Introducing LibreOffice Safe Mode

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Rationale

- User profile causing issues here & there
- Various bug reports probably because of broken profiles
- TDF published a “Tender to design and implement a profile safe mode for LibreOffice (#201604-01)”
- Goal: Allow the user to identify and fix issues with the user profile
Introducing LibreOffice Safe Mode

Solution: Safe Mode

- **Access:**
  - Help → Restart in Safe Mode
  - Windows Start Menu entry
  - Command line option: `libreoffice -safe-mode`

- **Features:**
  - Uses a temporary clean user profile, no H/W acceleration
  - Has various options to restore/reset broken configuration
  - Allows to create zip archive from user profile
Use Case #1

“LibreOffice doesn’t start – what to do?”

Before:
- Try deleting the folder containing your user profile (all settings, extensions etc gone)
- Try disabling OpenGL (how to do that when LO doesn’t start?)

Now:
- Start LibreOffice in Safe Mode
  - Cmd line parameter: libreoffice --safe-mode
  - Start menu entry in Windows
  - Runs with clean user profile, H/W acceleration disabled
  - Has some options to fix broken config
Use Case #2

“*I changed some options and now XY doesn’t work anymore*”

**Before:**
- Find and delete your user profile…

**Now:**
- Go to Safe Mode, restore last configuration backup
Use Case #3

- “I broke everything. I want to reset LibreOffice to factory settings.”

Before:
- Find and delete your user profile…

Now:
- Go to Safe Mode, select “Reset entire user profile”
Use Case #4

- “My extensions don’t work anymore / are breaking things”
- Before:
  - Go to extension manager, disable or remove them one by one
- Now:
  - Go to Safe Mode, reset state of extensions
  - or uninstall all user extensions
Use Case #5

“I was requested to send my user profile. Where do I find it?”

Before:

- Windows
  - %APPDATA%\libreoffice\4\user (LibreOffice 4 & 5)
  - %APPDATA%\libreoffice\3\user (LibreOffice 3)

Note: on a normal Windows install, %APPDATA% resolves to either "C:\Documents and Settings". The path may be localized on non-English versions.

- GNU/Linux
  - /home/<user name>/.config/libreoffice/4/user (LibreOffice 4 & 5)
  - /home/<user name>/.config/libreoffice/3/user (LibreOffice 3 since 3.5.0)
  - /home/<user name>/.libreoffice/3/user (prior to LibreOffice 3.5.0)

Note: This is for the LibreOffice packages distributed by The Document Foundation. Versions

Now:

- Go to Safe Mode, Advanced
  - Click “Show User Profile” or
  - “Create ZIP archive from User Profile”
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Configuration

- Various ini properties:
  - SecureUserConfig=true
  - Enable/Disable backups
  - SecureUserConfigCompress=true
  - Compress backups
  - SecureUserConfigNumCopies=2
  - How many copies to keep
  - SecureUserConfigMode=1
    - 0: only registymodifications.xcu
    - 1: + autocorr, autotext, basic, config, database, registry, scripts, template, wordbook
    - 2: Whole user profile
  - SecureUserConfigExtensions=true
  - State of extensions (enabled, disabled)

- Status:
  - Disabled in 5.3
  - Enabled in master (5.4)

- Customize default values:
  - <instdir>/program/soffice.ini
  - -env cmd line parameter
    - -env:SecureUserConfigCompress=false
  - Environment variable
    - export SecureUserConfigMode=false
Thank you …

Questions?