

Isomer Info Sheet

Isomer is a lightweight solution for Singapore Government informational services that employs UX best practices.

The goal of Isomer is three-fold:

1. To improve the user experience across informational services by using components from the Singapore Government Design System
2. To reduce the cost of creating and maintaining informational services
3. To reduce the burden of compliance so that agencies can focus on creating informational content

So what exactly is Isomer?

Isomer is a lightweight website building and hosting service that helps government agency websites adhere to modern web development and user experience design practices.

Websites on Isomer are static websites built using components from the Isomer Design System. More specifically, Isomer uses the Jekyll static site generator and GitHub Pages hosting service.

Benefits of Isomer

1. Improved security over dynamic sites.

Static sites are only made up of static files. Consequently, there is nothing dynamic that can be exploited in static sites. Dynamic sites on the other hand have one or more web application servers and databases that increase the surface area for exploitation.

2. Improved performance over dynamic sites.

Static site pages are pre-generated, while dynamic site pages are generated on-the-fly. And because static sites are generated beforehand, they can be served via a Content Delivery Network (CDN). This greatly improves user experience because of faster website loading times.

3. Less downtime compared to dynamic sites.

Static site pages can be pre-generated and hosted in multiple places, allowing for redundancy.

What does Isomer mean for agencies?

1. Compliance by Design

We take away the burden of compliance so that you can focus on what matters: creating good informational content for the public.

Using Isomer means compliance to many sections of the:

- Instruction Manual 8 (IM8)
- Web Interface Standards (WIS) and the soon-to-be-released Digital Services Standards (DSS)
- Usability Checklist (UC)

2. Continuous Upgrade with Zero Downtime

We ensure that your informational static site stays relevant to ever-changing engineering and UX best practices.

We stay in sync with the policy teams working on IM8, DSS, and UC, and can upgrade your informational static site through a central template with no downtime.

3. Low Cost

Our annual subscription is SGD \$420 per month.

Who built Isomer? How is it being maintained?

Isomer is engineered and maintained by a team of engineers, product managers, and designers in the Product Development Team of GovTech.

We believe a good website should continuously evolve with modern standards. Our team will study trends in web development and continuously add features and update the designs of Isomer.