
Joomla in use : 4 years of experience in small to large projects

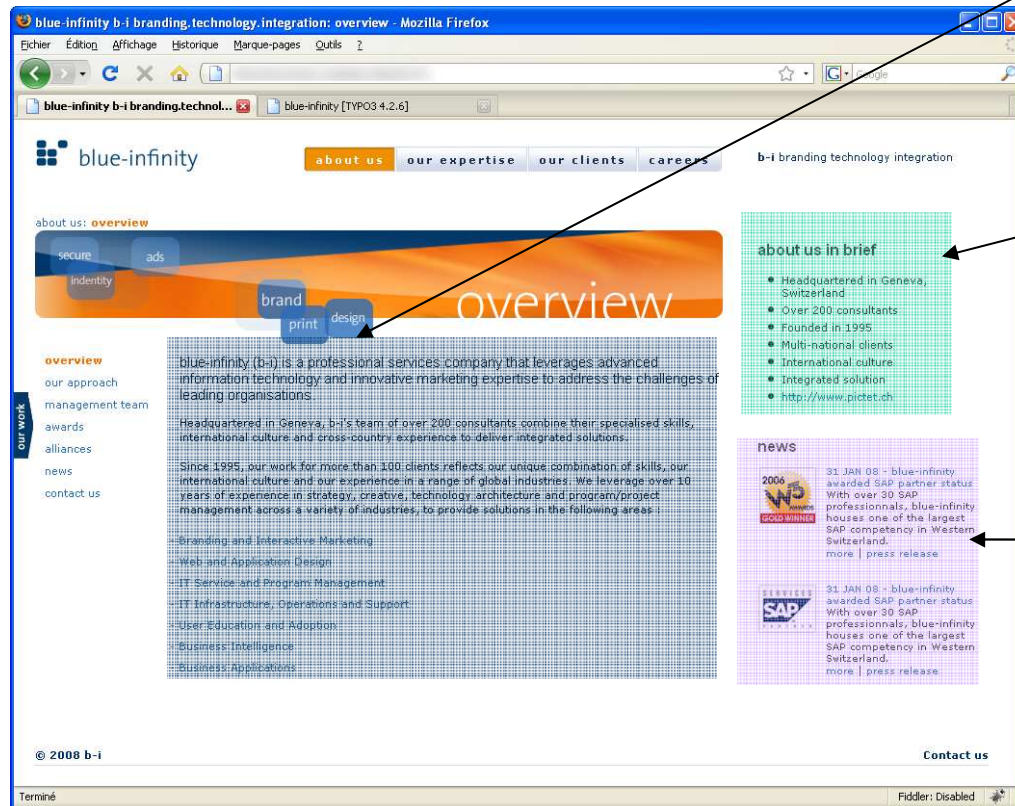
b-i branding. technology. integration.



www.b-i.com

What is a CMS ?

- Content Management System



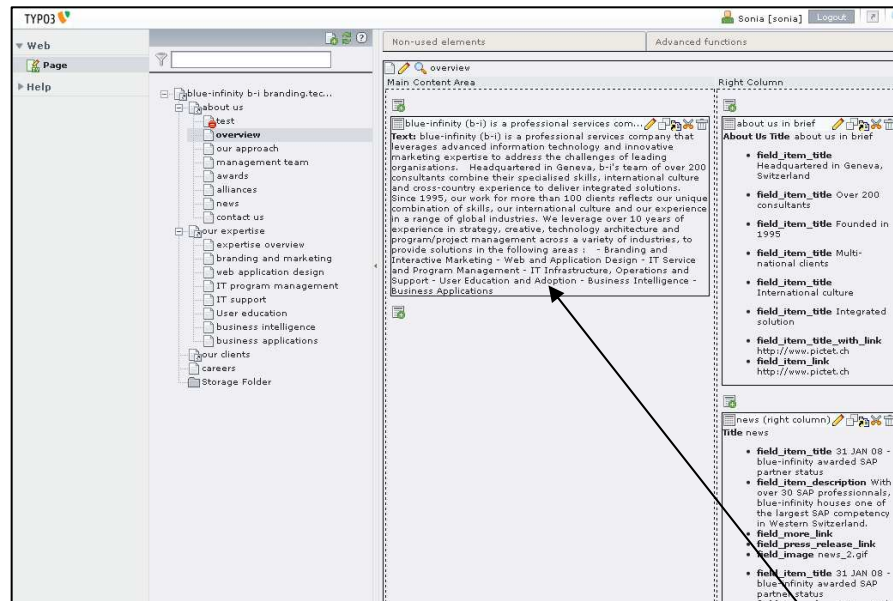
This is the content of the page I would like to be printed [...]

These are some links I want on the right side

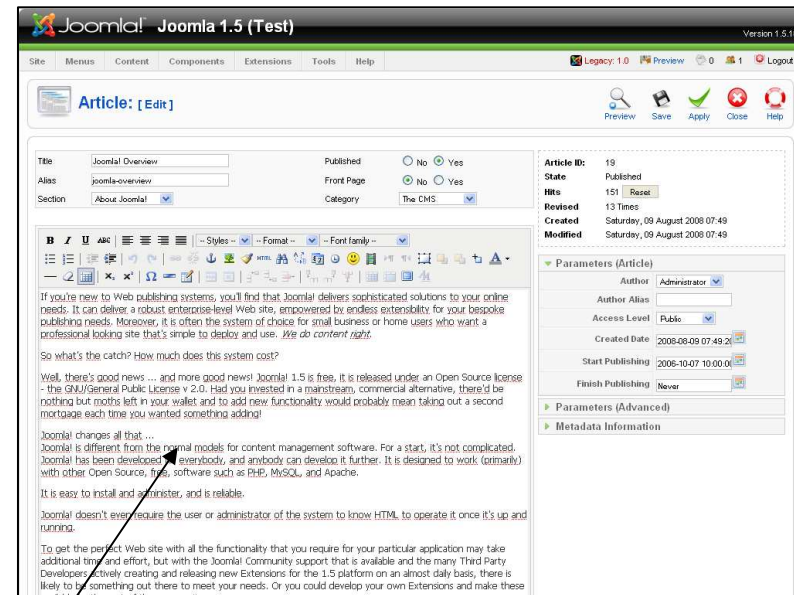
Latest news such as a blog I want to print here automatically

What is a CMS ? - Backend

- The content of the website is "not" correlated to its structure and layout.
- Editors access portions of content to edit or add into a backend.



Example Typo3 backend



Example Joomla backend

This is the content of the page I would like to be printed [...]

What is a web CMS ?

- Less complex than older more general CMS
- Specialized in web content (!) : XHTML, CSS, images, flash, audio...
- Automatic display such as :
 - > Menus
 - > Breadcrumb
 - > news list
 - > etc...
- WYSIWYG edition
- Extensions
- Framework to develop specific extensions

What is Joomla! ?



- "Web" CMS
- PHP4 or 5, mysql 3+, Apache or IIS, Windows, Linux, Solaris (...)
- Simple yet elegant and powerful
- Strong community : 255.000 registered user (as of July 2008)
- 4000+ extensions (as of beg. 2008)
- Joomla usage : 1.000.000 websites ? even more ?
- MVC Framework
- Integrated javascript framework and some tools

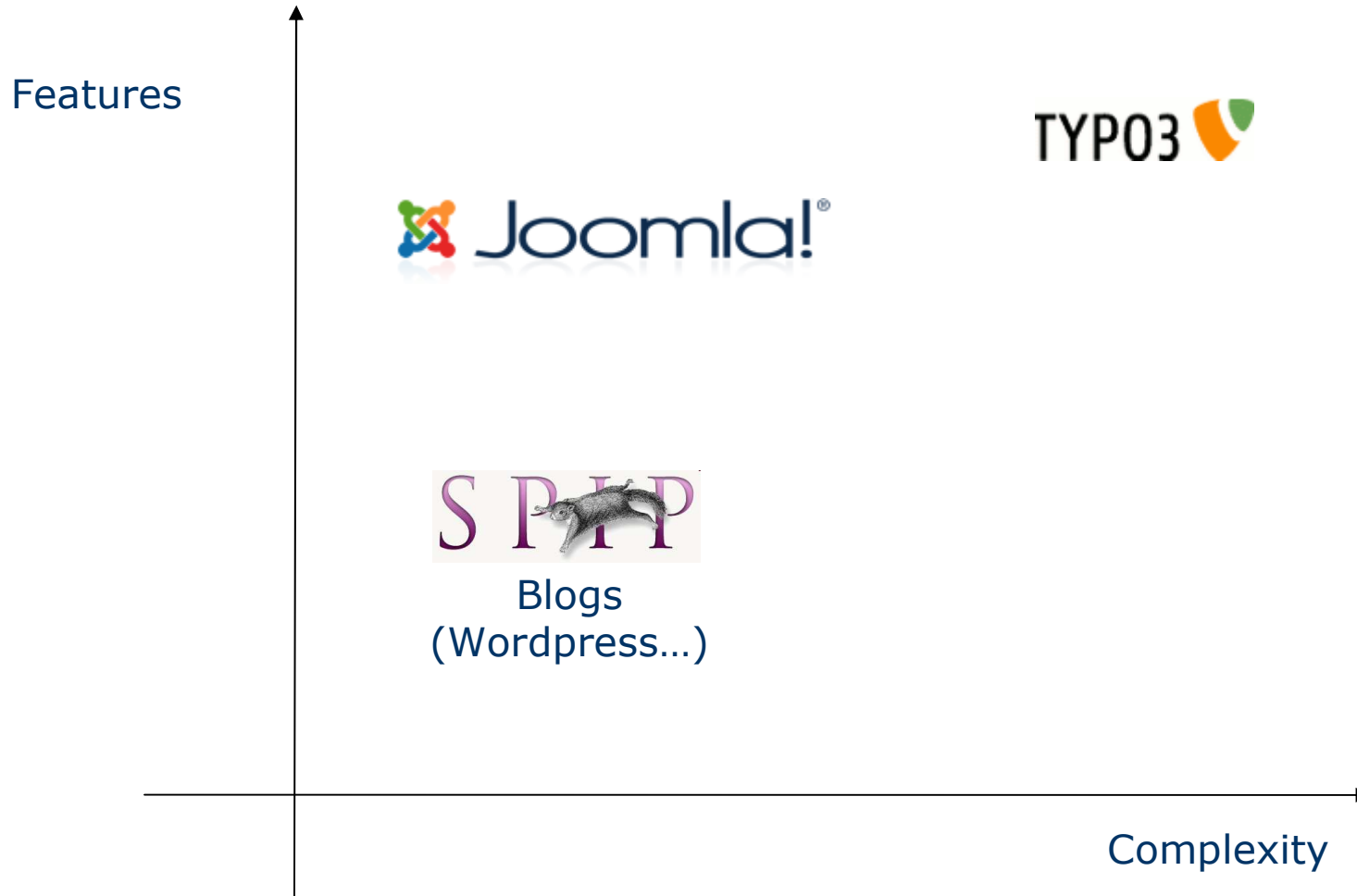
Joomla! History

- 2000 – 2005 : Mambo
- 17 Aug. 2005 : Mambo fork
- Sept. 2005 : Joomla 1.0.0
- Oct 2008 : Joomla 1.5

- Currently dev of Joomla 1.6
- “2.0” branch

- Lots of prizes and recognition from the web.

General "Position" on the market



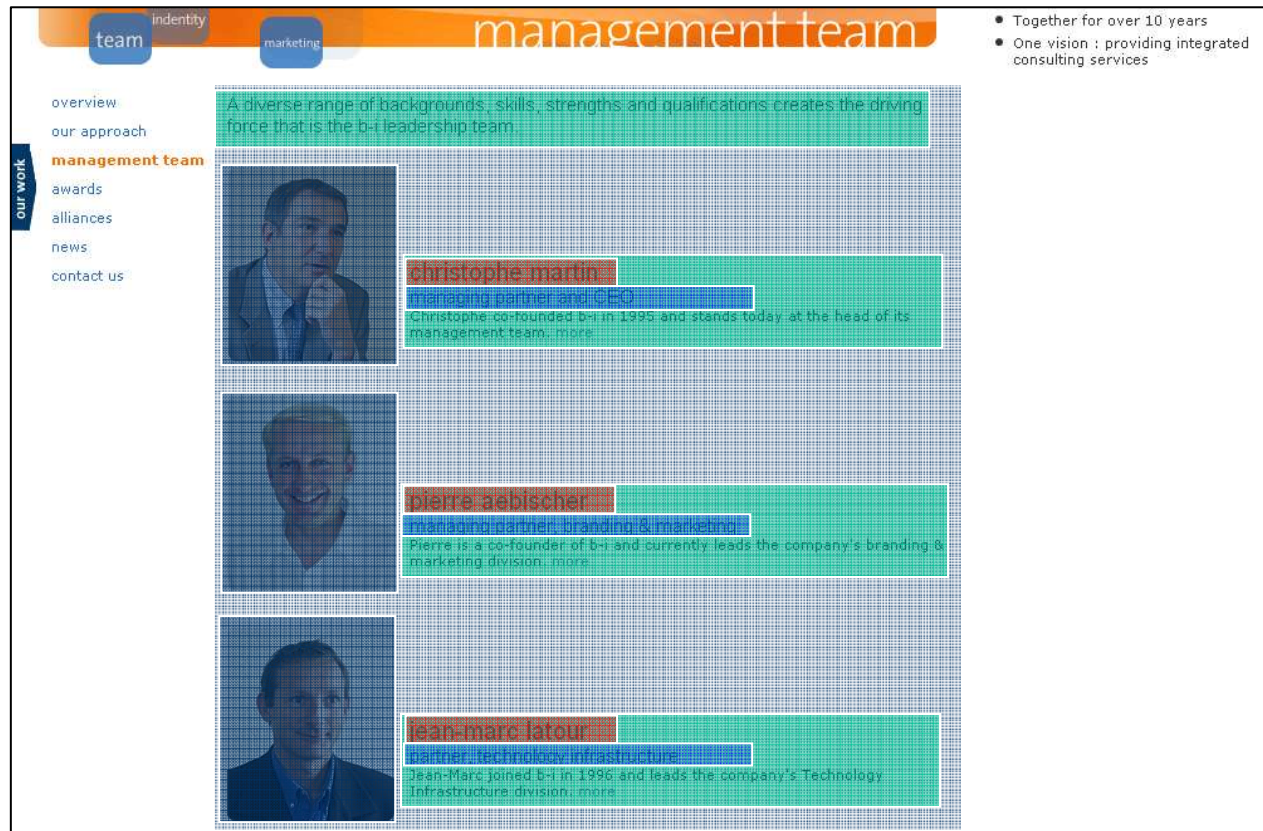
Joomla! strengths

- Joomla :

- > has simple concepts
- > Easy to use
- > Easy to maintain and develop
- > Very flexible
- > Quick to deploy
- > Quick to build your website
- > Quick to train editors
- > Backend looks nice, professional and clear (lots of mouse click control)
- > Huge amount of extensions
- > ...

Joomla as a Web CMS

- Joomla is not a “entirely” a CMS.



Good thing or bad thing ?

You decide ! Based on your client/users

Joomla drawbacks

- Flexibility vs Precision (see prev. page)
- I18N is not in the core (yet) : although there is a very good plugin
- Granularity in ACLs : although there is a good plugin. (will be core in 1.6)
- Workflow is limited
- No versioning
- Preview is "ok" but not real

Joomla branches

Joomla 1.0 vs Joomla 1.5 :

1.0 will be stopped on 22 july 2009

Joomla became mainstream with 1.0 despite :

- No API documentation
- PHP code and concepts were old
- No real template overloading -> necessity to constantly hack

1.5 :

- Code is much better
- Everything is "template-able"
- API documentation
- Events to avoid modifying the core
- More stable (SEF in the core, etc...)

Joomla 1.6

With integrated ACLs

Soon...

Joomla concepts

Template

The screenshot shows a Joomla website for 'blue-infinity' with several Joomla components highlighted by arrows:

- Menu:** The top navigation bar containing 'about us', 'our expertise', 'our clients', and 'careers'.
- Modules:** The 'about us in brief' sidebar module and the 'news' module.
- Content = article (from CMS) or component (from Framework):** The main content area displaying an 'overview' article.
- Plug-in:** The email address 'guillaume.arluison@b-i.com' at the bottom of the page.

Menus

Joomla! Version 1.5.10

Site Menus Content Components Extensions Tools Help

Preview 0 2 Logout

Menu Item Manager: [mainmenu]

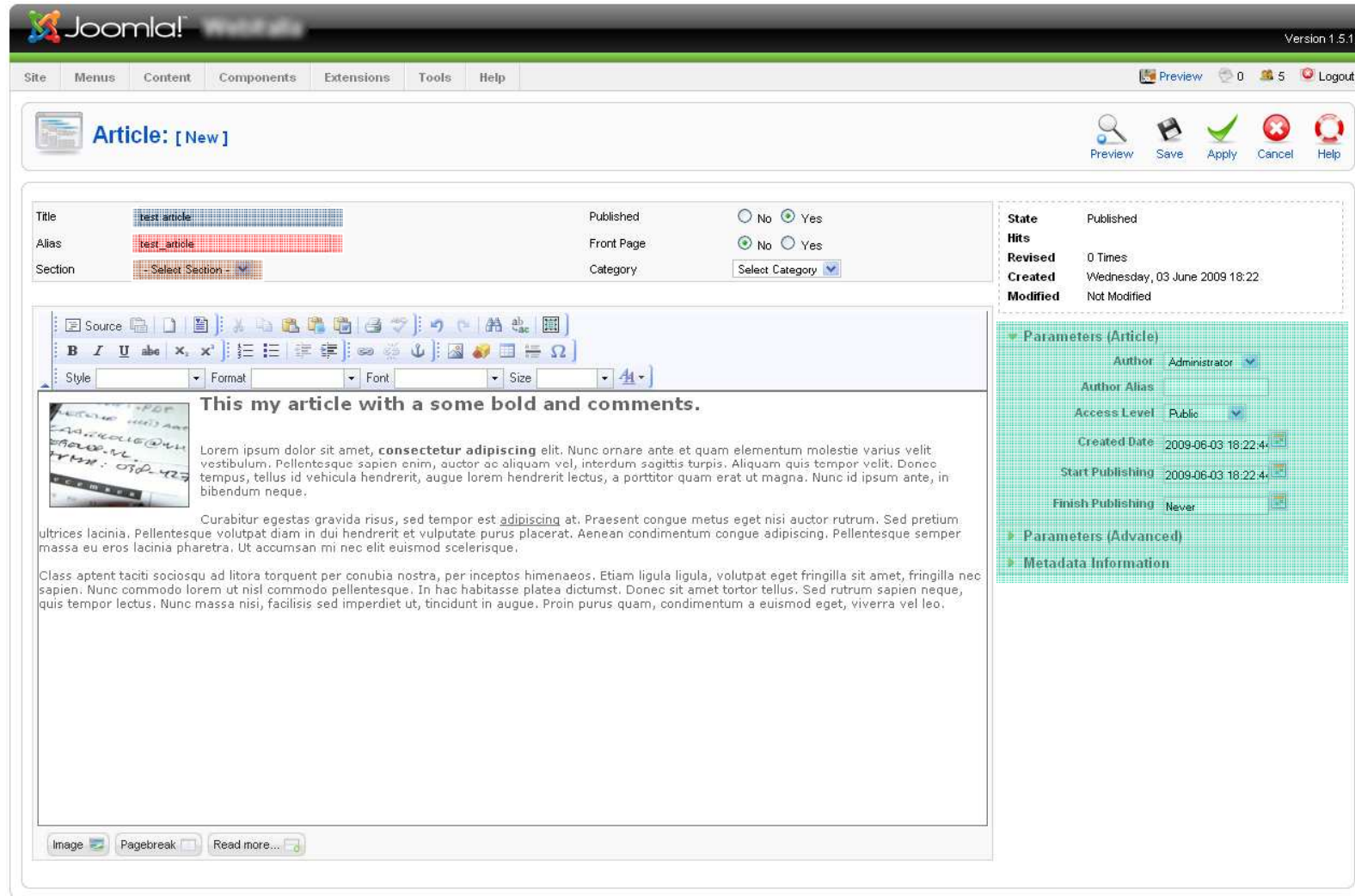
Menus Default Publish Unpublish Move Copy Trash Edit New Help

Filter: Go Reset Max Levels: 10 - Select State: ▼

#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Menu Item	Default	Published	Order ▲ ▼	Access Level	Type	ItemID
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	About		✓	21	Public	Articles » Article	3
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ Vision and Mission		✓	1	Public	Articles » Article	42
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ Organisation		✓	2	Public	Articles » Article	11
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ Management		✓	1	Public	Articles » Article	50
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ Official documents		✓	1	Public	Articles » Article	144
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ Governance		✗	2	Public	Articles » Article	78
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ Foundation Council		✓	3	Public	Articles » Article	14
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ Executive Board		✓	4	Public	Articles » Article	12
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Executive Board		✓	5	Public	Articles » Article	47
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Council of Group Leaders		✓	6	Public	Articles » Article	213
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Group Leaders		✓	7	Public	Articles » Article	48
12	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ History		✓	3	Public	Articles » Article	53
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ 10th anniversary quotes		✓	1	Public	Articles » Article	181
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Partners		✓	4	Public	Articles » Article	152
15	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Finding people		✓	5	Public	Frame	46
16	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Jobs		✓	6	Public	EventList » Categoryevents	26
17	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ How to find us		✓	7	Public	Articles » Article	207
18	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Geneva English		✓	1	Public	Articles » Article	208
19	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Geneva French		✓	2	Public	Articles » Article	211
20	<input type="checkbox"/>	↳ ↳ ↳ ↳ Lausanne English		✓	3	Public	Articles » Article	219

Display # 20 Start Prev 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Next End Page 1 of 7

Articles



The screenshot shows the Joomla! 1.5.10 article editor interface. At the top, the Joomla! logo and version number (1.5.10) are visible. The navigation menu includes Site, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, Tools, and Help. The main content area is titled "Article: [New]" and contains a form for creating a new article. The form includes fields for Title, Alias, Section, Published, Front Page, Category, State, Hits, Revised, Created, and Modified. The main text area is a WYSIWYG editor with a toolbar and a preview window. The preview window shows the article content, including a title "This my article with a some bold and comments.", a small image, and several paragraphs of placeholder text. The right sidebar contains a "Parameters (Article)" section with fields for Author, Author Alias, Access Level, Created Date, Start Publishing, and Finish Publishing. Below this are sections for "Parameters (Advanced)" and "Metadata Information".

Site Menus Content Components Extensions Tools Help Preview 0 5 Logout

Article: [New] Preview Save Apply Cancel Help

Title best article Published No Yes
Alias best_article Front Page No Yes
Section - Select Section - Category Select Category

State Published
Hits
Revised 0 Times
Created Wednesday, 03 June 2009 18:22
Modified Not Modified

Parameters (Article)
Author Administrator
Author Alias
Access Level Public
Created Date 2009-06-03 18:22:44
Start Publishing 2009-06-03 18:22:44
Finish Publishing Never

Parameters (Advanced)
Metadata Information

Image Pagebreak Read more...

Joomla! is Free Software released under the GNU/GPL License.

Articles & Rich media

The screenshot displays the Joomla! 1.5.10 administration interface for creating a new article. The main window shows the article editor with the title "test article" and alias "test_article". The FCKeditor toolbar is visible, with a red box highlighting the image insertion icon. An "Image Properties" dialog box is open, showing the "Image Info" tab with fields for URL, Alternative Text, Width, Height, Border, HSpace, VSpace, and Align. A "Browse Server" button is also present. In the background, the FCKeditor Resources Browser window is open, showing a file manager interface with a tree view on the left and a list of files and folders on the right. The list includes folders like "images_events", "images_news", and "images", as well as files like "9c9v1334_2_1.pdf", "archivio_bw.jpg", "homebanner.jpg", "index.html", "journal.jpg", "lancionuovocomparto.jpg", "new.jpg", "revue_presse_220_180.jpg", "salvagente_anulare.jpg", and "snap1.jpg".

Joomla! 1.5.10

Site Menus Content Components Extensions Tools Help Preview 0 5 Logout

Article: [New] Preview Save Apply Cancel Help

Title: test article
Alias: test_article
Section: - Select Section -

Source Image Properties

This my article with a some bo

Image Properties - Mozilla Firefox

plugins/editors/fckeditor/editor/fckdialog.html

Image Properties

Image Info Link Upload Advanced

URL: Browse Server

Alternative Text:

Width: Height:

Border: HSpace: VSpace: Align:

Preview: Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Maecenas feugiat consequat diam. Maecenas metus. Vivamus diam purus, cursus a, commodo non, facilisis vitae, nulla, Aenean dictum lacinia tortor. Nunc iaculis, nibh non iaculis aliquam, orci felis euismod neque, sed ornare massa mauris sed velit. Nulla pretium mi et risus. Fusce mi pede, tempor id, cursus ac, ullamcorper nec, enim. Sed tortor. Curabitur molestie. Duis velit augue, condimentum at, ultrices a, luctus ut, orci. Donec pellentesque egestas eros. Integer cursus, augue in cursus faucibus, eros pede bibendum sem, in tempus tellus

OK Cancel

Terminé Fiddler: Disabled

FCKeditor - Resources Browser - Mozilla Firefox

fckeditor/editor/filemanager/browser/default/browser.html?Type=Image&Connector=../../connectors/

Resource Type: Image

/images/

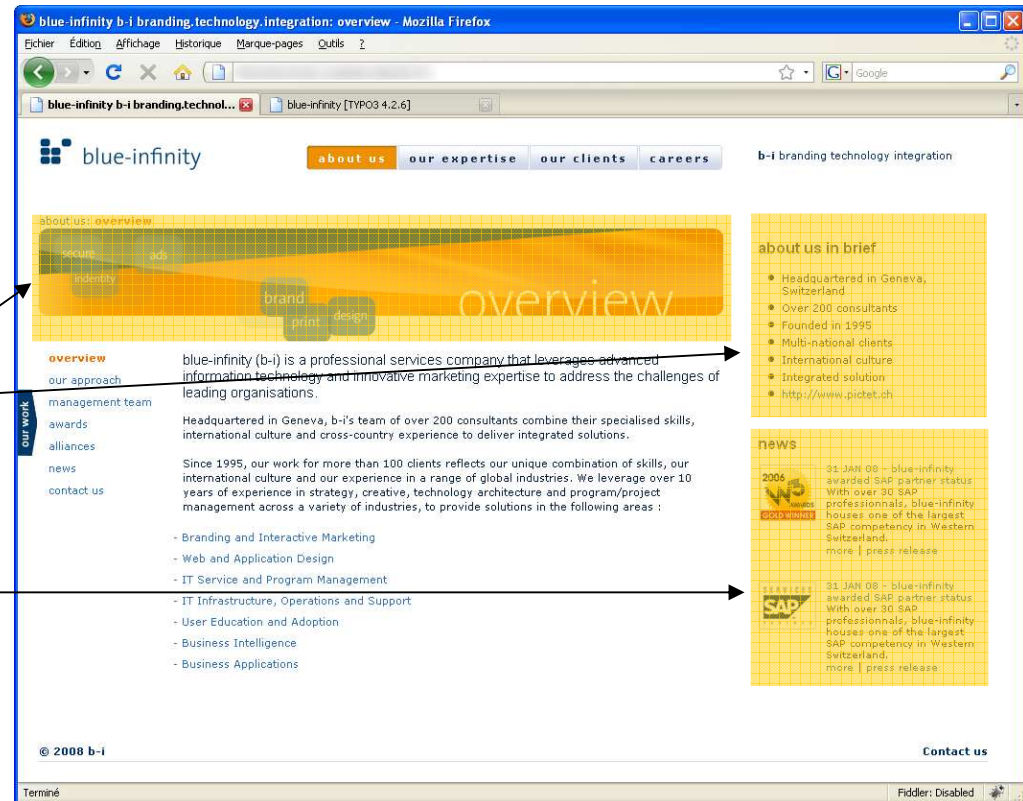
- approfondimento_comparti
- banner_orizzontale
- images_events
- images_news
- news
- nuovi_prodotti
- right_column
- 9c9v1334_2_1.pdf 165 KB
- archivio_bw.jpg 29 KB
- homebanner.jpg 34 KB
- index.html 1 KB
- journal.jpg 11 KB
- lancionuovocomparto.jpg 33 KB
- new.jpg 29 KB
- revue_presse_220_180.jpg 14 KB
- salvagente_anulare.jpg 36 KB
- snap1.jpg 81 KB

Create New Folder Upload a new file in this folder Parcourir... Upload

Terminé Fiddler: Disabled

Modules

- Modules are "small" zones on screen.
- Either "manually entered" as the article
- Or dynamically generated such as latest 3 news, blogroll, etc...



Plug ins

(old = mambots)

onAfterRoute()

onBeforeDisplayContent()

...

Events that can trigger your PHP code in the CMS without modifying the Joomla core.

Joomla directory structure (v1.5)

/administrator/...	→ backend, will reproduce part of architecture
/cache	
/components	→ frontend components
/external	→ crontabs, scripts etc...
/images	→ repository of images and documents
/includes	→ Framework
/language	→ I18N files
/libraries	→ libraries used by joomla (calendar etc...)
/logs	
/media	→ standard web files used by joomla
/modules	→ frontend modules
/plugins	→ frontend plugins
/templates	
/xmlrpc	→ to allow 3rd parties to connect to joomla!

Development in brief

File structure :

/com_bisubscribe/bisubscribe.php

/com_bisubscribe/controller.php

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/view.html.php

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/bisubscribe.xml

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/tmpl/default.php

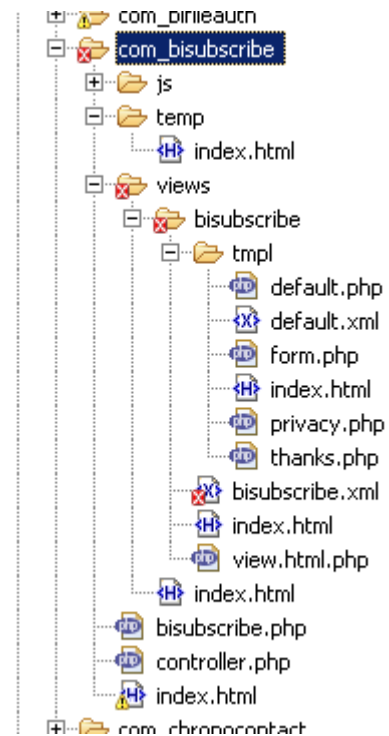
/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/tmpl/default.xml

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/tmpl/form.php

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/tmpl/privacy.php

/com_bisubscribe/views/bisubscribe/tmpl/thanks.php

/com_bisubscribe/models/bisubscribe.php



Development in brief

```
// Require the base controller  
require_once( JPATH_COMPONENT.DS.'controller.php' );
```

```
[...]
```

```
// Create the controller  
$classname = 'BisubscribeController'. $controller;  
$controller = new $classname( );
```

```
// Perform the Request task  
$controller->execute( JRequest::getVar( 'task' ) );
```

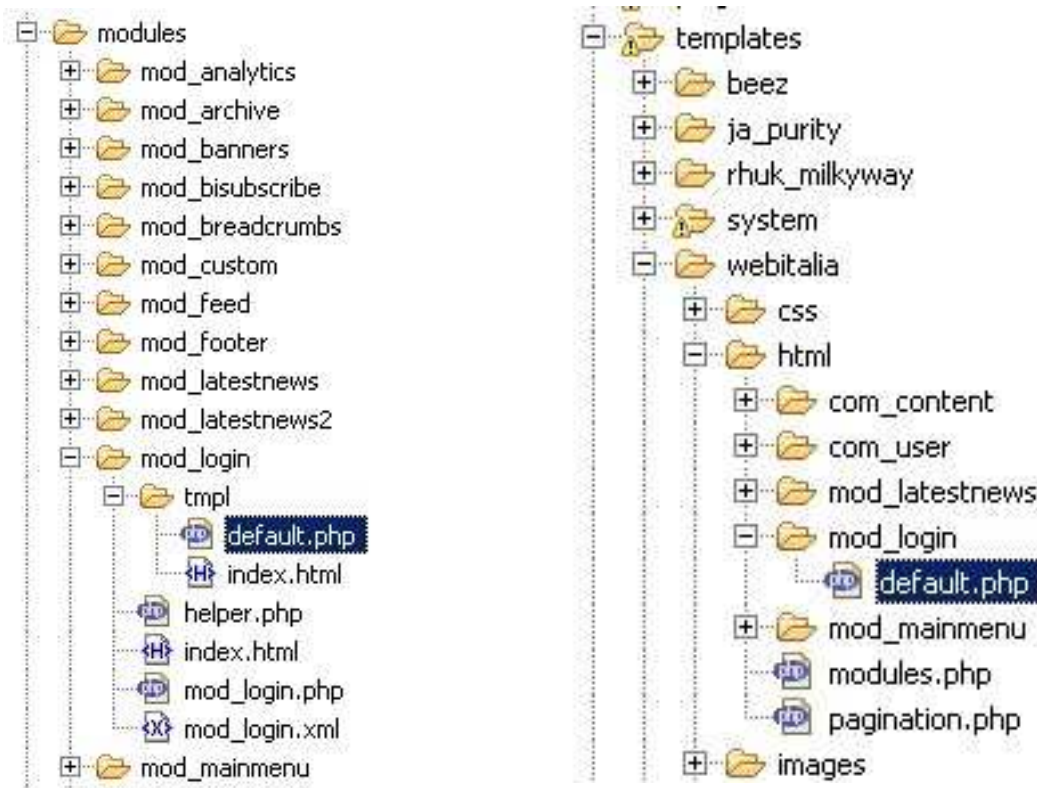
```
// Redirect if set by the controller  
$controller->redirect();
```

Framework in brief

- Documentation is ok
- Framework is strong
- More basic compared to symfony or other more complex frameworks
- ORM / CRUD, access to database
- SQL injection protection and parameters filters
- ACLs (basic until 1.6)
- “Helpers” for pagination, tabs, breadcrumb, calendars etc...
- Collection of useful librairies, send a mail etc...

Template overloading (v1.5)

- Since Joomla 1.5 is MVC based, it is possible to change all view templates for any component or module.
- In the 'html' folder create the com_XXX or mod_XXX folder and then use the filename you want to overwrite. Joomla will use the template version of the view prior to the default version.



Joomla in figures in b-i

20+ sites in Joomla 1.0 & 1.5 including :

- small websites (mainly CMS) ~ 30 D. Dev
- several large websites w. features ~ several months
- a couple of heavily modified multi-websites version ~ 6+ months
- 5 big intranets w. lots of components :
 - databases
 - ECM (EDM or GED)
 - events (small or big)
 - directories
 - add to cart / electronic payment
 - etc...

All sites are still in place and active regularly.

Contains from a few pages to hundreds.

Some links

- <http://www.joomla.org/>
- <http://docs.joomla.org/>
- <http://docs.joomla.org/Framework>
- <http://joomla.cocote.com/fr/Un-exemple-complet-auto>

thank you

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