Introduction

How does Tiki compare to the hundreds of Open Source CMS Systems?

People often ask us this. Ideally, to answer this question we'd need people with intimate knowledge of several systems. This tends to be pretty rare because once you get to know a versatile tool like Drupal, Joomla!, Plone or Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware you can pretty much do everything you need with it (or you can certainly bend it to your needs). "He who works with a hammer thinks everything is a nail".

The other frequent question is "Which one is better?". Really the answer is "it depends" on what you are trying to do. However, with the wiki-powered collective intelligence we should be able to get some better, more detailed answers. ;)

You'll also be interested in SMACKDOWN :: Who are the Open Source Content Management System (CMS) market leaders in 2008? which comments on the comprehensive 2008 Open Source CMS Market Share Survey. This survey outlines well the challenges of trying to measure popularity by number of downloads or number of installs. This could, of course, be very interesting, but how do you count the number of installs behind the corporate firewalls? Also, many applications offer each module/feature/extension/language pack/theme as a separate download (where as Tiki bundles everything in one large download). So to be more accurate, you'd have to try to measure the number of "core" downloads, adding complexity and subjectiveness.

Notwithstanding these challenges, this chart below has an angle of comparing activity level / size of the community which is just one thing to look at. It is not a side-by-side comparison of features (which would be nice if done like www.wikimatrix.org). It is also a way for the Tiki community to identifies area to improve upon.

Tiki strives to be the best possible system and yet still be installable on cheap shared LAMP hosting. However, it has many features from so called enterprise systems. Tiki is somewhat a strange animal as it shares the Corporate Wiki space with TWiki, shares the CMS space with Typo3 and shares the groupware space with egroupware.

What is the future of a wiki-centric system? see for yourself!

Comparison chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware</th>
<th>Joomla!</th>
<th>Drupal</th>
<th>Plone</th>
<th>Typo3</th>
<th>ImpressCMS (Xoops fork)</th>
<th>Xoops</th>
<th>eZpublish</th>
<th>WordPress</th>
<th>e107</th>
<th>DotNetNuke</th>
<th>SPIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of committers</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>29/2126</td>
<td>64 (error?)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohloh stacks</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRC chat room size (freenode)</td>
<td>Facebook group</td>
<td>CIA activity (August 2008)</td>
<td>SSC toolbox</td>
<td>Freshmeat Rating / Popularity</td>
<td>SourceForge activity level</td>
<td>LOCs</td>
<td>Downloads</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Installs</td>
<td>Printed documentation</td>
<td>Started</td>
<td>Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
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<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8.70/10 (134) / 21.48% (45)</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>960 pages</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>1628</td>
<td>1207</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8.83/10 (N/A) / 2.44% (317)</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>41 books in print</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>many</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>248</td>
<td>1755</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>8.41/10 (8.38%) / 7.38% (380)</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>19 books in print</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>huge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>8.07/10 (387) / 5.47% (358)</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>7 book in print</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.58/10 (239) / 0.17% (26753)</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>click</td>
<td>17 book in print</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>not yet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5 (must use something else) | 54             | ?                           | 2            | 8.62/10 (N/A) / 2.75% (1591)  | click                    | click | click   | click   | click   | new project          | 2008    | many   | GPL     | Community Community Community Community Community eZ Systems Automatic Community DotNetNuke Community Corporation | PHP      | Object-oriented | Smarty  | awarded openID bounty      | yes     | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | yes       | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | no      | no      | 7,971/10 (N/A) / 13.70% (113) /
| 2 (must use something else) | 89             | ?                           | 0            | 8.26/10 (N/A) / 7.31% (385)   | click                    | click | click   | click   | click   | 8 books in project   | 2008    | yes    | GPL     | Community Community Community Community Community eZ Systems Automatic Community DotNetNuke Community Corporation | PHP      | Object-oriented | Smarty  | awarded openID bounty      | yes     | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | yes       | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | no      | no      | (5062) /
| 18                          | 88             | ?                           | 0            | 8.65/10 (N/A) / 1.12% (598)   | click                    | click | click   | click   | click   | 8 books in project   | 2008    | yes    | GPL     | Community Community Community Community Community eZ Systems Automatic Community DotNetNuke Community Corporation | PHP      | Object-oriented | Smarty  | awarded openID bounty      | yes     | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | yes       | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | no      | no      | (N/A) /
| 141                         | 1484           | ?                           | 0            | 8.89/10 (N/A) / 1.40% (3932)  | click                    | click | click   | click   | click   | 8 books in project   | 2008    | yes    | GPL     | Community Community Community Community Community eZ Systems Automatic Community DotNetNuke Community Corporation | PHP      | Object-oriented | Smarty  | awarded openID bounty      | yes     | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | yes       | no      | yes      | yes       | yes       | no      | no      | (N/A) /
Opinions

Dries Buytaert, from Drupal wrote:

predicts: "However, near the end of 2008, we'll see the first signs of consolidation in the Open Source CMS market. The Open Source CMS space will become less fragmented; the "big three" (i.e. Wordpres, Joomla! and Drupal) will continue to grow but the growth of many other systems (i.e. Plone, Typo3, Xoops, e107, ezPublish, dotNetNuke, etc) will slow down significantly."

Marc Laporte wrote:

1- I see the landscape as more of a "big 4" which includes Plone. If I had to limit to three (and there is no reason to do so), I'd put WordPress with the more specialized systems like MediaWiki. However, with all the plugins, you can do quite a bit with WordPress, thus it fits as a CMS. On the other end, Plone has higher entry level (hosting requirements, etc.) than PHP systems but nonetheless has a huge & active developer community.

2- I don't see why the great success of the top systems would have such an effect on all other systems (certainly not in absolute terms). History may show that rapid growth by the leading systems grew the field for all and in fact, accelerated the development of the others (again, in absolute terms).

Similarly, the success of Wikipedia/Mediawiki has been a great thing for Tiki and for other wiki engines like DokuWiki, MoinMoin, Twiki, xwiki, etc. because it has brought wikis to the masses. When systems like Drupal/Joomla!/Wordpress get coverage in the mass media, it increases the space. I think the overall usage of Open Source Applications is growing and it is not about to slow down!

My prediction is that Tiki will continue improving in user base, functionality and stability very much like it has over the last 5 years. Even if Drupal and Joomla! are overall several times larger, Tiki is one of the largest open-source teams in the world and is in the top 2% of all project teams on Ohloh. This is more than enough to sustain a great community, improve the application and to benefit from the Network effect.

So go! go! go! Drupal, Joomla!, MediaWiki, etc. 😊

General CMS systems

Big 4

In general, with focus on size of the community

- Drupal
- Joomla!
- Plone (Python)
- Wordpress

2nd tier

In general with focus on size of the community

- Typo3
- Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware
- eZ Publish php (shared server hosting is ok?)
- Xoops
- ImpressCMS New CMS (Xoops fork)
- e107 (PHP and shared hosting)
- DotNetNuke (ASP)
- Spip (PHP and shared hosting)
- WebGUI (Perl) not on shared hosting
- OpenCms Java
- Midgard (PHP but not on shared hosting)
- Alfresco wiki 32 stacks 27 contributors Alexa 47,945 Facebook group: 1358 2 toolboxes
- who else?

Who else is in 2nd tier?
- Check left-hand side list from www.cmsreport.com
- phpnuke.org has a traffic rank of: 3,096
- Xaraya
- Mambo
- Silverstripe SilverStripe CMS
- CMS Made Simple (55 in IRC) 2.25 hours between messages uses MediaWiki.
- Liferay Portal (Java)
- MODx 9
- mia
- phpfusion
- Zikula (was Postnuke) 17 3 (name change)
- geeklog@gsoc2008 4 Geeklog.net has a traffic rank of: 56,979, geeklog@gsoc2009
- TYPOlight webCMS
- Jaws
- Textpattern
- oscms
- websitebaker.org
- b2evolution
- phpWebSite

Specialized

These are very popular projects but are typically single focus.

- Moodle
- phpBB
- Bugzilla
- dotproject
- Pligg
- Elgg
- etc

Wikis

Wiki Landscape

Other notes

Lists
- CMS focus on CMS report
GV: My suggestions will be written in red

Todo

1. Find cleaner way to maintain data
   - web services?
   - Nicer table/chart
     - Double click editing?
     - Sorting
     - Swap X & Y axis
     - Perhaps a tracker

2. Split into 4 charts (with TW stats contained in a all)
   - Big 3/4
   - Other popular CMSs (low hosting requirements)
   - Other wikis Wiki Landscape
   - Other popular Web applications (high hosting requirements)

Related

More Stats