



Powerful and highly extensible Open Source Content Management

Plone is an enterprise web content management system. Plone is also Open Source, so there are lower acquisition and maintenance costs than similar proprietary platforms. Organisations that use Plone find that they have more budget available to customise the system and create the features that are actually required. Plone is supported by a worldwide network of developers.

Open Source content management for Enterprise

Open Source solutions are becoming more commonplace in corporate IT, with two thirds of companies using Open Source today or planning to use it soon. We've all heard the hype: cheaper to buy, cheaper to run, cheaper to fix. Using Open Source software reduces your risks. But how does this translate to the world of content management?

The advantages of Open Source systems go beyond simple cost savings. Content management by its very nature requires a significant level of customisation and integration to meet business requirements. By not prohibiting the inspection and modification of the source code, Open Source enables a level of flexibility not available with proprietary systems.



Trust

Proprietary software is based on the vendor 'keeping a secret'. Open Source software enables you to leverage a culture of trust and openness, rather than secrecy. By having access to the source code, a customer can be safe in the knowledge that everything the software vendor intended to deliver can be independently verified.

Cost

Open Source software costs far less to acquire and maintain. Zero license fees mean a low cost of entry and iterative development allows you to grow the system with your requirements, rather than being tied to the vendors' prescribed upgrade paths. New projects can be trialled at very low costs without the worry of wasting licence fees.

Flexibility

The inherent flexibility in Open Source software, brought about by having access to the source code, means that the system can change as you need it to – you are not restricted to a fixed feature set. This also applies to tailoring the workflow of the system. With Open Source software you can customise the system to fit your requirements, not the other way around.

Track Record

Keeping the source code of the software 'open' actually increases its security and quality through continual inspection and peer review. No software can be completely immune to security or reliability issues but Open Source software has a widely acknowledged history of rapid response to security threats, and a lower mean time to fix reported bugs. The nature of the Open Source community ensures that open discussion and corresponding development resources are always available.

Stability

With a software project based on Open Source components, you not only have full control over the code base but you actually own your customisations as well. If a vendor of a proprietary system gets bought out or shuts down, their users can be stranded. Similarly, a proprietary system usually has a forced upgrade path that does not always fit in with the plans of the business. Neither of these problems affect Open Source software; when you use Open Source components you will be able to find people all over the world with the right knowledge and skills to further develop your project.

Why use Plone?



Plone is a mature, platform independent, Open Source Content Management System. Since its first release in 2001, Plone has grown to become one of the largest Open Source projects with thousands of active developers around the world and a multitude of companies specialising in development and support.

With Plone, users can start creating content in just a few minutes. It can be integrated with enterprise systems such as Active Directory, Salesforce and Oracle. As Plone is Open Source it enables flexibility not available with proprietary systems, and avoids the issues associated with vendor lock-in.

Now in its 5th major release, Plone has established itself alongside enterprise commercial systems as an ideal solution for intranets, document management and public websites for organisations as diverse as NASA, Oxfam, eBay, The University of Oxford, Warwickshire Police Force and Novell.



Batteries Included

Supports Linux, Windows, Mac OS X, FreeBSD, Solaris. There are no complex set-up procedures, and Plone's focus on usability makes it easy for users to create and manage content.



Powerful Workflow Engine

Make your business processes part of the document workflow — complemented by fool-proof security management.



Speed and Scalability

Comes out-of-the-box with clustering capability and intelligent caching proxy integration.



Security and Flexibility

Fine-grained role-based security model secures your content. Plone's sandbox architecture ensures that even if your system should be compromised, intruders will not have access to your server or your network.



Plays Well with Others

LDAP, SQL, SOAP, Web Services (WSDL) and WebDAV — Plone works with them all. If required, any presentation-tier technologies (Java, .NET, Ruby etc) can be used to deliver content from the Plone CMS.



Pluggable Authentication

Easy integration with LDAP, Active Directory and SQL databases. You name it, Plone talks to it.



Protected and Mature

Plone has been around for over seven years, and the nonprofit, community-governed Plone Foundation owns and protects all intellectual property and trademarks. Plone also has legal backing from the experts at Software Freedom Law Center.



World-class Support

Whether you use the online documentation, mailing lists and chat rooms — or the services of the hundreds of companies around the world that support Plone — you're never alone.



Great Documentation in Print and Online

Currently, there are seven published books about Plone, which have been translated into German, Japanese and several other languages.



Speaks Your Language

Available in over 35 languages, Plone was designed from the ground up for multilingual content management. It handles Chinese, Japanese, and even right-to-left languages such as Arabic and Hebrew with ease.



Look Your Best

Plone is easy to theme. It can blend seamlessly with your existing branding, or accommodate a completely new design template with every aspect of the interface customisable.



Lets You Focus on Your Writing

Plone includes a powerful, rich editor with text formatting, image and link insertion abilities. If you're used to working with an office suite, you'll feel right at home.



Built-in Image Handling

Upload an image, and it's automatically rescaled to a variety of sizes, ready to be used in your content. No Photoshop needed.



Innovative and Extensible

Hundreds of add-on products are available — forums, issue trackers, blogs and collaboration tools. Plone is written in the powerful, fast and popular open-source language, Python.



Accessibility Standards Compliant

Meets or exceeds W3C's WAI-AA and the U.S. Government Section 508 standards for sight and motor impaired individuals. All JavaScript usage comes with fallback modes that work in any web browser.



Instant, Full-text Searching

All content is searchable immediately; even Word documents and PDF files. LiveSearch puts it all at your fingertips.



Syndicate and Aggregate

Smart folders and smart updates: Plone automatically produces RSS feeds from folders, search results and more — the ideal way of staying on top of the information explosion and customising information delivery.



Outstanding Search Engine Visibility

100% valid XHTML and CSS keeps search engines and web browsers happy. Plone sites are consistently ranked well in Google search results.



Netsight is a web development company which was founded in 1999 and has since delivered over 200 projects using Plone and the underlying Zope application framework, making us one of the most experienced implementers of Plone-based systems in the UK. Netsight has worked in all sectors, from start-up companies to large multinationals, public sector to education. Members of the Netsight technical team have also acted as consultants on several large enterprise Open Source CMS deployments.

The company has been involved in the Open Source community since its inception. Matt Hamilton, the Technical Director of Netsight, has twice been elected to serve terms on the international board of the Plone Foundation.

This proven technical expertise is complimented by award-winning interface design. We work as both a full-service agency, undertaking complete end-to-end projects, and also as a consultancy providing services to organisations such as universities, government departments, and multinational companies. Our flexible process is designed to ensure that we meet and exceed requirements, and create lasting relationships with our clients. The company also owns and operates a datacentre in Bristol, providing managed hosting services to accommodate virtually any project.

Talk to us about Plone or any of the services that we offer:

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