibreOffice project. We love to work in the open for the benefit of everyone and empower each user to control their documents.

Context Menu now has an insert Hyperlink option when text is selected, creating a faster and smoother workflow for users.

Quotes & Spokespeople

Quote from Michael Meeks, CEO of Collabora Productivity:

> *We are excited to be able to continue to accelerate the quality and completeness of collaborative Open Source Office productivity alongside an engaged developer community. We are deeply grateful to our customers and partners for making it possible to contribute so much to sustaining and improving the software, thank you!*

Note: Michael Meeks is available for further commentary on Collabora Productivity's development work on the LibreOffice codebase, along with discussions on open source software and open standards for achieving greater digital sovereignty, which includes the European trend for moving away from US tech providers.

Quote from Miklos Vajna, Senior Software Engineer, Collabora Productivity:

> *"While we're only one part of a broader community, our engineers have been able to contribute a big share of the improvements in this new release and those in 2025. It is*

gratifying to contribute to improvements in Writer to make floating tables work better and improve document flow particularly across page splits; fix problems with change tracking; and improve some elements of Markdown import and export support"

Quote from Bayram Cicek, Collabora Productivity:

> *"I gain an unmatched sense of fulfilment from contributing to open source projects, and working alongside a highly skilled team. For LibreOffice 26.2, I was fortunate to handle a number of quality of life and compatibility commits for Writer, such as correcting some line spacing issues with field shading, and adding support for xmlMaps.xml, which means users can now represent xml schemas in Calc, and add, identify and extract specific data from a spreadsheet that would normally be static."*

Sources for information:

The Document Foundation Wiki Release Note:
https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/ReleaseNotes/26.2

Company & Organisation Details

Collabora Productivity

Collabora Productivity provides Collabora Online: an open-source solution for document editing and collaboration, complemented by desktop and mobile apps for seamless multi-platform support. Collabora Productivity provides support subscriptions via hundreds of trusted partners worldwide. Together they deliver document and productivity excellence integrated with our partners' product and service offerings. With a strong focus on Open-Source, Digital Sovereignty and GDPR compliance, Collabora Productivity and partners deliver a secure, interoperable solution for deploying in organisations at scale.

Marketing Contact:

Collabora Productivity Ltd
Naomi Obbard, Head of Marketing: marketing@collaboraoffice.com

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