The European Molecular Biology Open Software Suite (EMBOSS) Peter Rice (pmr@ebi.ac.uk), Alan Bleasby, Jon Ison, Mahmut Uludag European Bioinformatics Institute, Hinxton, Cambridge, CB10 1SD, United Kingdom.

The European Molecular Biology Open Software Suite (EMBOSS) is a mature package of software tools developed for the molecular biology community. It includes a comprehensive set of applications for molecular sequence analysis and other tasks and integrates popular third-party software packages under a consistent interface. EMBOSS includes extensive C programming libraries and is a platform to develop and release software in the true open source spirit.

A major new stable version is released each year and the current source code tree can be downloaded via CVS. All code is open source and licensed for use by everyone under the GNU Software licenses (GPL with LGPL library code).

EMBOSS is free (as in "free beer"): you can download it free of charge. EMBOSS is free (as in "free speech"): you can do whatever you want with the code, provided you preserve that same freedom for others. Submitted code from outside contributors is welcome.

There have been many thousands of downloads including site-wide installations all over the world since the project inception. EMBOSS is used extensively in production environments reflecting its mature status and has been incorporated into many web-based, standalone graphical and workflow interfaces including wEMBOSS, EMBOSS Explorer, JEMBOSS, SoapLab, Pise, SRS, Taverna and several commercial workflow packages.

The demonstration will highlight the well established key features and also new features in EMBOSS 6.0 in the following areas:

- Stable open source licensing
- Documentation and support for developers and system administrators
- Commandline validation
- UNIX commandline, Web, GUI and web service interfaces
- Data in any common format
- Unlimited sequence length
- Simple site configuration and customization
- Support for local databases
- · Remote data servers
- Availability and distribution
- Quality assurance
- C programming library development
- Functionality and Integration

Project home page: http://emboss.sourceforge.net/

Release download site: ftp://emboss.open-bio.org/pub/EMBOSS/ Anonymous CVS server: http://www.open-bio.org/wiki/SourceCode