



Alkacon OAMP Comments Module

Version 2.0.0

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1 Abstract

This document describes the installation, configuration and usage of the Alkacon OpenCms Add-On Module Package Comments Version 2.0.0. With the Comments module, it is possible to create highly configurable blog comments without HTML knowledge.

Once created, configured and published, a comment form may be filled out by website visitors to comment a page.

Note: This module extends the Alkacon OAMP Webform Module, so please also read that module's documentation.

2 General purpose of the Alkacon OAMP Comments Module

The module extends a basic OpenCms 8 installation with the capability to create highly configurable online blog like comments by drag & drop. It provides the following features:

- Add a comment field to your website by drag & drop
- Free definable comment form with and without captcha field.
- Comment moderation option.
- Different security levels and user restriction.
- Web 2.0 HTML technologies usage.

3 Installation

Note: To use version 2.0.0 of the Alkacon OAMP Comments module, you need at least OpenCms version 8.0.1.

The module is not compatible with older OpenCms versions.

Note: This module extends the Alkacon OAMP Webform Module, so you have to install that module before continuing. Please have in mind that you need at least version 2.0, older versions will not work correctly.

Note: When using the Alkacon OAMP Comments module together with the **v8-article** module, it might occur, that the OAMP Comments module will not work correctly and freeze while displaying an icon indicating that it is loading.

A quick fix would be to delete the following line from

/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/schemas/comment-display.xsd:

```
<headinclude type="javascript" uri="/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.common/resources/js/jquery.colorbox.js" />
```

Note: If you are running OpenCms 7.5.x you have to use version 1.0.3 of the comments module (available at http://www.alkacon.com/downloads/alkacon/Alkacon_OAMP_Comments_1.0.3.zip) along with version 1.3.1 of the OAMP Webform module (available at http://www.alkacon.com/downloads/alkacon/Alkacon_OAMP_Webform_1.3.1.zip).

Note: If you are running OpenCms 7.0.5 you have to use version 1.0.0 of the comments module (available at http://www.alkacon.com/downloads/alkacon/Alkacon_OAMP_Comments_1.0.0.zip) along with version 1.3.0 of the OAMP Webform module (available at http://www.alkacon.com/downloads/alkacon/Alkacon_OAMP_Webform_1.3.0.zip). There is no version compatible with older OpenCms versions.

Note: To use the Alkacon OAMP Comments module in a cluster scenario with replication, you have to extend the replication settings. Following directory should be added to replication /system/workplace/resources/jquery/ .

Step by step installation procedure:

1. Go to the OpenCms Administration view
2. Click "Module Management" and select either "Import Module from Server" if the module was placed in the WEB-INF/packages/modules/ folder of your OpenCms installation, or select "Import Module with HTTP" to upload the module from your local file system
3. Select the Alkacon OAMP Comments module zip file
`com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments_2.x.zip` to import
4. Check if the jar file `com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments.jar` has been deployed in the WEB-INF/lib/ folder after installation
5. Restart your servlet container afterwards

4 Module usage

After successful installation of the Comments module, it is ready to use. New map widgets can be added by Drag & Drop from the ADE toolbar.

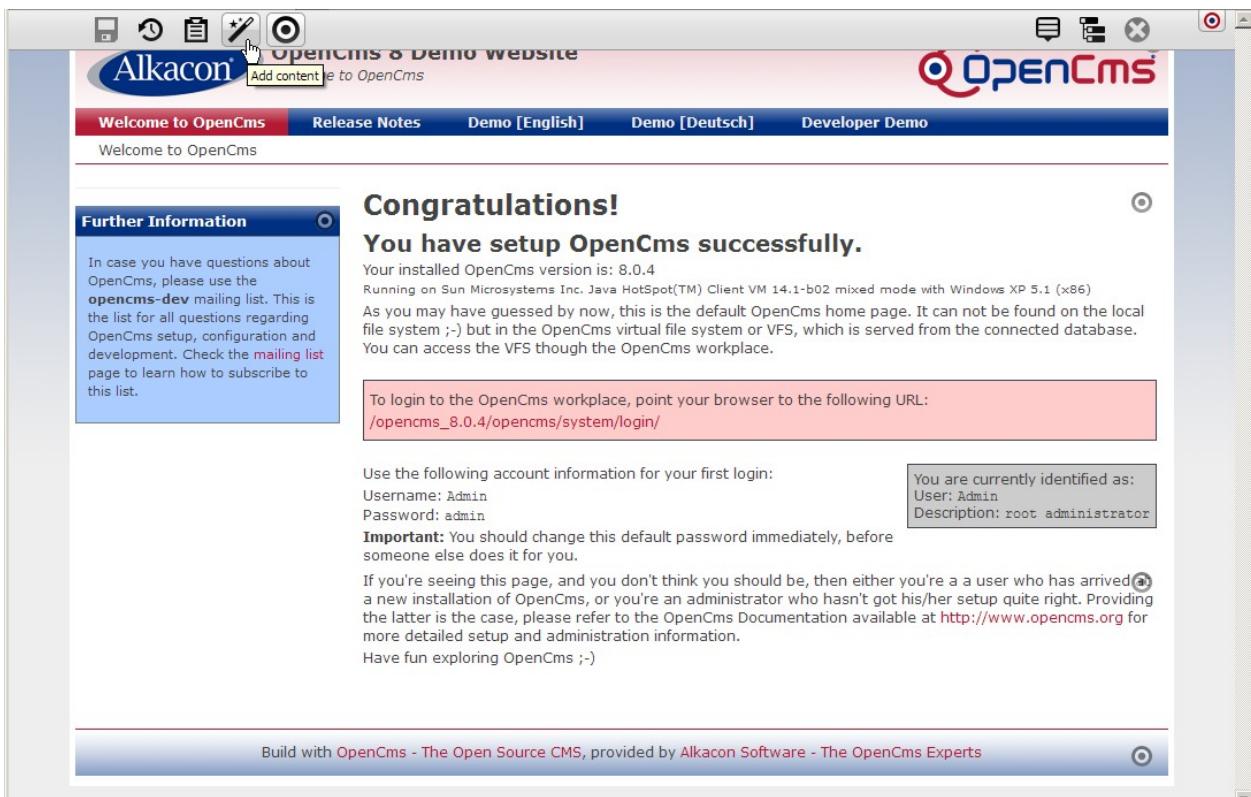


Figure 1: Open the "Add Wizard" from the ADE toolbar

By default the new resource type **Alkacon Comments** is available through the entire site and can be added to pages by Drag & Drop. Just click on the "Move to page" icon and keep the mousebutton pressed. Now you can move the new Comments form where you need it and release the mouse-button.

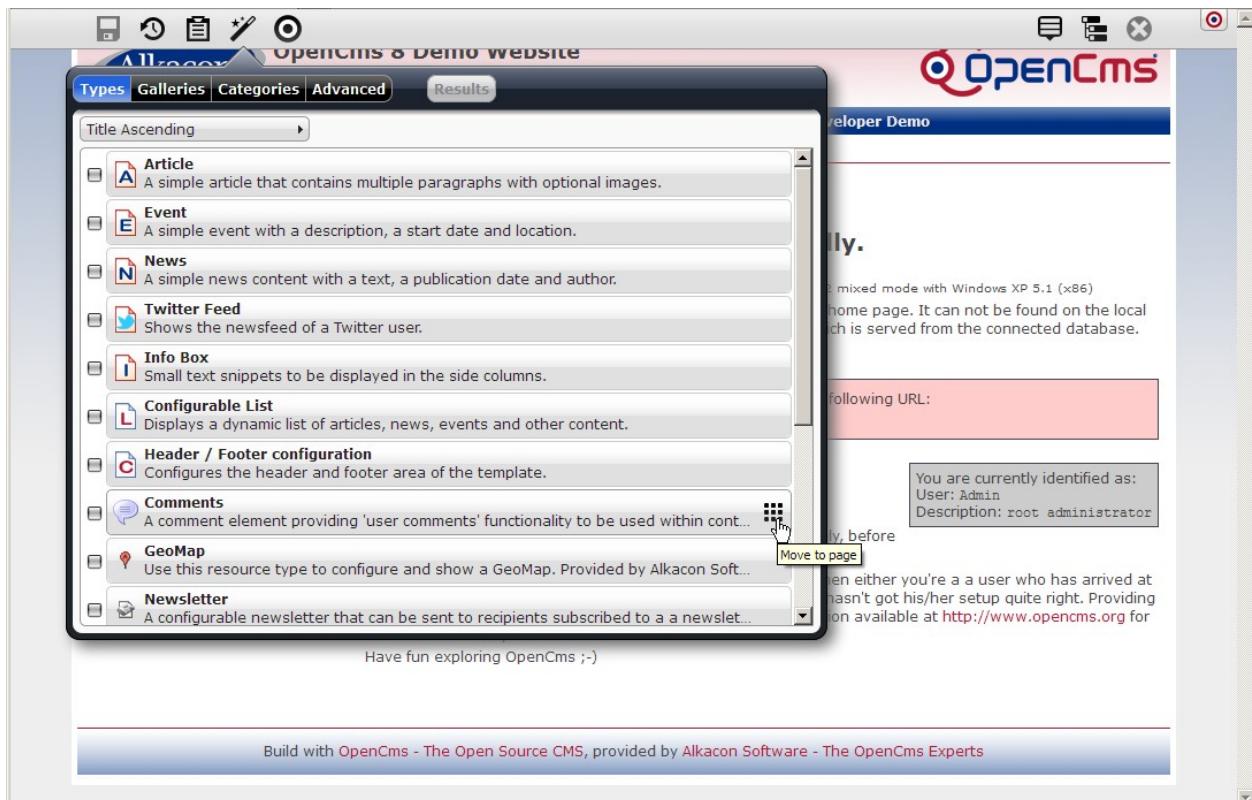


Figure 2: Drag a new Comments form from the "Add Wizard".

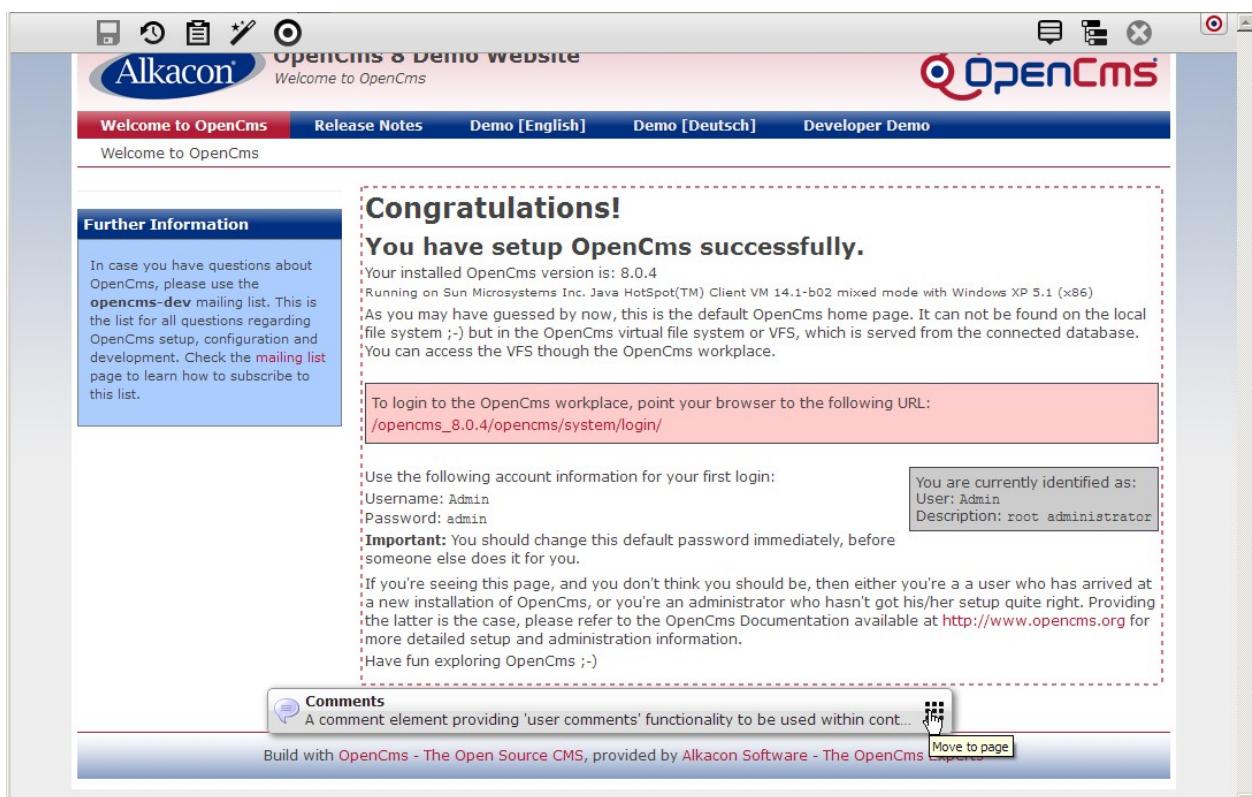


Figure 3: Dropping the new Comments form to destination container.

4.1 Editing an Alkacon Comments form

To edit the newly created Alkacon Comments form click on the ADE icon in the upper right corner of the Comments and select "Edit".

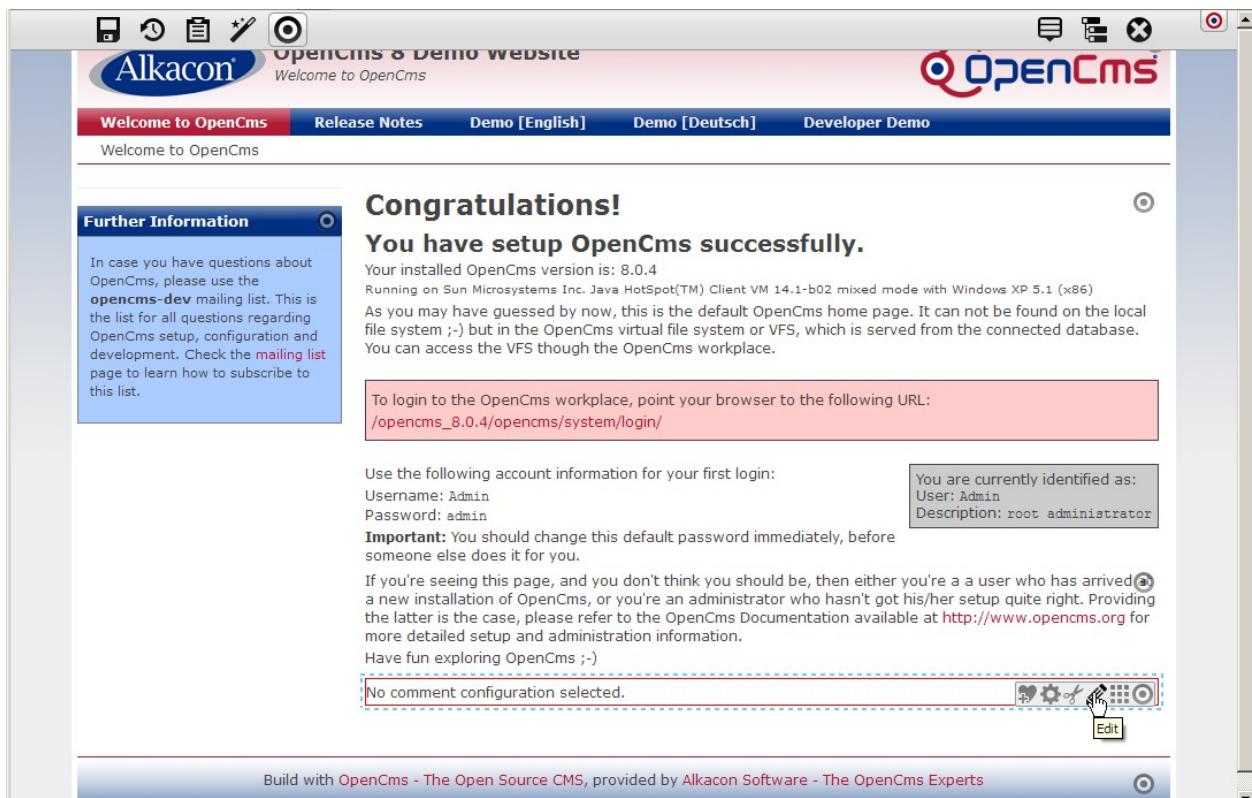


Figure 4: Open the ADE Editor.

The following fields are available for editing:

- **Title:** The title of the comments element.
- **Headline:** An optional headline replacing the default one.
 - **Configuration:** Link to the comment configuration file.
 - **Minimized start:** If set, the user gets only a link to open the comments, if not, the comments are immediately displayed.
 - **Comments per page:** Select the preferred number of comments to display in a page. Available preset options are: 3 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 50 | All
 - **Security Level:** Select the preferred security level. Available options are:
 - View and write comments without log in.
 - Only view comments without log in, and log in needed for writing.
 - Log in needed for viewing and writing comments.
 - Everybody can write, but only managers can view.

4.2 Creating an Alkacon Comments configuration

To create a new Comments Configuration the "new" dialog in the OpenCms Workplace has to be used:

1. Click "New" in the Top Bar of the OpenCms Workplace.
2. In the following dialog click "Structured content" and then "Continue".
3. Then select "Alkacon Comments Configuration" and "Continue".
4. In the following dialog enter the name of the new file.

→ A new file of type "alkacon-comment" will be created and be visible in the Explorer view.

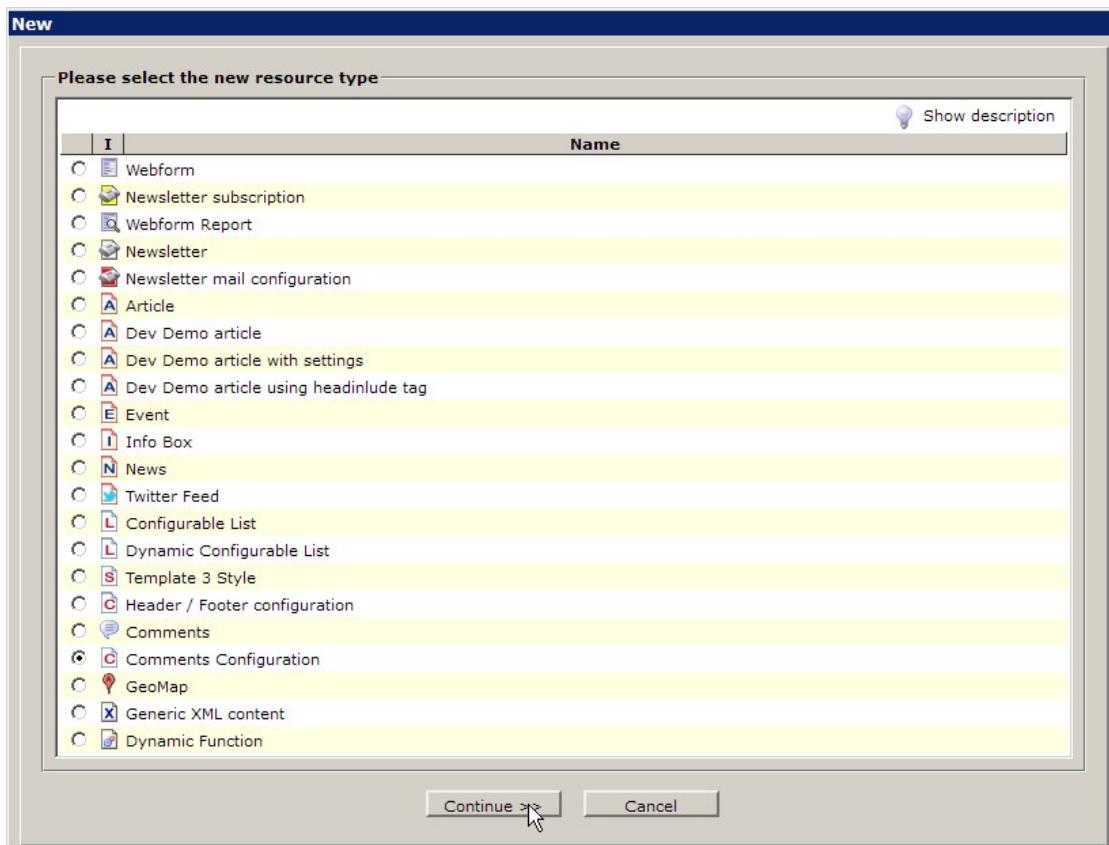


Figure 5: The 2nd stage of the new dialog to create an Alkacon Comment configuration.

Normally, you will create this kind of files in a separate area of your site, for instance, in a "/system/" folder or under the "_config_" folder of template two, or the "_configuration" folder of template one. Just be sure the Guest user can read it. You can check the permissions by right-clicking the desired folder/file in the OpenCms Explorer view and select "permissions"

A good starting point is to check the sample configuration file:

/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/docs/comments.xml

4.3 Editing an Alkacon Comments configuration

Comment forms are edited by clicking their file symbol in the OpenCms explorer with the right mouse button and choose "edit" from the popup – menu.

The XML content editor for the Comment forms appears.

You will see that the structure of the form is very similar to the one for generic Webforms, some fields has been repositioned and renamed, other few added. One can add as many labelled fields as desired to collect data.

The screenshot shows the Alkacon OpenCms Comment configuration editor. At the top, there's a toolbar with icons for back, forward, search, and other functions. Below it is a language dropdown set to English. The main area is divided into sections:

- Comments Options:** Includes settings like Moderated (checkbox checked), Comments per page (dropdown set to 5), Security Level (radio buttons for View and write comments without log in, Only view comments without log in, Log in needed for viewing and writing comments, Everybody can write, but only administrators can view), and various organizational units, groups, and resource bundles.
- Form field [1]:** A text input field labeled "Your name:name" with "Mandatory" checked.
- Form field [2]:** An email field labeled "Your Email (will not be shown):email" with "Mandatory" checked.
- Form field [3]:** A text input field labeled "Subject:subject" with "Mandatory" checked.
- Form field [4]:** A text area field labeled "Your comment:comment" with "Mandatory" checked.

At the bottom left, a status bar says "User (Admin) logged in at 7/14/08 4:56 PM from 127.0.0.1".

Figure 6: Alkacon OpenCms Comment configuration editor with comments options (1/2).

Most important is the Comments Options section, offering following options:

- **Moderated:**
If selected the comments have to be approved to be displayed. In this case, the comments can have 3 states:
 - New:** Will be displayed only to managers until they are approved
 - Approved:** Will be displayed to everyone
 - Blocked:** Will be displayed only to managers
 Moderators are all users having write permissions on the commented page, these users will have additional options for approving, blocking and deleting comments when viewing the file logged in and in the offline project, like direct edit. Additionally they will also see more details, like for instance, the email address of the writers.
- **Comments per page:**
Select the preferred number of comments to display in a single page.
- **Security Level:**
There are 3 different security levels:
 - None:** View and write comments without log in
 - Write:** Only view comments without log in, and log in needed for writing.

- c. **View:** Log in needed for viewing and writing comments.
- d. **No View:** Everybody can write, but only managers can view.
If security level is view or write, then only users belonging to at least one of the given organizational units or groups are allowed to read or write comments. If no organizational unit and no group are defined, all users are allowed.

- Organizational Units:
A list of organizational Units
- Groups:
A list of groups
- Minimized start:
If set, the user gets only a link to open the comments, if not, the comments are immediately displayed.
- Offer Login:
If set, guest users will get a login to form as a possibility to access to restricted functionality.
- Stylesheet:
Here you can set your own style sheet file.
- Resource Bundle:
Here you can set your own frontend resource bundle.

Be aware, as shown in figure 3, in the notification mail text, that you can use all the field names as macros, and additionally you can use following macros:

- **date:** the current date
- **url:** the page link

Additionally, if using the

`com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments.CmsCommentDynamicFields` class name for the “Dynamic field class” option in the “Advanced Configuration”, you can use three different dynamic fields to store some additional information, these are:

- **username:** Login name of the user (if not logged in, Guest)
- **locale:** The locale of the comment
- **ipaddress:** The remote IP Address

Language English

Form field [7]:

- Label:
- Mandatory:
- Default value: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)
- Validation: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)
- Error Message: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)

Captcha Field:

- Label: [Verification:](#)
- Preset: [Alkacon Dict.](#)

Comment Form footer text: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)

- Mail from: [Comments.noreply@alkacon.com](#)
- Mail to: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)
- To responsible: [?](#)
- Mail CC : [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)
- Mail BCC: [\(Click on the "New" button on the right side to activate this element\)](#)
- Mail subject: [New comment for %url from %name](#)

Mail Alert:

A new comment for [%url](#) has been added by [%name](#) ([%email](#)) at [%date](#):
[%comment](#)

Mail text:

Mail type : [HTML mail](#)

Confirmation text:

Thank you very much for your comment.
Your comment has been successful submitted and will be reviewed and published as soon as possible.
Sincerely,
The OpenCms Team

Advanced configuration:

- Enable mandatory marks: [?](#)
- Form attributes: [class="loginform"](#)
- Field attributes: [style="width: 99%"](#)
- Dynamic fields class: [com.alkacon.opencms.comments.CmsCommentDynamicFields](#)

User Michael Moosser (Admin) logged in at 5/23/08 2:39 PM from 127.0.0.1 [OU root organizational unit]

Figure 7: Alkacon OpenCms Comment configuration editor with comments options (2/2).

4.4 Adding an existing Alkacon Comments form to your page

You can also select an existing Alkacon Comments form from the "Add Wizard" by double-clicking the Resource type Alkacon Comments or by checking the box left to it and clicking "Results". From the displayed results, select the Comments form you need and add it to your page by Drag & Drop.

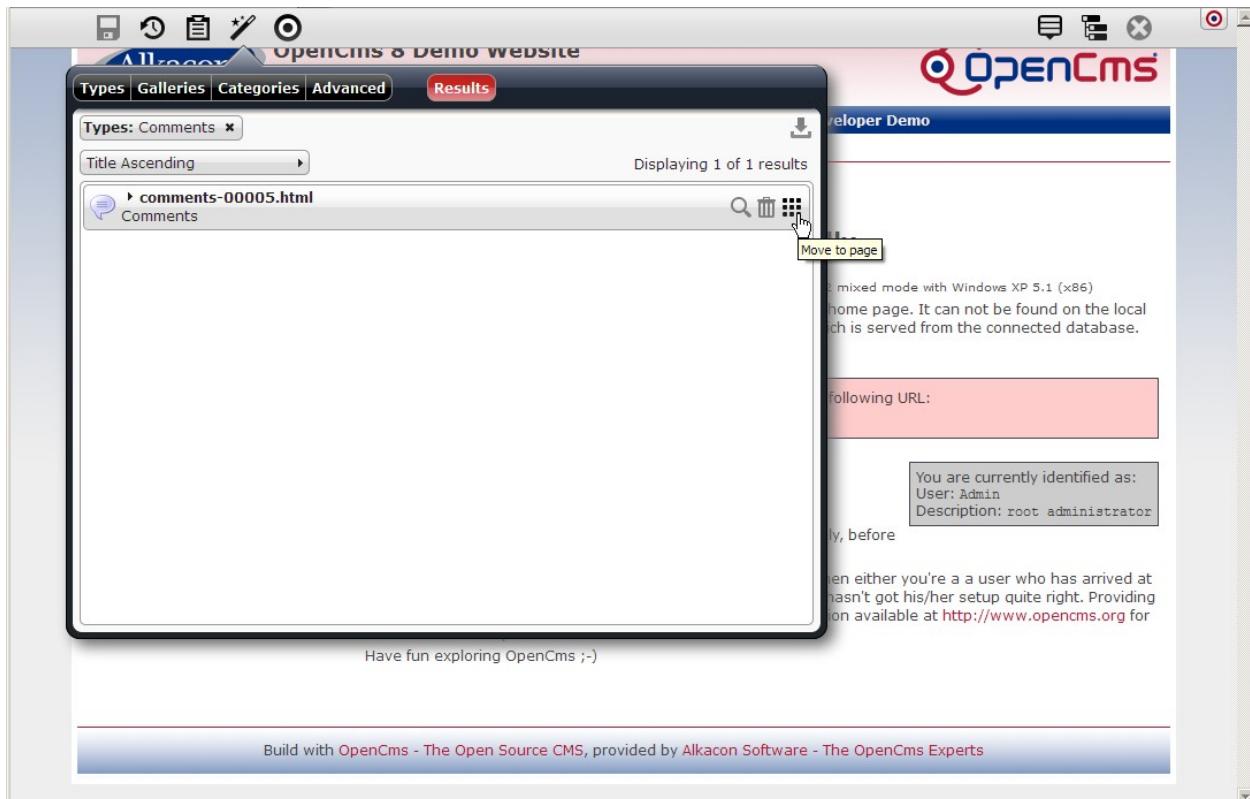


Figure 8: Drag & Drop of an existing Alkacon Comments form in ADE.

4.5 Additional configuration

4.5.1 Stylesheet and javascript inclusion

By default, this is done in first place in the

/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/elements/comment_main.jsp

After line 12, we have following code:

```
<cms:jquery dynamic='true' />  
  
<script type='text/javascript' >  
load_script('<cms:link>%{link.weak:/system/modules/  
  
org.opencms.jquery/resources/packed/jquery.js:49f92dba-8a92-11e0-ad6c-bff56146ac12}</cms:link>',  
'js');  
load_script('<cms:link>%{link.weak:/system/modules/  
  
com.alkacon.opencms.v8.commons/resources/js/pagination.js:831d7f3d-d959-11e0-bdea-c9a60a7588dd}</cms:link>',  
'js');  
load_script('<cms:link>%{link.weak:/system/modules/  
  
com.alkacon.opencms.v8.commons/resources/css/jquery.colorbox.css:7812b5c8-e519-11e0-9c23-c9a60a7588dd}</cms:link>',  
'css');
```

```
'css');
load_script('<cms:link>%{link.weak:/system/modules/
com.alkacon.opencms.v8.common/resources/js/jquery.colorbox.js:5dcf61aa-e519-11e0-9c23-c9a60a7588dd}</cms:link>',
'js');

<c:choose>
<c:when test="${!empty alkaconCmt.config.styleSheet}" >
load_script('<cms:link>${alkaconCmt.config.styleSheet}</cms:link>', 'css');
</c:when>
<c:otherwise>
load_script('<cms:link>%{link.weak:/system/modules/
com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/resources/comments.css:56708391-15df-11e1-aeb4-9b778fa0dc42}</cms:link>',
'css');
</c:otherwise>
</c:choose>
</script>
```

We include the JQuery javascript file as well as some plugins and the style sheet dynamically. In case it does not work, you will have to load the style sheet in the header of your template, you can also try to statically import the java script files using the normal `<script src="...">` tag. In any case, it will be normally more difficult to get it to work correctly if you use our JQuery enabled Direct Edit Provider, so you can also try to use the old default provider, setting following in your `opencms-workplace.xml` configuration file:

```
<directeditprovider
class="org.opencms.workplace.editors.directedit.CmsDirectEditDefaultProvider"
/>
```

4.5.2 Personalized comment fields

If you use a different field configuration than given in the sample configuration file, for instance, you do not want the users to have to enter an email address, you will need to adjust the frontend output. You can easily do this, editing following elements:

`/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/elements/comment_manager.jsp`

`/system/modules/com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments/elements/comment_view.jsp`

The first file is the element to render a comment for a manager and the second one for a normal frontend user.

5 Frontend view

Once integrated in your template and configured, you will see something like this:

Important: You should change this default password immediately, before someone else does it for you.

If you're seeing this page, and you don't think you should be, then either you're a user who has arrived at a new installation of OpenCms, or you're an administrator who hasn't got his/her setup quite right. Providing the latter is the case, please refer to the OpenCms Documentation available at <http://www.opencms.org> for more detailed setup and administration information.

Have fun exploring OpenCms ;-)

User Comments

Click here to post a new comment.

kfgkffgktufzutozfo June 14, 2012 5:07 PM - tester 3:	X
Username: Admin Email: tester3@example.org IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 zfu uftz uft utf ft ftu ftuifit	
Another test June 14, 2012 5:06 PM - Tester 2:	X
Username: Admin Email: tester2@example.org IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 just some words	
Just testing the comments module June 14, 2012 3:20 PM - Tester:	X
Username: Admin Email: test@test.test IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 This is just some demo comment	

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Figure 9: Demo frontend view for a normal user

If you're seeing this page, and you don't think you should be, then either you're a user who has arrived at a new installation of OpenCms, or you're an administrator who hasn't got his/her setup quite right. Providing the latter is the case, please refer to the OpenCms Documentation available at <http://www.opencms.org> for more detailed setup and administration information.

Have fun exploring OpenCms ;-)

User Comments

Click here to post a new comment.

All | New | Blocked | Approved

kfgkffgktufzutozfo June 14, 2012 5:07 PM - tester 3:	✓ X
Username: Admin Email: tester3@example.org IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 zfu uftz uft utf ft ftu ftuifit	Delete
Another test June 14, 2012 5:06 PM - Tester 2:	✓ ○ X
Username: Admin Email: tester2@example.org IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 just some words	
Just testing the comments module June 14, 2012 3:20 PM - Tester:	○ X
Username: Admin Email: test@test.test IP Address: 127.0.0.1 Comments: 3 This is just some demo comment	

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javascript:doAction('delete','5');

Figure 10: Demo frontend view for a manager

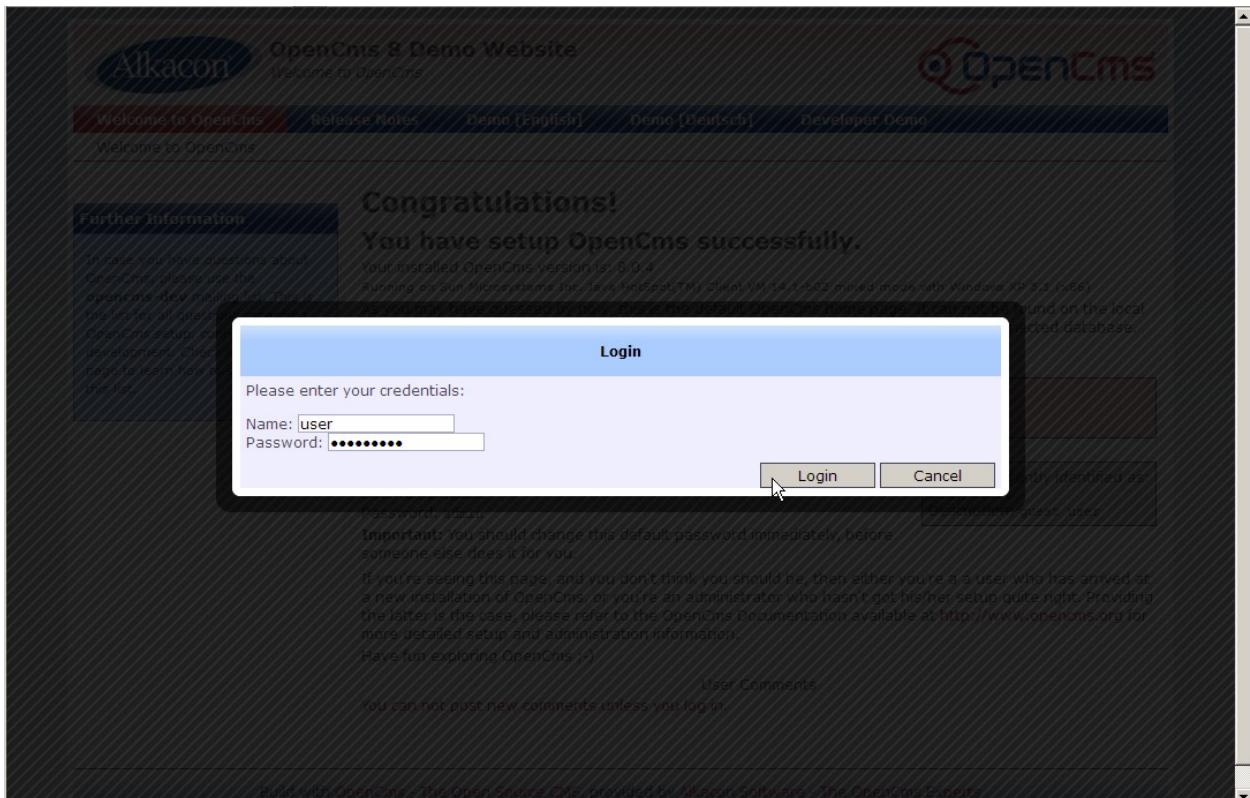


Figure 11: Demo frontend view for the login dialog



Figure 12: Demo frontend view for post dialog

6 Implementation details

The package `com.alkacon.opencms.v8.comments` contains the implementation of the Alkacon OAMP Comments Module. The following classes are used:

The `classes` folder contains the resource bundles used for localization. There are two resource bundles:

- `workplace`: for messages displayed in the workplace, mainly the xml content editor.
- `frontend`: for messages displayed in the frontend.

The `docs` folder contains a sample configuration file.

The `formatters` folder contains the formatter JSP `comment-formatter.jsp`

The `elements` folder contains all JSP elements included by the formatter:

- `comment_actions.jsp`: executes all administrative actions, like approving, blocking and deleting comments.
- `comment_form.jsp`: this is the post form element
- `comment_header.jsp`: Renders the header of the comment list
- `comment_innerlist.jsp`: Renders the list of comments including pagination
- `comment_list.jsp`: Renders the list of comments including header
- `comment_login.jsp`: the login form element
- `comment_main.jsp`: This is the main element to include in the template
- `comment_manager.jsp`: This element renders one comment with administration options
- `comment_page.jsp`: Renders a whole page of comments
- `comment_pagination.jsp`: Renders the pagination bar
- `comment_view.jsp`: This element renders a single comment

The `lib` folder contains the needed jar file with some few classes.

The `resources` folder contains the used style sheets and icons.

The `schemas` folder contains the `xsd` files defining the configuration xml.