Mambo Content Management Server

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What is Mambo?

- Mambo is an award winning Content Management Server (CMS) that was written on the AMP platform

- Famous for ease of use and lightweight requirements

- Simple to administer

- Multi-platform (requires Apache, PHP and MySQL)

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Recognition

Mambo won Best Open Source Solution and Best Overall Industry Solution at LinuxWorld Boston 2005

Why is that a big deal?

- We've shown a FOSS application can outperform the best that the commercial/proprietary sector has to offer

- Provided evidence that developers can make a career out of developing products with Mambo as the foundation

- We've proven that businesses can use FOSS software to their benefit

- We've demonstrated an excellent use of LAMP technologies with a wide appeal

About Me

- Mambo Core Developer

- Business-driven, advocacy of Mambo and FOSS

- Pitches Mambo to 3rd Party Developers (3PDs)

- Focused on database technologies and user interface

- Strong background of operations, administration and security

- Position: database specialist, comic relief

About the Teams

- Two separate teams:

    - Mambo Core: focused on next major release (5.0.0)

    - Mambo Maintenance Team (MT): dedicated to supporting existing stable series (4.5.2.1) through 2005 calendar year

- Documentation team

- Other special focus groups (PR, Advocacy etc.)

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About the Community

mamboserver.com

- 23,000 forum users

- New documentation site (help.mamboserver.com)

mamboforge.net

- ~20,000 developers

- ~1,000 projects

- ~4 million page views monthly

- More than 3 million downloads

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Mambo History

- Early 2000 – Miro release Mambo 1.0
- March 2001 – mamboserver.com
- June 2001 – Mambo Open Source 3.0
- Early 2002 – Mambo 2002 (commercial release)
- Mid 2002 – Robert Castley - Development Director
- Dec 2002 – Mambo Open Source 4.0
- Nov 2003 – Mambo Open Source 4.5
- Aug 2004 – Mambo Open Source 4.5.1*
- Nov 2004 – Andrew Eddie - Project Leader
- Feb 2005 – Mambo Open Source 4.5.2 (and 4.5.2.1)

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Mambo Future Plans

Mambo 5.0.0 Release, Mid 2005

- Database Abstraction
- Access Control Lists
- Multi-lingual
- Advanced Templating
- Web Services
- Logical Content Management
- Improved File Management
- Improved Installer
- Simplification of Content Creation

Mambo Future – Database Abstraction

- Using the ADODB library for low-level database abstraction
- Mambo to support
  - PostgreSQL
  - MySQL
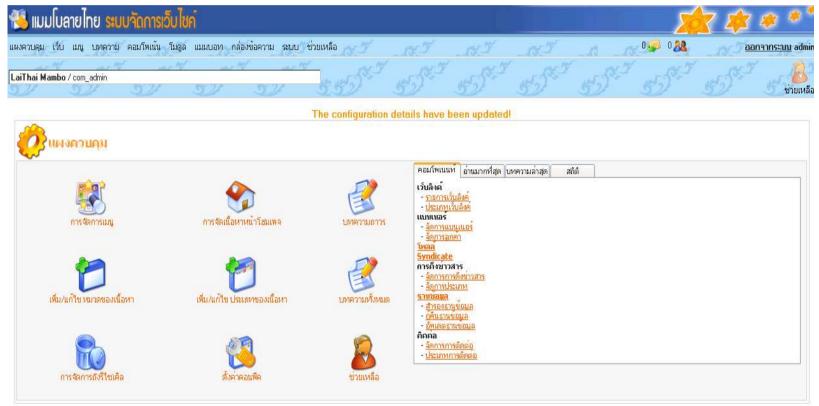 - Microsoft SQL Server
  - Others

Mambo Future – Access Control Lists

- Ability to add custom groups

- GUI interface to assign action based permissions eg. Edit configuration, or templates or content

- Restrict content access by user group e.g. content for company managers can only be seen by people in that group

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Mambo Future - Multilingual

Mambo Future – Advanced Templating

- Easier customization

- Web Standards e.g. XHTML

- Site Skins

- Right to left presentation

Mambo Future – Other (cont.)

- Web Services
  - Remote connection to a Mambo site e.g. via XML-RPC or Java
- Logical Content Management
  - Replace current Category/Section structure with a hierarchical tree of folders
  - Content can be linked to more than one folder
- Improved File Management
  - Not limited to the /images/stories directory

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Mambo Future – Other (cont.)

- Improved Installer
  - Install packages in one go. A Package could be a combination of component, module, template, language file.

- Simplification of Content Creation
  - Strengthen what Mambo does best
  - Make Mambo the simplest CMS to use

Mambo Future – So I Lied

- 4.5.3 uses ADOdb (done in cvs)

  - Full database neutrality

  - Uses XMLSchema for installation

- Significant updates to API documentation as a result

- Automated testing for Mambo core/maintenance development

- Testing program for 3PDs

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Creating Mambo the FOSS Way

- Through Collaborative technologies such as forums and online bug tracking software -- information on best practices, software problems and next steps are shared and communicated.

- An engaged community provides superior feedback.

- Testing within the community increases the speed and quality of development.

- As other Mambo users leverage the tools provided by Mambo, new Components, Templates and Modules are shared with other like-minded users. Develop once, and everyone gains.

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Enough Already, How Does it Work?

- Templates – control the layout of the site

- Modules – chunks of functionality for specific purposes, usually no configuration necessary

- Components – complete integrated applications, complete with back-end administration interface

- Mambots – logic that executes on content for rendering

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Demo - Templates

- Consist of HTML and CSS

- Minimal PHP markup required

- Dreamweaver extension available

- Demo online at http://demo.mambohut.com/

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Demo – Modules

- Contained application that does something specific

- Not a replacement for content!

- Can replace existing menus (e.g. with JSCook, Suckerfish)

- Can be integrated with Components

- EXAMPLE: Most Popular

Demo - Components

- Contains complete application

- Includes administration interface for back-end

- Can have complimentary Components

- EXAMPLE: Links

Demo - Mambots

- Typically used for content processing

- Includes WYSIWYG editors

- Can include custom search facilities

- EXAMPLE: TinyMCE

Resources

- www.mamboserver.com – the home site

- www.mamboforge.net – 3rd party developer site

- help.mamboserver.com – documentation site

- forum.mamboserver.com – community forums

- demo.mambohut.com – template demos

- www.mambosolutions.com – dreamweaver extension, various templates

- www.simplemachines.org – home of SimpleMachines Forum

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The End

Questions and Comments

"Stump the Geek"