

Feasibility Report on Content Management Systems

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Feasibility Report

Our mail company which mainly offers various services online is considering moving from the current content management system to either Alfresco which is part of the enterprise content management system (ECMS), Joomla, or CMS made simple. The current content management system has grown considerably, and therefore it is not that effective like it used to be. It is not also safe to retrieve information from this system skeptically when it is needed on time. This system has also become buggy. Due to the challenges posed by the current content managing system even marketing our services online has become a challenge. Other alternatives it will help our company to streamline its authoring process, update its website remotely, reduce the cost of website maintenance, customize our site to meet various needs of our business. It will also ensure consistency in the appearance of our website, and lastly, it will make it easier for the company to use non- technical staff in making updates in the site. After meeting our various teams in the company together with the chairman of the board of governors, multiple alternatives have been raised concerning the content management system. The IT department is in charge of the communication department in our organization.

After it held a few discussions with various staff members concerning the current content management system, it came up with new ideas which it proposed to the CEO of the company. The marketing department was also contacted to recommend the best CMS. Our IT director who has got perfect experience in content management system remembered that he once made two websites using Joomla. He proceeded to choose various individuals to help him conduct the research of the best CMS to use. The team mainly conducted its study on companies which are doing similar business. The team also connected with various other organizations in the company to identify the multiple functionalities they wished to have. This is through considering numerous aspects like how the site is to be updated, retrieval of information, and how the website can be used in different devices.

Criteria

The selection of the new CMS will ensure our companies challenges are solved and also it will perform some critical jobs. It will have to follow various processes before it is accepted for initiation, development, selection, and implementation. Many software vendors tailored to the pressure that a company must adopt new technologies choosing the best CMS is very much critical. A good software system ensures the success of a company, but it is still tough to have a good software system (Maass,

300). Research has shown that many enterprises are always unable to make the best selection of the CMS that fits their company needs. This has been attributed to the failure in analysis during the period of selection. Based on our company requires the best CMS should have the following attributes.

It should be easier use

CMS is meant to be used by all the staff in the organization. The team includes managers, supervisors and all other subordinates

It should be flexible

Flexibility here implies that templates from the software can be changed. This depends on how the CMS is simplified as compared to the rest. This is because the more significant a CMS is, the more a designer likes creating a template for it. Take a close look at CMSMS and Joomla we can identify that Joomla is popular than CMSMS and therefore it has more sources of the model. The same difference is observed in companies using these two types of CMS

Extensibility

The fact that our company has outgrown the current CMS, the next to be adopted must not become baggy. On the other hand, our company's website must look different and unique as compared to the rest of the websites. Therefore extensibility will help address these issues. The CMS to be used must have a lot of components and can be used when needed. This will make our company useful especially when it wants to add e-commerce, blog, newsletter, and forums on the website future.

Security

Information from the CMS must be secured. This is because company's websites are at risk primarily from hackers and virus. Therefore the CMS to be adopted must have its system which can deter any stranger from accessing any information. It also needs to have a limitation when accessing it.

Usage and Accessibility

This means that our company's website should be accessed when needed by customers also the CMS should ensure that information is retrieved when needed. This is why the website content makers must be well informed of the characteristics of the CMS that a company needs. Website administrators need to have control over all other users. Therefore, every other company needs to consider usage and accessibility of a CMS.

Community

Through CMS a community is created that provides guidelines, documents, and support for the work that the company cannot handle because of lack of knowledge.

Optimized Performance

CMS should be able to make our server and web pages accessible at high speed.

Research approach

Various types of CMS were studied before deciding which one was the best for our company. This included the CMS made simple, Joomla and ECMS. Also, literature that concerns this CMS was also studied to identify the best CMS that fits our company needs and construct a framework. This included the general factors and steps that affect change in the CMS. Later an interview question was developed based on the context. After the interview, the information was categorized using the coding method. Finally, the conclusion was made out of this interview questions.

Through website research, four companies were also selected there were contacted for their opinion based on the three types of CMS. It was discovered that a company that runs its website having its server could more information compared to a company that runs its site through a different server. Those who were interviewed must have had various experiences with the CMS. They also needed to be part of the IT team in their companies that selects CMS. These interviews were conducted through chat messengers, and sometimes questions were sent through emails.

Classification of the CMS

In recent times there are very many CMS that are being used. In total there are about 160 CMS that are based on different platforms. However content management systems can broadly be categorized into two one that is based on the license and, the other is based on functionality.

- **By Functionality**

Classification based on functionality tries to identify the goal and the platform that a CMS uses. We have three categories of CMS based on the feature.

- Web CMS

It is the most popular CMS because it uses various languages for storing, maintaining, creating and publishing website content. It gives authority to the clients to have control over files, content, web hosting plans and documents which are based on HTML.

There are three types of WCMS this is offline processing system, online processing system, and hybrid system. The main advantage of this kind of CMS is that it is usually made for non-technical users. It is preferred by organizations where employees are required to work on the website.

This type of CMS is used by the organization in organizing, sharing substantial content and coordination. The material defined in this section ranges from files, images, and texts (Barker, 367). It becomes easier for businesses to handle a significant amount of content. ECMS uses different other tools like the media manager, content organization, and WCMS. The primary objective of this system is to enable employees to get companies information quickly instead of them searching through various software applications (Barker, 278). Through this, the company can simplify business process which saves time and money. This type of CMS can store information without it running out of date. Various kinds of ECMS includes SharePoint, IBM Lotus, RedDot, and Alfresco,

- Mobile CMS

The recent innovations in the mobile industry have given birth to new mobile devices like the smartphone. It is not a surprise for as having a CMS which is based on mobile phones. The fact that this type of phones are usually on high demand and to have every kind of users it becomes necessary to have a CMS on mobile phones to help in the management of ringtones, text messages, news and even games. Mobile CMS range from small ones to large ones which can hold the more substantial content of information. Others are just portrayed as features or ads. The main advantage of this kind of CMS is that it is easier to use, easier to read and navigate through because the mobile phone is small in size.

- Component CMS

This type of CMS creates documents from components parts. It mainly deals with links graphics, complete paragraph or even word. The main advantage of this type of document is that it can use content is various documents

CMS classified according to the license include

- Commercial CMS

This type of CMS is usually owned by a person, and one must ensure for a license to use it. It includes Amaxus and site core.

Joomla

Introduction

Joomla is one of the most popular content management systems with a robust extension system which is mainly used to develop other different application on the website (Barker, 100). Recently it has become one of the top three commonly used CMS globally together with word press and Drupal.

Joomla has two versions of the software. The first version is 2.5x which most of the people are recommended to use. The second one is 3.0x which is supported by developers and users because it has more features as compared to the first one. The number of time Joomla systems get to be downloaded 2.5 million. It happens to be the second most used CMS. Joomla content management is classified under open source software license (Maass, 46). It means that an individual can develop CMS software for a company without being charged anything (Addey, 32) .since it is free one can easily access its source code and one can quickly make changes. Joomla is made up of HTML, CSS, SQL, PHP, and MySQL.

Technical Requirement

It very significant for an individual to understand technologies those are associated with Joomla (Maass, 112). It will help an individual to understand the various components needed to develop a Joomla site. Different technologies used when developing Joomla are language interpreter, Database, and Web Server.

CMS made simple

It was developed to make CMS easier to use and to administrate

Technical requirement

It is clear that CMSMS does not fashion choices of the operating system because it is capable of running all the operating systems that exist. The various technologies that need to be considered are the web server, language interpreter, and database.

Alfresco

Alfresco is used to manage all contents within an enterprise. Alfresco systems have se4rvers that

persist content, associations, full-text indexes, and metadata. programming systems have multiple languages where developers create custom solution and applications. Alfresco is suitable for systems that have java enterprise edition.

Decision Matrix

	System Requirements	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Application Server	J2EE	Apache	CGI
	Approximate Cost	\$15,000 or \$20,000/CPU/year (depending on SLA). Also per user pricing through Red Hat Exchange	0	Free
	Database	Other	MySQL	MySQL
	License	Open Source	Open Source	Open Source
	Operating System	Platform Independent	Platform Independent	Platform Independent
	Programming Language	Java	PHP	PHP
	Root Access	No	No	No
	Shell Access	No	No	No
	Web Server	Any	Any	Any
	Security	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Audit Trail	Yes	Yes	No

	Captcha	No	Free Add-On	Free Add-On
	Content Approval	Yes	No	Yes
	Email Verification	No	No	Yes
	Granular Privileges	Yes	No	Yes
	Kerberos Authentication	Yes	No	No
	LDAP Authentication	Yes	No	Yes
	Login History	Yes	Limited	Yes
	NIS Authentication	No	No	No
	NTLM Authentication	Yes	No	No
	Pluggable Authentication	Yes	No	Yes
	Problem Notification	Yes	No	No
	Sandbox	Yes	Limited	No
	Session Management	Limited	No	Yes
	SMB Authentication	Yes	No	No
	SSL Compatible	Yes	Yes	Yes
	SSL Logins	Limited	No	Yes
	SSL Pages	No	Yes	Yes

	Versioning	Yes	No	Free Add-On
	Support	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Certification Program	Yes	No	No
	Code Skeletons	Yes	Free Add-On	Free Add-On
	Commercial Manuals	Yes	No	Yes
	Commercial Support	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Commercial Training	Yes	No	Yes
	Developer Community	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Online Help	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Pluggable API	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Professional Hosting	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Professional Services	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Public Forum	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Public Mailing List	No	Yes	Yes
	Test Framework	Yes	No	Yes
	Third-Party Developers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Users Conference	Yes	Yes	Yes

	Ease of Use	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Drag-N-Drop Content	Limited	Yes	No
	Email To Discussion	Yes	No	Free Add-On
	Friendly URLs	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Image Resizing	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Macro Language	Yes	No	Yes
	Mass Upload	Yes	Limited	Yes
	Prototyping	Yes	No	Yes
	WYSIWYG Editor	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Zip Archives	Yes	No	No
	Performance	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Advanced Caching	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Database Replication	Yes	No	No
	Management	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Advertising Management	No	Free Add-On	Yes
	Asset Management	Yes	Yes	Yes

	Clipboard	Yes	No	No
	Web Statistics	No	Free Add-On	Yes
	Web-based Style/Template Management	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Web-based Translation Management	Yes	Yes	Free Add-On
	Workflow Engine	Yes	Limited	No
	Interoperability	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Content Syndication (RSS)	Yes	Free Add-On	Yes
	FTP Support	Yes	No	Yes
	iCal	No	No	Free Add-On
	Flexibility	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	CGI-mode Support	No	No	Yes
	Content Reuse	Yes	No	Yes
	Extensible User Profiles	Yes	No	Yes
	Interface Localization	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Metadata	Yes	Limited	Yes

	URL Rewriting	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Built-in Applications	Alfresco Enterprise + Community	CMS Made Simple 1.9.4	Joomla! 2.5.4
	Blog	No	Free Add-On	Yes
	Chat	No	Free Add-On	Free Add-On
	Classifieds	No	No	Free Add-On
	Contact Management	No	No	Yes
	Data Entry	No	Free Add-On	Free Add-On
	Database Reports	No	No	Free Add-On
	Discussion / Forum	Yes	Free Add-On	Free Add-On
	Document Management	Yes	No	Free Add-On
	Events Calendar	Yes	Free Add-On	Free Add-On

Recommendation

After considering all other types of CMS and decision matrix, I would recommend our mail company to consider Joomla since it is one of the most popular CSM this makes it easy to find a developer besides, the software keeps updating which will help since the technology keeps changing. It is also preferable because it has got many users who can also help with extensions and components (Addey, 108). Lastly is that it is fast as compared to the rest of the software and it well helps in solving the challenges our company is facing with the current content management system.

Work Cited

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