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Open source ERP gains popularity

Our Correspondent

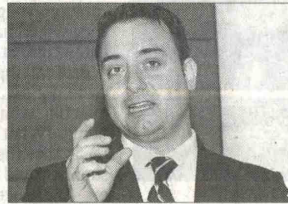
Kolkata: The open source enterprise resource solution (ERP) business is set to change the dynamics of the small and medium enterprises (SME). According to a Gartner study, around 84 per cent of the SMEs in the global market will move to the open source business solution by 2013.

Government agencies, distribution, retail and other services sectors in the SME segment with employee strength from five to 500 are fast adopting open source ERP solutions like Openbravo, Open ERP and Compiere as they can easily maintain details of procurement management, warehouse management, production

management, sales and services to generate huge organisational productivity.

"Globally, the ERP market for the SMEs is around \$30 billion, while the market share of the open source is \$8.1 billion. But, according to a Gartner study, 84 per cent of the global SME market will move to the open source business solution by 2013. At present, 20 per cent of companies worldwide own an ERP," said Andreu Bartoli, vice president-channels, Openbravo, a web-based open source ERP company.

The Indian ERP market is \$1.5 billion at present. The Openbravo 3, the agile ERP which is slated to be launched next week globally, can



■ Andreu Bartoli

offer automated business processes to improve efficiencies to the distribution sector and provide a central view of inventory with store-level control to the retail sector, Bartoli added.

Openbravo, with a giant's share in the open source business solution, is targeting a 400 per cent growth in 2011 and is looking at 20,000 deployments of ERP software in five market sectors across 19 Asia-Pacific countries from 5,000 deployments at present.

The company, with offices in the US, Spain, India and regional partners in more than 20 countries worldwide, had nearly two million downloads of the ERP solution and in the APAC region, the growth rate was 138 per cent in 2010, Bartoli said.

Openbravo, with 70 partners, including 10 in India, is slated to add 10 more in the Indian market in the current fiscal.