**Users and Groups in AEM**

This section deals with the various entities and related concepts in more detail to help you configure an easy to maintain user management concept.

**Users**

Users will log in to AEM with their account. Each user account is unique and holds the basic account details, together with the privileges assigned.

Users are often members of Groups, which simplify the allocation of these permissions and/or privileges.

**Groups**

Groups are collections of users and/or other groups; these are all called Members of a group.

Their primary purpose is to simplify the maintenance process by reducing the number of entities to be updated, as a change made to a group is applied to all members of the group. Groups often reflect:

* a role within the application; such as someone who is allowed to surf the content, or someone who is allowed to contribute content.
* your own organization; you may want to extend the roles to differentiate between contributors from different departments when they are restricted to different branches in the content tree.

Therefore groups tend to remain stable, whereas users come and go more frequently.

With planning and a clean structure, the use of groups can reflect your structure, giving you a clear overview and an efficient mechanism for updates.

**Built-in Users and Groups**

AEM WCM installs a number of users and groups. These can be seen when you first access the Security Console after installation.

The following tables list each item together with:

* a short description
* any recommendations about necessary changes