

Saber com Lógica Website Content improvement

Sharareh Shakoori Moghadam Monfared

Learnings Report

Abstract—The report explains the personal experience acquired while being involved in the "Website content improvement of Saber Com Lógica" activity that consisted in developing some new Plugins for that website which is implemented by Wordpress that can lead through a better authentication and more convenient gateway for purchasing contents of the mentioned website.

Index Terms—Experience, Plugins, Wordpress, gateway, PHP, MEO Wallet, Communication.

SOFT-SKILLS ≠ SOFTWARE SKILLS

1 INTRODUCTION

THIS report explains my personal experience acquired as a result of being occupied in an activity proposed within the Independent Studies IV course.

Being a master student of the Informatics Systems and Computing Engineering program and spending a lot of time to technical studies, I wanted to choose an activity which would give me a chance to develop my soft skills. From my point of view, such an activity might include participation in doing team work, getting to know better the Portuguese customs and society and mastering my web designing. Having chosen for the activity of website content improvement, I think I managed to cope all the mentioned issues.

The main reasons for choosing the particular activity, the challenges I confronted during its fulfillment as well as the results obtained in the

context of my personal growth are discussed below in detail.

2 REASONS FOR THE CHOICE OF ACTIVITY

I spent more than 16 years studying, therefore, I believe I have developed one aspect of what we are going to be and I miss to learn how team working communication and simple website content improvement is carried out.

Doing a master course in Informatics Systems and Computing Engineering at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) implies good skills at dealing with Web development. For the same reason I thought I would be the right person to improve the Saber com lógica website. Finally I had to translate some Emails which was communicated between team members use Portuguese which was a great challenge and an excellent opportunity to improve my Portuguese.

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3 SABER COM LÓGICA

Saber com lógica is a book which is written by engineer João Silva, this book leads through how machines work and describes it in an organized way which can help all people absorb it easily.

Saber com lógica provides a good chance to anybody around the world by publishing the contents of the book through this website and

- Sharareh Shakoori Moghadam Monfared, nr. 82359,
E-mail: sharareh.monfared@tecnico.ulisboa.pt,
- Ricardo Ângelo Costa Maia, nr. 70252,
E-mail: ricardo.c.maia@tecnico.ulisboa.pt,
- Dinis Pedro Pinto Marcos Madeira, nr. 72957,
E-mail: dinismadeira@tecnico.ulisboa.pt,
- João Manuel Policarpo Moreira, nr. 73887,
E-mail: joao.m.p.moreira@tecnico.ulisboa.pt,
- João Pedro Canha Raimundo, nr. 77064,
E-mail: joao.raimundo@tecnico.ulisboa.pt,
Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa.

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(1.0) Excellent	LEARNINGS						DOCUMENT						
(0.8) Very Good	Context × 2	Skills × 1	Reflect × 4	Summ × .5	Concl × .5	SCORE	Struct × .25	Ortog × .25	Exec × 4	Form × .25	Titles × .5	File × .5	SCORE
(0.6) Good	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.6		1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.0	1.0	
(0.4) Fair													
(0.2) Weak													

give them all this opportunity to become a member and read some parts of the book and if they like it, it can recommend them an option to buy full content of each chapter [1].

4 MY EXPERIENCE IN WEB DESIGNING

As I started to improve Saber com lógica content to have a good user authentication and safe gateway for purchasing I need vital technical skills to get into web development, followed by some of the “people skills” which are just as important to get from the client’s dream to a finished product. I used to learn more professionally these followed skills:

4.1 PHP

I used PHP to manipulate plugins which causes dynamic content drawn. This plugins are heart of the web developer’s job and is the most complex part of the learning process as it is a big subject.

4.2 Word Press

I used Word Press website content management system (CMS) which is an online, open source website creation tool written in PHP [2].

4.3 Paid Memberships Pro

There are lots of different type of membership plugins which exist for Wordpress, however Paid Membership Pro is one the most interesting and practical plugins which is completely free. It covers everything which is needed in order to set up a membership site. The plugin also comes with the ability to create discount codes, and a “pay-per-post” option, which are both useful features for membership based sites. It can also easily be extend, for instance, you can create your own template in your theme, such as the pricing table which is very interesting feature. There are also lots of free add-ons available to extend the native functionality of the plugin. Various free payment gateways are included in Paid Memberships Pro.

4.3.1 Membership Levels

This feature let us to control the user access and membership levels. After installing and activating the plugin the first step is to add a new membership level. We should name the membership levels. This is also structure your membership site in the way that best fits your content, whether you are considering a hierarchical (gold, silver, bronze) or topic-oriented model. It is possible to define unlimited number of membership levels in paid membership pro with different level of access to the website. In description part we can describe what is this level and what type of content this level could be access. The confirmation message can be added to confirm the sign in success. Also there is place that we can add billing details for each membership level and also define some limitation as recurring. Also there is a place to add custom trials. After filling these details the membership pages should be setup. It is possible to auto generate the needed pages.

4.3.2 Payment Gateways

There are variety types of payment gates including PayPal standard and Express. The email address to prove the payments should be added in this part. At email setting part you can add more details which indicates when you receive an email, for instance, when for checks out or cancellation of memberships and bills updates. In advance section, you can write the messages for memberships.

4.3.3 Flexible Pricing and Trials

Each membership level you define also has unique pricing information. You can define an initial payment along with a recurring billing cycle, price, membership term, and optional free or reduced-price trial period.

4.3.4 Content Access by Level

Paid Memberships Pro adds a simple admin box to your WordPress “Edit Pages” screen allowing you to control access for each membership level offered. You can also control Post content via Category.

4.3.5 Email Notifications

The Paid Memberships Pro Plugin allows you to customize user email notifications. At email setting part you can add more details which indicates when you receive an email for instance when for checks out or cancellation of memberships and bills updates. In advance section, you can write the messages for memberships.

4.3.6 discount section

Finally, in discount section, you can generate a code automatically for time of discounts as well as time of start and also expiration time and also you can limit the users for this benefit.

4.4 MEO Wallet Plugin

MEO Wallet makes available plugins for some of the most popular e-commerce platforms. These are ready to use packages which handles all the complexity of dealing with different payment providers and gives me a single workflow to accept payments [3].

4.5 Effective Communication Skills

Effective communication is one of those skills that I learned in this field, but it's especially important in web design where communicating with a client, art director, or developer can dictate the success of a project. For example when I will come to presenting myself and selling my work, I has to be bold and clear in my communication with the client. I need to be able to speak intelligently about my design choices – why I chose them and how my design choice is the right one for their business. Also, a lot of small disputes can be resolved easily if I am good at communicating. So, communicate and communicate well, in order to survive and be successful.

5 GAIN EXPERIENCE

From my perspective, having a broad experience in this field will help me to quickly identify content improvement solutions as they are presented to me by my promoter.

The more experience I gain, the quicker I will move up in the world of web designers. What I will need in order to be successful in my career in web designing is persistence attitude.

6 CONCLUSION

This report describes my learning along the website content improvement. Having chosen for this activity was a very important step in my personal growth and development which was an objective to improve soft skills.

The main goal in this activity was to go through various type of membership plugins in Wordpress, choosing the best for Saber com lógica website, installation and activation of the plugin, as well as, installation of Meo wallet gateway plugin which works with Portuguese electronic cards for online shopping. To construct a membership for the site, Paid Memberships Pro is a complete solution with various highly-desirable features included as standard, as well as the potential for extension. I would highly recommend this plugin for any paid membership requirement. Finally I learned to look at things from another perspectives, to ask questions especially when I am not so familiar with something, to be bold and inventive without being afraid of rejection, to adapt with new people and environments.

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→ there are SOFT-SKILLS



About me My name is Sharareh Shakoory Moghadam Monfared, I am 26 and I am pursuing my Engineering studies at IST, I am doing Software Engineering as major and Multimedia Systems as minor for my masters degree.