

Design Initiative: Technical Brief

Synopsis

This document outlines the modules and an overview of their usage that will allow us to achieve the requirements for the proposed Design Initiative site - design.drupal.org.

Functional Overview

This includes the posting of the design concepts by users, a free tagging list to categorize designs, posting of reviews on design concepts, various page displays to show off the many design concepts, posting of articles or “blogs” to promote the initiative and increase transparency, social sharing widget, integrated login with Drupal.org, and email subscriptions and notifications.

1. Platform and Modules:

1.1 Platform

The proposal is to use Pressflow 6.x.

1.2 Optional Core Modules

Only a small number of cores optional modules are required:

- Aggregator
- Comment
- Menu
- Taxonomy
- Tracker (could be replaced with xtracker)
- Update Status

1.3 Required Additional Modules

To build out the additional features of the site we need to use a small number of contributed modules. Some of these modules may need special approval such as ImageField, Imagecache, ImageAPI and Node Reference URL Widget.

- CCK
 - Content
 - Text
 - FileField
 - ImageField
 - Node Reference
 - Node Reference URL Widget
- Flag
- ImageAPI
- ImageCache
- Views
- Views UI
- Memcache API and Integration
- modr8
- Notification
- Messaging
- Mollom
- Bakery

2. Content Types

The site demands three content types:

- Design Concept
- Concept Review
- Blog

2.1 Design Concept

Authenticated users will be able to post design concepts that include a description and one or more design comps (lowfi jpg or png images).

Design Concepts may be moderated – this is something we are discussing and is TBC.

2.1.1 Design Concept - Fields

- Title
- Description (core body field)
- ImageField (for the comps)
- Flag field (for the “Likes”, basically a bookmark)
- Taxonomy (for tagging)

2.1.2 Design Concept - Image Handling

The current proposal is to use ImageField to allow users to upload their design comps and Imagecache to re-size these images for output in various displays:

- Teaser display: small image links to node
- Full node: medium size image links to the original image
- Views: we may require additional presets to suit Views displays.

2.1.2 Design Concept - Settings

Comments:

- Disabled, users cannot add comments directly to Design Concepts

Workflow defaults:

- Create new revision
- In moderation queue (modr8)

2.2 Concept Review

Authenticated users are able to post a review for an individual design concept. This is achieved through a content type that contains a node reference to a Design Concept. A View then displays all related reviews below the referenced Design Concept with accompanying comments.

The *Node Reference URL Widget* module allows us to automatically populate the node reference field (usability improvement). Authenticated users will be able to add comments to Reviews .

2.2.1 Concept Review - Fields

- Title
- Review (text field)
- Node Reference Field (auto populated using Node Reference URL Widget)
- ImageField

2.2.1 Concept Review – Image Handling

There are two options here. First we can show a simple list of files that link to the original image, or we can show a teaser sized thumbnail that link to the original image.

2.2.1 Concept Review – Settings

Comments:

- Read/Write,
- Flat List (expanded)
- No comment controls
- Display comment form on separate page.

Workflow:

- Published

3. Blog

We need a way to disseminate information directly on the site, our plan is to have a basic blog for this purpose. We will use a custom content type “Blog” and enable commenting for authenticated users.

3.1 Blog - Fields

- Title
- Body

3.1 Blog – Settings

Comments:

- Read/Write,
- Threaded List (expanded)
- No comment controls
- Display comment form on separate page.

Workflow:

- Published

4. Views

The site requires a number of Views to be built.

- Front page view
- Concept Review lists on Design Concepts
- List of users that have submitted a Design Concept

4.1 Front page view

The front page view is a simple node list of teasers, styled to look like a grid.

4.2 Concept Review lists on Design Concepts

List of Concept Review type nodes that appear below the referenced Design Concept. This view uses an arg (node reference field) with the default type argument NID. We will use a block display and place this in a region, restricting display to Design Concept node types.

4.3 List of users that have submitted a Design Concept

We would like to show a view of all users who have submitted one or more Design Concepts. This will show their user picture and name, and link to their user profile and probably be a grid view.

5. Users

Covered here are our requirements for login and user roles. Specific permissions are not included here.

5.1 Login System

The current plan is to use Bakery module to give us single sign on with Drupal.org. This is one area where we will need help from the infrastructure team – to set this up and make sure its working correctly. Bakery module is the primary reason we need the site to be on a drupal.org sub-domain.

5.2 Users Roles

We envision needing four user roles:

- Authenticated User
- Design Initiative Team Member
- Site Maintainer
- Administrator

5.2.1 Authenticated User

These users will have fairly limited capabilities, they will be able to:

- Post Design Concepts
- Edit their own Design Concepts (with revision control)

- Post Concept Reviews
- Edit their own Concept Reviews
- Post Comments without Approval

5.2.2 Design Initiative Team Member

These users will be able to post Blog posts.

5.2.3 Site Maintainer

These users will be able to approve moderated content and will have the task of cleaning spam and looking after Notifications (if any work needs doing here).

5.2.4 Administrator

This will be owned by probably only one or two users and they will have permissions necessary to install, configure and update modules.

6. Notifications

We would like the site to send out notification messages. Specifically we would like to:

- Notify Design Concept authors when reviews or comments are posted (TBC)*.
- Notify Design Team Members and Site Maintainers when any new content is added.

** This is TBC because we envision this will probably require the Rules module, however this entirely depends on whether or not we can even have the Concept Reviews model or instead are restricted to use threaded comments (because Concept Reviews require the Node Reference URL Widget module which needs approval).*

7. Spam Control

Mollom module with Mollom Plus account. Mollom will be enabled on all content types and comments.

8. Social Sharing

The initial proposal is to go rather lowfi and use Add This (<http://www.addthis.com>). Add This allows users to post a bookmark to various bookmarking services, post a tweet to twitter or on their Facebook wall. The widget is added using a small snippet of JavaScript either placed into a block or embedded directly into a template (negates using a block or an additional input format etc).