**Signboom Spine**

**Software Documentation**

Last Updated: February 18, 2014

**Overview from Tony Dew**

Here are the details of how the Spine has been built:

* The framework is CodeIgniter 2.1.4 <http://ellislab.com/codeigniter>
* Added “Modular Extensions” to better organize code: <https://bitbucket.org/wiredesignz/codeigniter-modular-extensions-hmvc>
* There is a GitHub repo: <https://github.com/tonydew/spine>
* The actual Spine site URL is: <http://spine.signboom.net>
* There is a staging URL (for testing and verification): <http://staging.signboom.net>
* Both sites are hosted by the one Fused Network account. I believe you have the credentials for that already.
* All DB changes/additions/etc are handled by migrations.

 My suggestion is don’t ever work on the live server via FTP. You are only shooting yourself in the foot. Build yourself a development environment   
MAMP <http://www.mamp.info/en/index.html> on the Mac,   
XAMPP <http://www.apachefriends.org/index.html> on Windows   
Or if you are feeling adventurous you could spin up a VM with   
Vagrant <http://www.vagrantup.com/>   
Local development is far faster and safer than working live via FTP. Push your changes to the repo, then pull them down on the server. Just a couple of command line operations will change the way you work forever. Make a mistake? Roll back. It is awesome.

Here is a little bit about the business logic:

 Every customer has an entry in the ‘accounts’ table.

* Accounts can have a status of ‘Lead’ (never made a purchase) or ‘Account’ (have made a purchase)
* Accounts have one or more Contacts
* Accounts have one or more addresses

The database was spawned from the signboom\_v1p5 that the website runs off, and I have never cleared out the unused tables. It’s a bit messy in there.

Most classes extend either MY\_Controller (application/core/MY\_Controller.php) or Admin\_Controller (application/core/Admin\_Controller.php) or AJAX\_Controller ((application/core/AJAX\_Controller.php). This allows a LOT of common functionality to be contained in one place.

 The Auth is ion\_auth - <http://benedmunds.com/ion_auth/>

 I chose CodeIgniter, because at the time we started it was mature, well supported, had a massive community, and Ellis Lab were just about to release version 3.0 right after #CI\_Conf in San Francisco. Then Ellis Lab pulled the rug out from under everyone’s feet and basically abandoned CI without releasing version 3. Now they are trying to sell the framework… If I was starting the project today, I would build it in Laravel 4. In fat I had planned on porting over to L4 so the continued development could happen without CI.

It app was built quickly, with many alterations along the way. I’ve tried to be a clean and clear as I can in the code, but it’s still very much in development mode.

There is a lot more to cover, but this should get you started.