

“Visitors to your site start showing interest in being able to automatically publish callouts to various content as it's posted to Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites. They would like to be able to share their own content immediately on publish, but they'd also like to share others' content with the click of a button. How do you add this feature?”

To implement the change, I would probably install the socialmedia module (<https://www.drupal.org/project/socialmedia>). There appears to be a good five-year history of weekly updates and bug-fixes, and it appears to be a stable version of the module. However, the Widgets module is also recommended for the socialmedia module to work, according to its documentation, so I'd have to install that as well, so that the proper widgets show up. Once I enable the app, either on the website or using drush, Drupal would presumably download whatever dependences are needed for the socialmedia module to work properly. There will need to be configuration of what social media site settings are available to users as well. Only admin should be able to change what social media sites are compatible on the site, using the socialmedia setup wizard. The admin user role would have to decide where to place links to socialmedia profiles, what social media icons to install for the module, and also where to add sharing widgets on each page. Although the admin user role has the most permission for what social media sites are on the web page, there is also apparently user level permission to “administer own profiles”, which gives users flexibility in sharing their own profile information or changing security levels for them.

The socialmedia module includes widgets for sharing, but it also has widgets for Tweets and Facebook Like boxes, which is useful for those platforms' unique ways of sharing. Other supported social media apps that are included in the socialmedia modules list are Vimeo, Youtube, and LinkedIn, for example, and they all have their own ways of sharing that have their own individual, specific compatible widgets via the socialmedia module. Widget sets for apps have similar functionality (for example, the sharing widget set), and they can be placed in a certain region of a page. As far as structuring of the pages, it isn't too necessary to go through each content type to decide where the sharing widget set should be placed on the page, since that is all in the socialmedia module configuration page—one can decide one region of the page that the widget set needs to go to, and then click the pull-down menu marked “content type” to apply the widget set placement to whatever content type is desired.

Because the socialmedia module has links to sharing on people's personal websites, forums might be superfluous, as people could just discuss content within their own circles. However, it could be useful to still have a forum module (if it actually works and is not buggy like mine) to have a community place to discuss specific content. On the otherhand, a simple widget that links to a group's Facebook page or twitter feed could all but eliminate the need for a built-in community forum anyway, as long as users already have social media profiles. Additionally, it might be hard to share someone's comment or reaction on a Drupal page's forum (I don't see that as a feature on the socialmedia module), so it might actually be better to just leave the community commenting and reactions to the socialmedia app, which already has built-in methods of sharing to a social media site (where a user can go to to use the social media site's own built-in ways to react and respond to that content).