## 2. User functionality

2.1.1. Audience information with articles' releases

The system provides articles releases in two distinct perspectives.

The first is the articles on the first page of the portal that delivers the latest articles for all users visiting the portal. This is the welcome page generated by on the initial entry on the portal.

The user can view the public articles generated by all for all users and have a first glance with the portal operations.
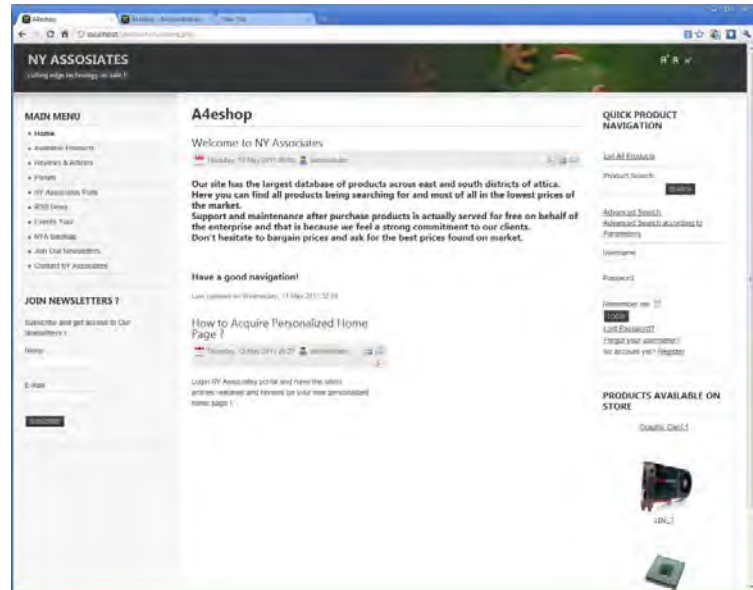

On the other hand the intial home page has a distinct interaction with the registered users.

Additionally the portal maintains a personalized mode access for articles releases with enhanced articles that are specially triggered for the registered users.

As we can see in the image below the initial home page access generates additional article releases for display while the difference in that case is that a registered user has grant privileged access on the home page while submitting on the login form on the place.

Moving on with the public area of the portal users can see the total of articles hosted on the portal by selecting the "Articles & Reviews" button on the main navigation bar (main menu). The new page generates two links distinguishing the articles from the reviews. In the page there is also a 'poll' function that is released on the right sidebar.
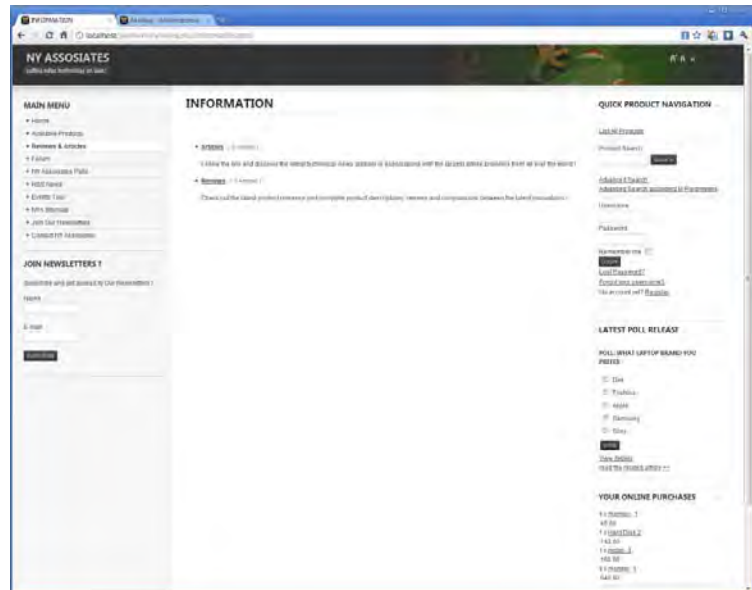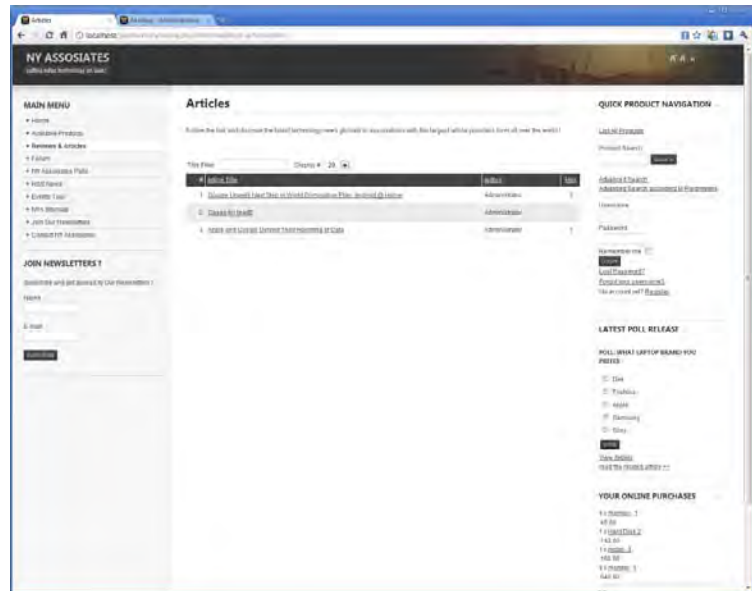
Choosing an article with a click a direction to the relevant article is made where the user can read the full article and is accommodated by facilities such as a printing on paper, a pdf document or share the article with other people using a mailing operation. The user can move to this page by clicking an article from the home page as well.
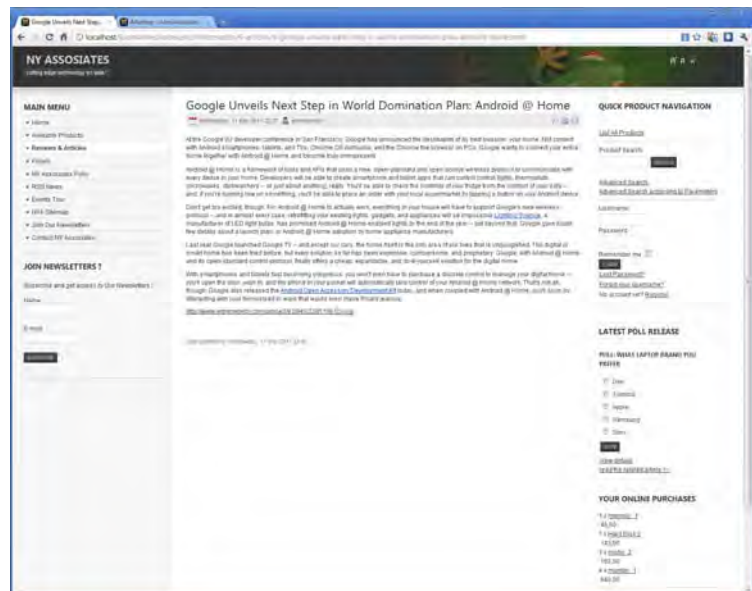
2.1.2. Advanced information by means of Calendar / Newsletter / News Feeds

RSS Feeds

Users can move to the RSS feeds page while selecting the button from the navigation menu. The loaded page will display only the local RSS news from within the country while on the other hand registered users will obtain additional RSS news resources from around the world.
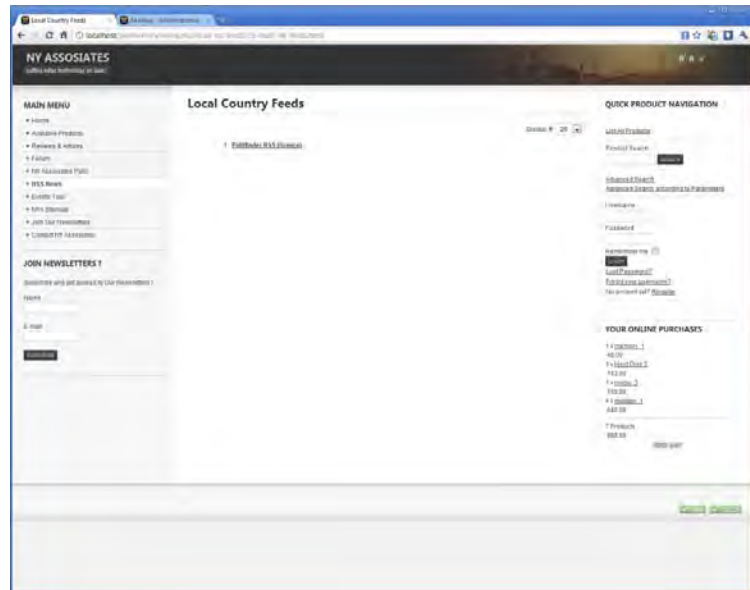

Clicking on the link text the public user will be directed to the page with local RSS news
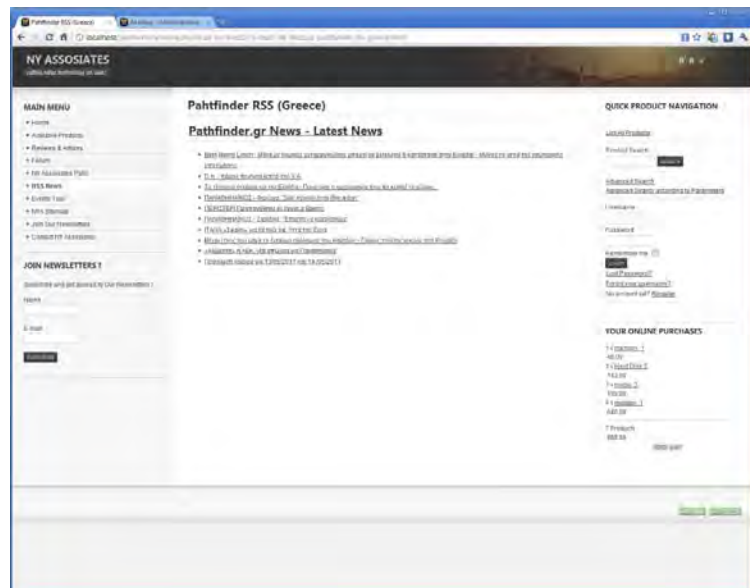
In the second scenario a registered user will have the opportunity to display extra links with RSS news from more than inland source providers. For the case we can see in the image that the users can have access to the Google's RSS news feed from within the portal.
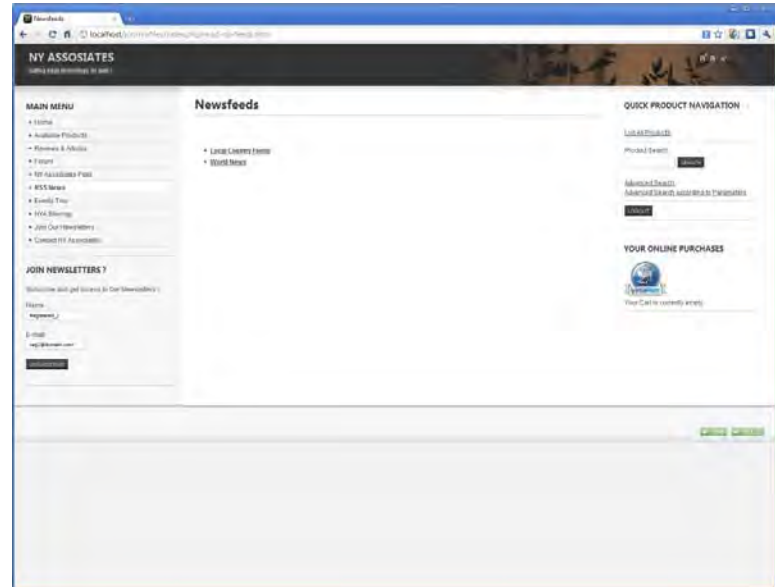

While clicking on that Google rss news will move forward generating enhanced information from additional sources
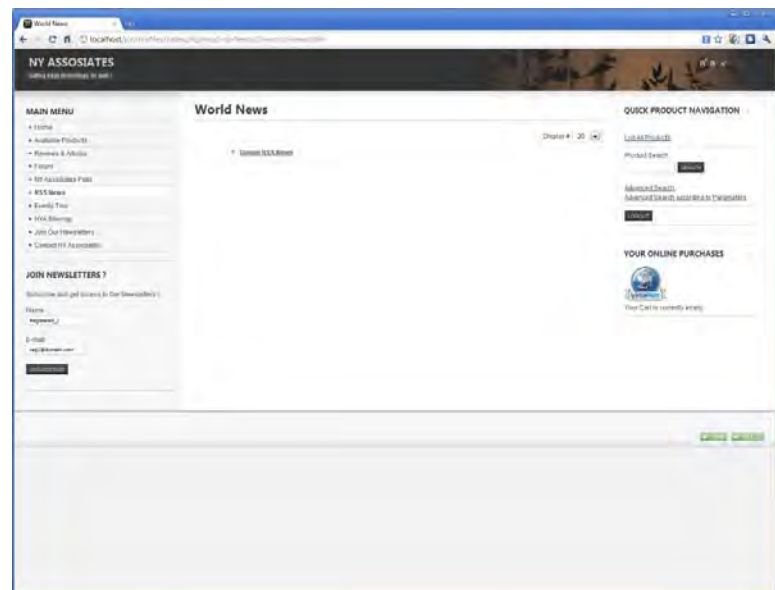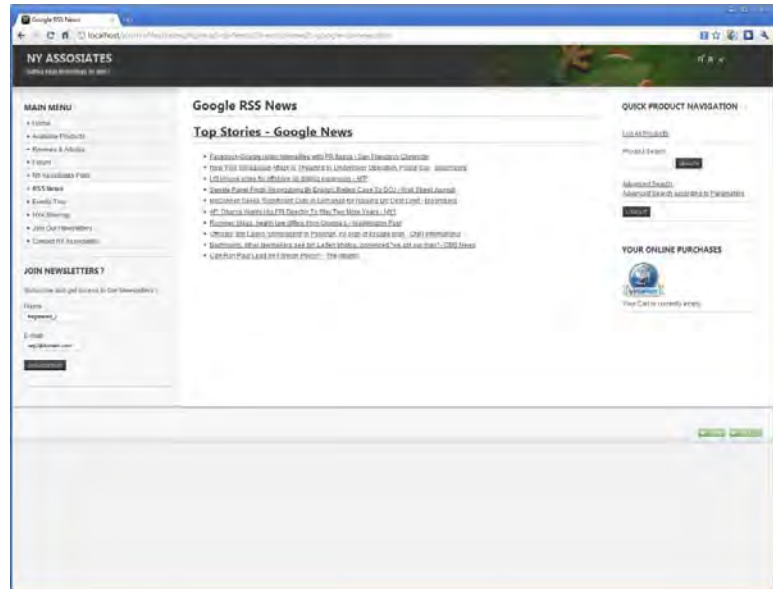
Calendar

Clicking to the "Events Tour" button hosted on the navigation menu the user can generate the calendar functionality of the portal. In the image we can see that current month is displayed and the month's events are recognizable as labeled with the events headers on certain days.
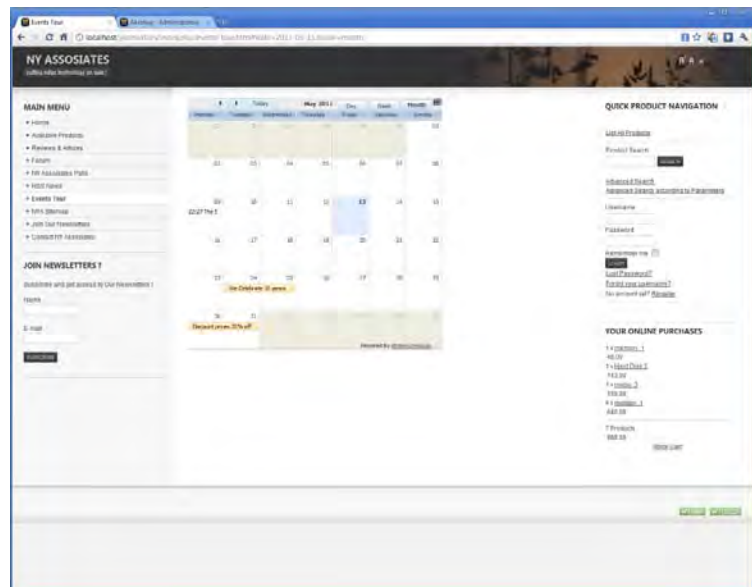
A click on a calendar event will open a new window providing the details of the event.
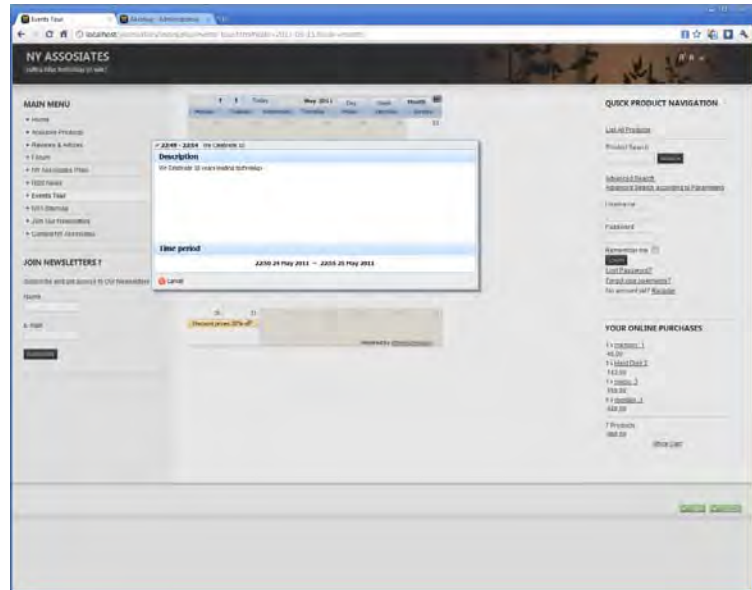

And a full screen mode is generated on the browser while the user hits the regarded button.
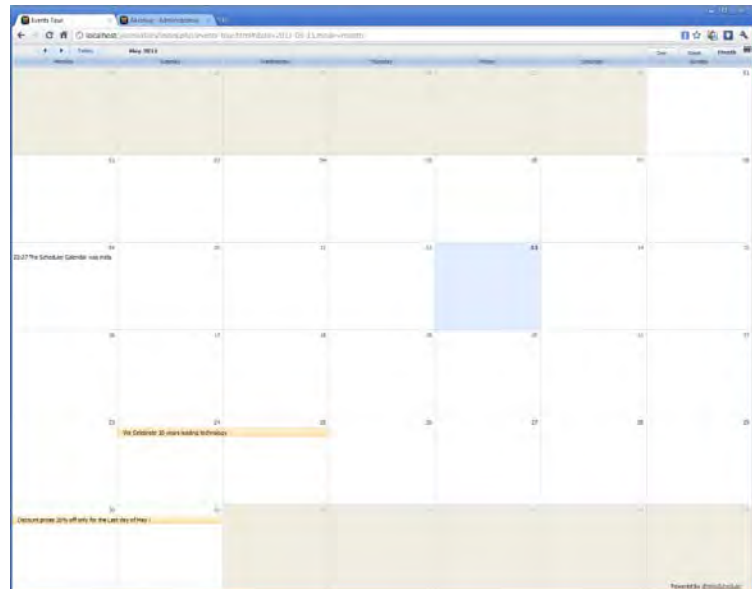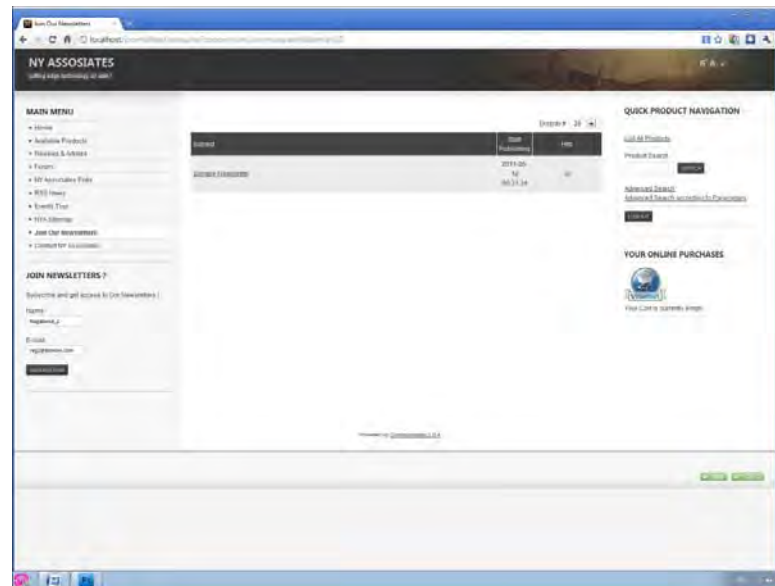
Newsletter

The screenshot is the one that is displayed on the screen while the user has clicked on the button "Join Newsletter" hosted on the navigation menu. If a user tries to display any of the newsletters a blank page is generated since he is in a public mode and haven't login the system or is not registered yet.
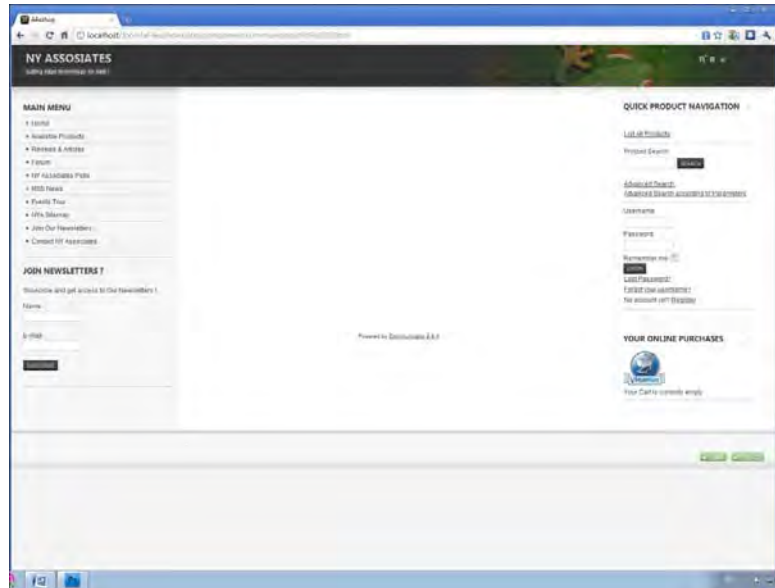

While for the case where a registered user hits the newsletter button on the navigation page an overview of all newsletters that have been released - since - by the portal are about to be displayed on the page as we can see in the following image.

Add any of the newsletters will generate its content while it is selected.
Nevertheless a registered user cannot maintain greater control rather than just read each one of the newsletters.
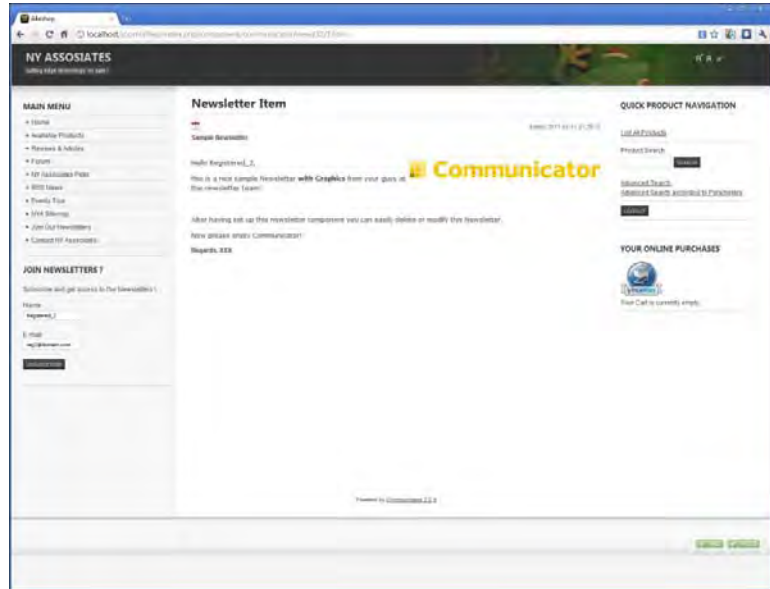

An authorized user though, like the admin for example in the next screenshot, can have augmented capacities over the same page functions. The authorized user maintain the potentials to <u>create</u> additional newsletters, or even edit and delete the existing ones !
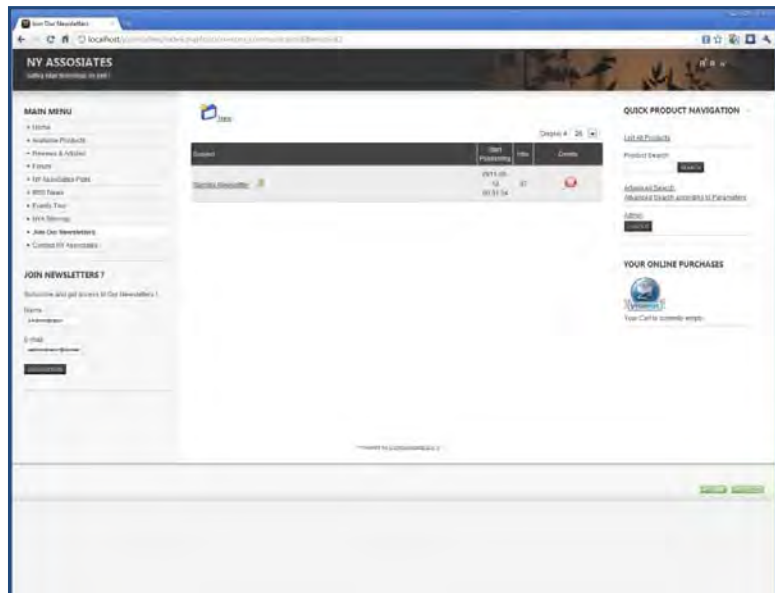
The screenshot describes the case where an authorized user has triggered function to edit an existing newsletter. We can see that he is provided with the essential facilities like an editor to supply with textual information, upload images and generally re-construct the interface on will.
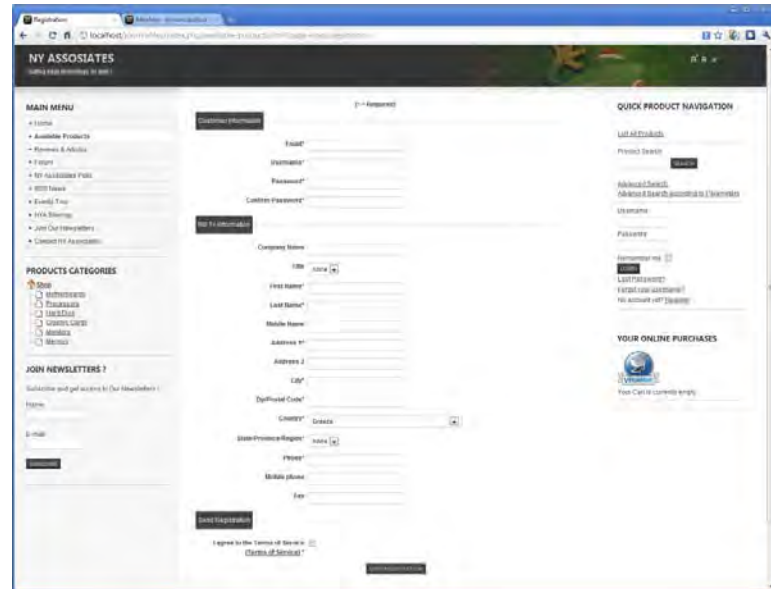

Additionally an authorized user can generate a newsletter all over from the beginning.
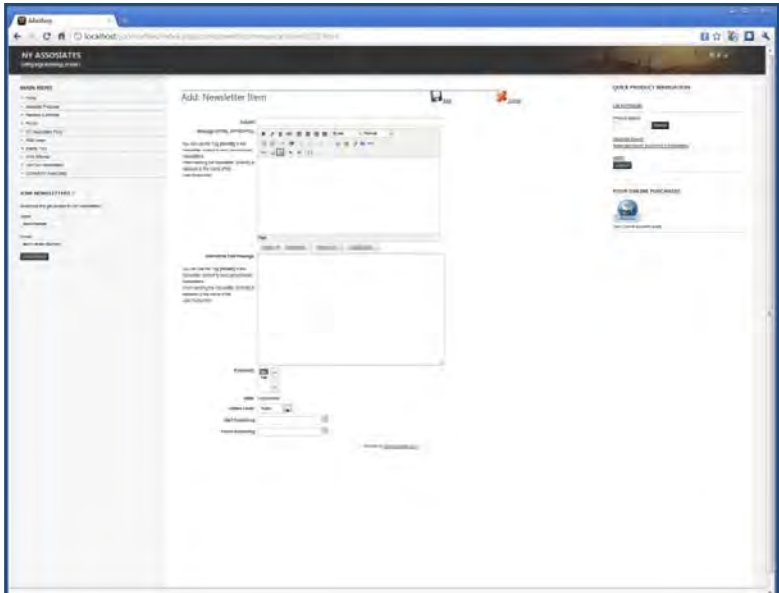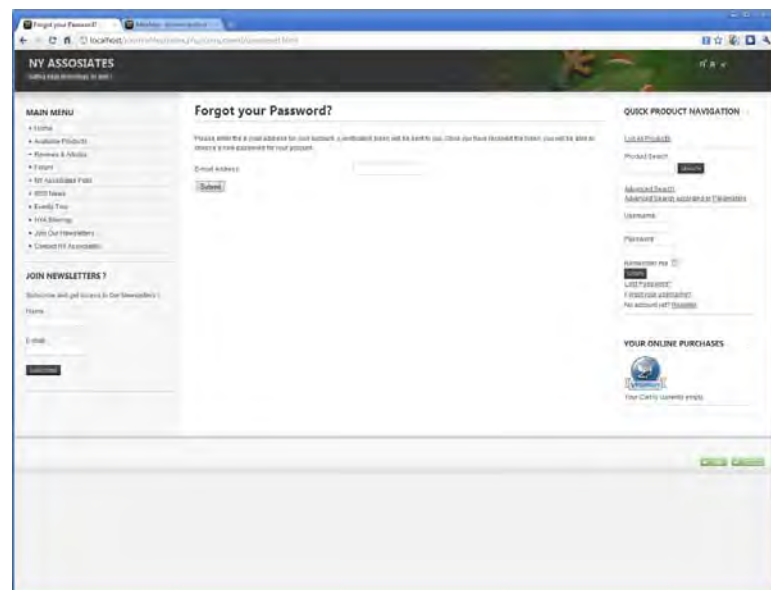
2.1.3. User Registration

Users sustain the capacity to submit their identification to the system, thus acquire their username and password and enter the system on demand. The register form can be generated on all pages of the portal by clicking on the login area on the right sidebar. User registration mode is delivered in an explicit form that issues the users registration to the system.


The system incorporates an advanced password recovery facility for the convenience of users who for any reason happen to miss their password and provides operation to reset or retrieve their password while initially submit their email address to the system.

2.1.4. Available products presentation

A quick listing view of all available products stored on the portal can be displayed while the user selects to follow the link "List all products" that can be found on the top of the right side bar.
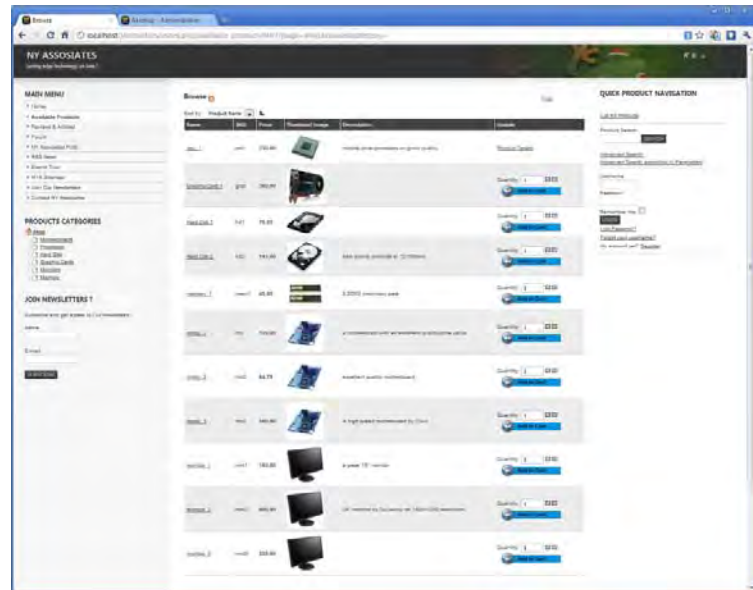
The products of the portal can be found while clicking on the Available Products button hosted on the navigation menu. The activity will generate a page that aligns products categories on screen with descriptive images in follow. Moreover a supplementary products navigation menu is generated on the left side bar prompting the user to navigate easily to different product categories.
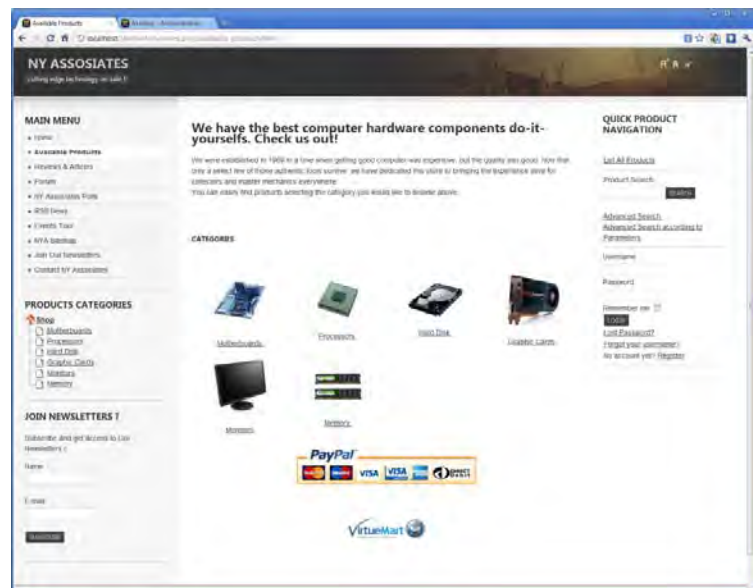
Clicking on any of the above categories will generate a listing of all the products in the category.
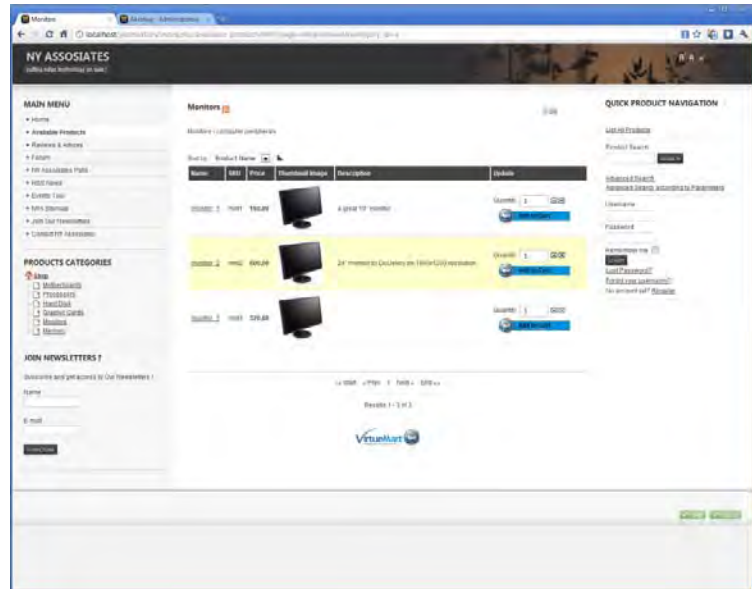
And a standalone full description while clicking on any of the products to preview.
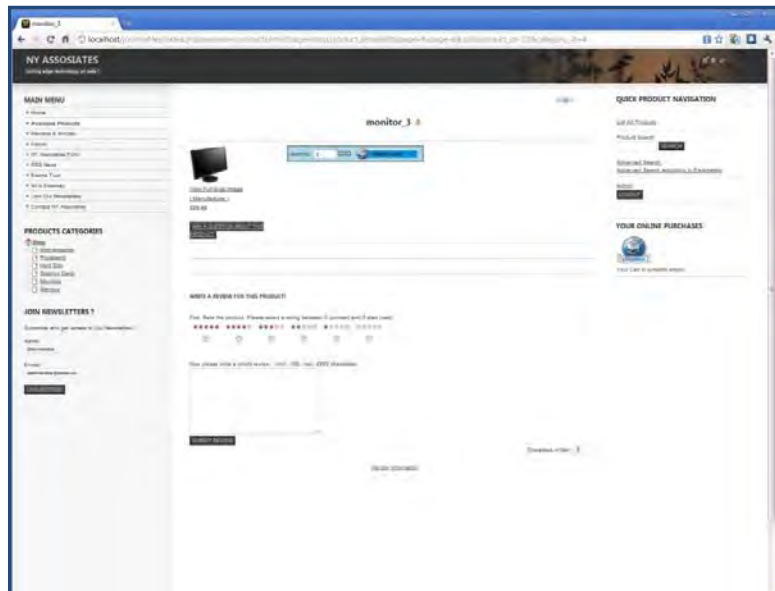
2.1.5. Product search

A quick search input that exists on the home page provides an adequate in function facility for the users to generate instant exploration of a product given the existing label. For example a user in the picture provides input for a product labeled as "mobo_2" in the search input that resides on the top of right sidebar.
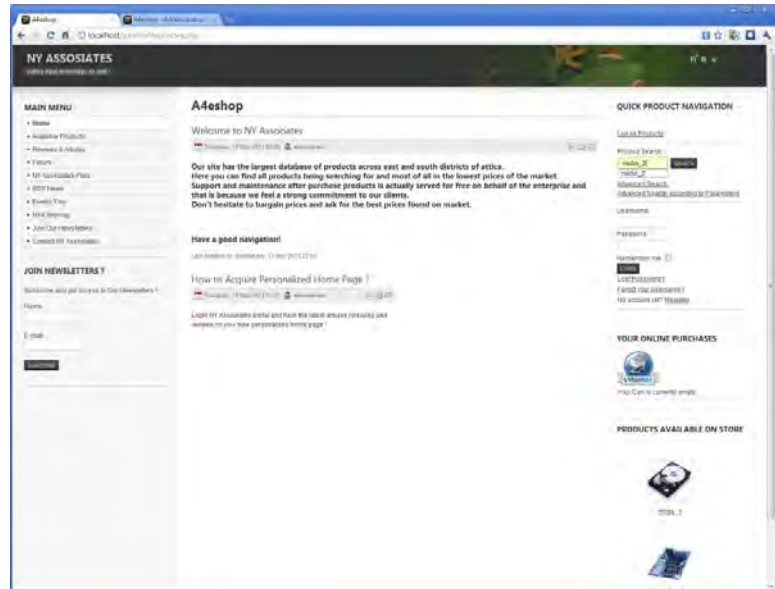
The system goes through the inventory in the database and generates effective results for the given product label. The product "mobo_2" is retrieved from the database and the system generates results with all adequate information in regard.
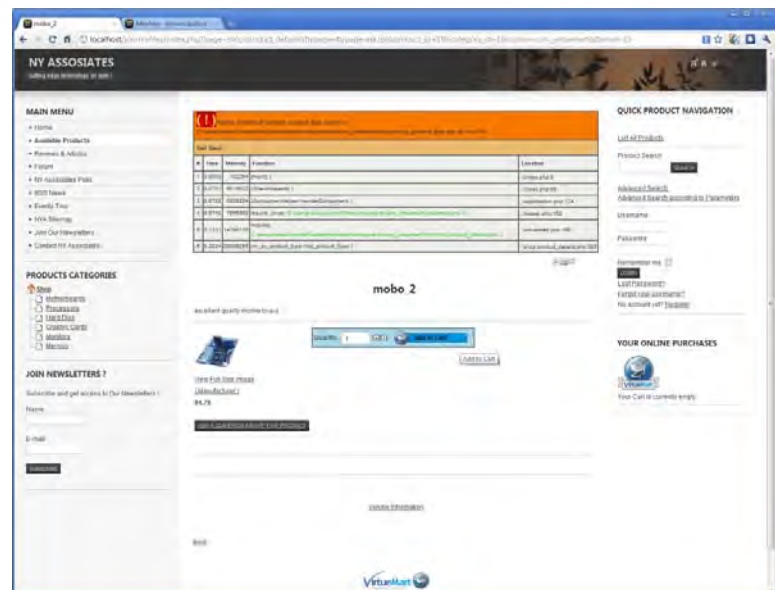
In addition the search input would provide effective results where the name of a category of products is submitted, thus provide multiple results of the given existing category.
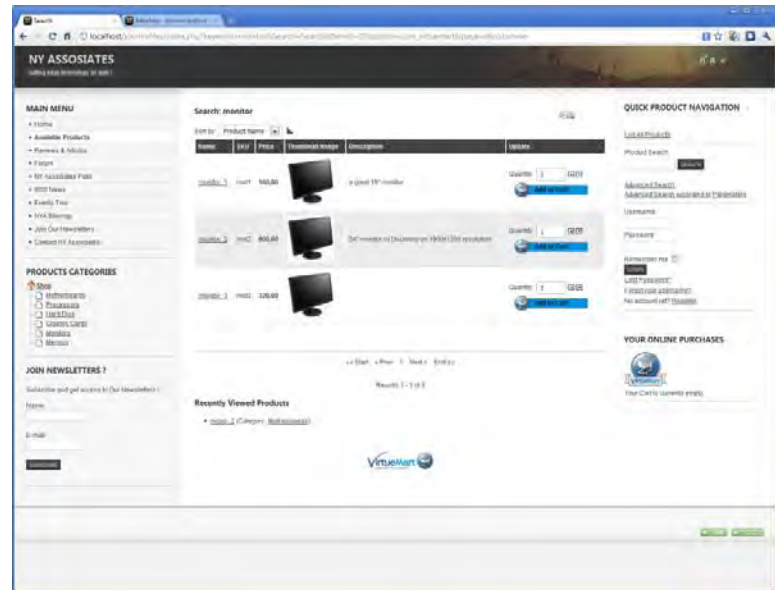
Additionally, for a straightforward search on the system, the capacity is maintained to move on the user to an extended search operation combining more than one argument to distinct inputs and retrieve more specific results. The link is found on the right sidebar labeled as "advanced search". More over the potential is provided for the users to make a more explicit search on the database while in conjunction with the above criteria, the user can engage category oriented searches and certain information of products.
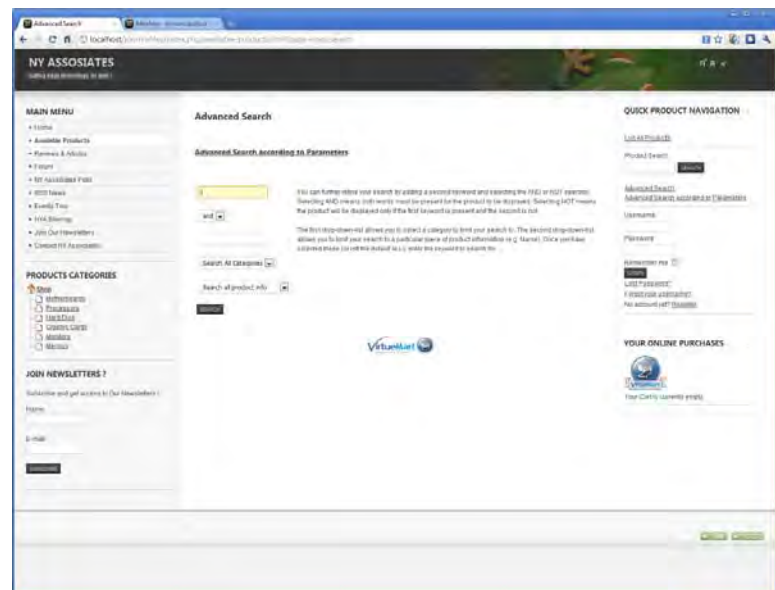
The advanced search based on criteria will enforce the users to generate inquiries for products based on prices, surpassing certain domains of products that go beyond the costing boundaries he has set for a purchase.
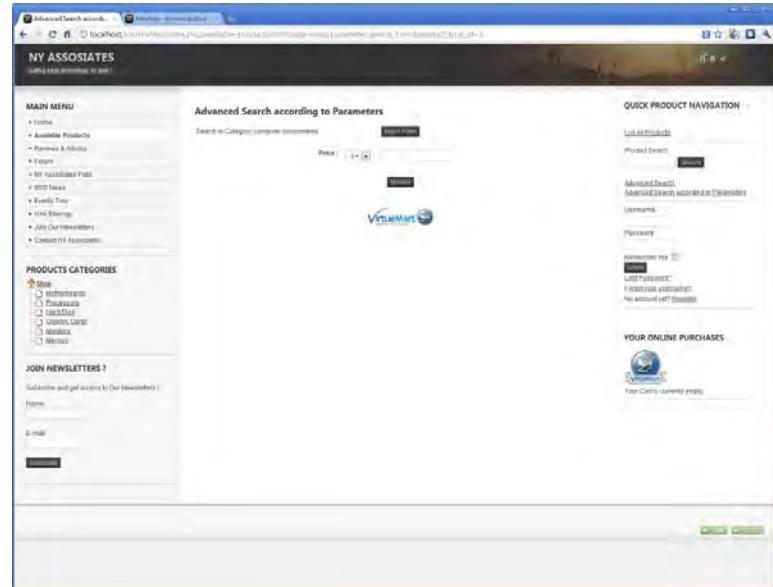
2.1.6. Shopping Cart

In all previous descriptions related to the products investigation on portal, we have seen that next to each products description whether an overview or in a detailed mode, there is a cart function that accompany every each of them. This function delivers the ability to the user to select products and add them to the cart, ready for purchase. Now if a user has selected any product for purchase, the display of the user would have looked like the next screenshot, with a notation on the right side bar for the products that have already been added to purchase.
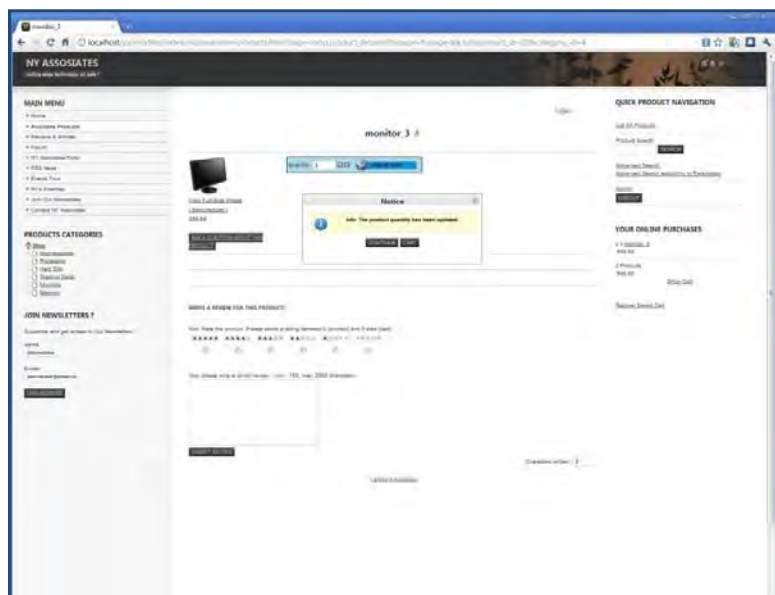
Again, the products "cart" functionality is place on the right sidebar of the screen and is displayed on all pages of the portal within a summary description as to provide explicit information to the user about the quantity and a summary of the purchase cost.

Likewise the "cart" function maintains a single page that the users can visit and obtain a detailed description of their purchase.
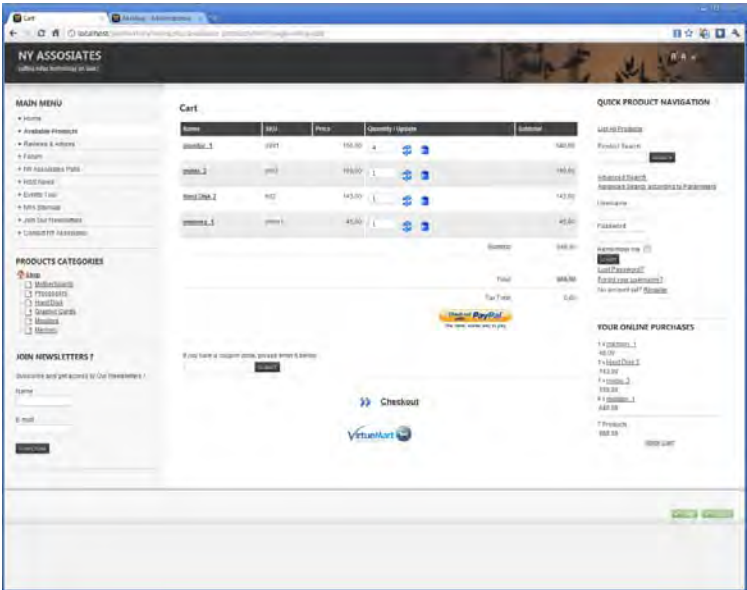
2.1.7. Forum Communication

Forum operations can be used under the "Forum" button hosted on the main navigation menu.
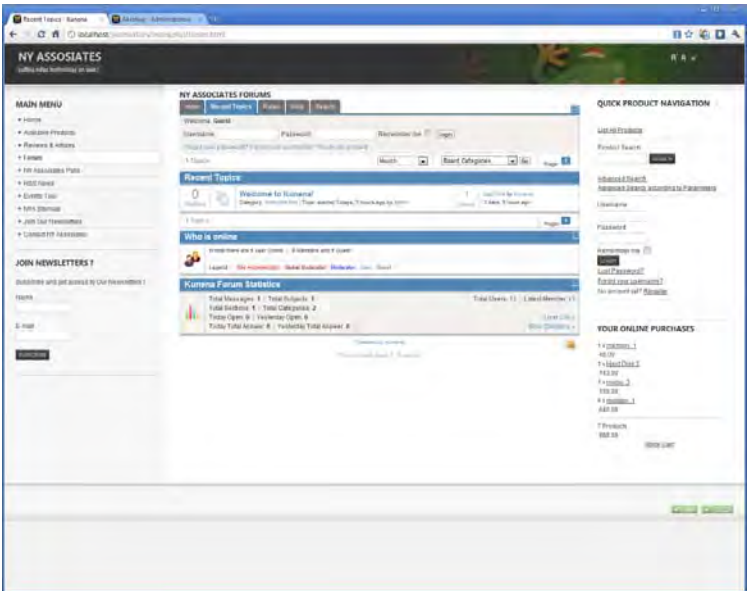
The users are permitted to enter and generate functions or follow the forum discussions without having any restrictions
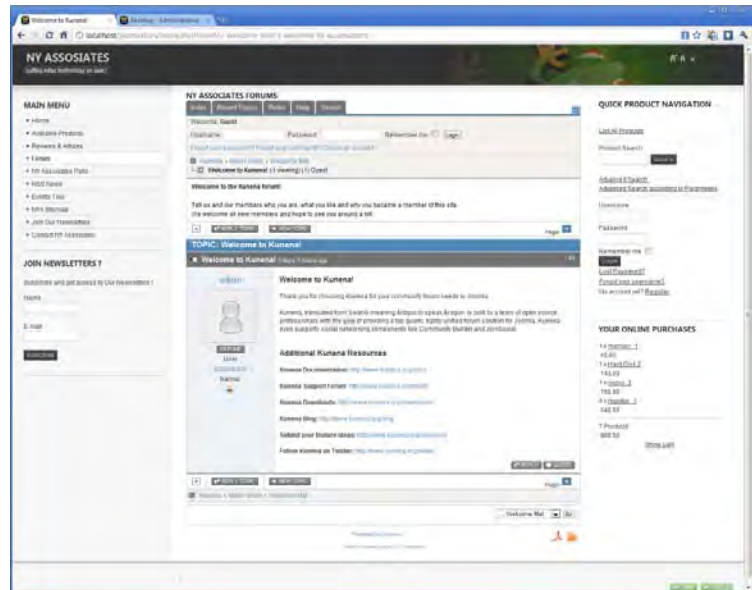
Additionally users are empowered to generate advanced searched operations given on multitude of filtering options and indexing the forums in order to keep track and retrieve information from all boards of discussions.

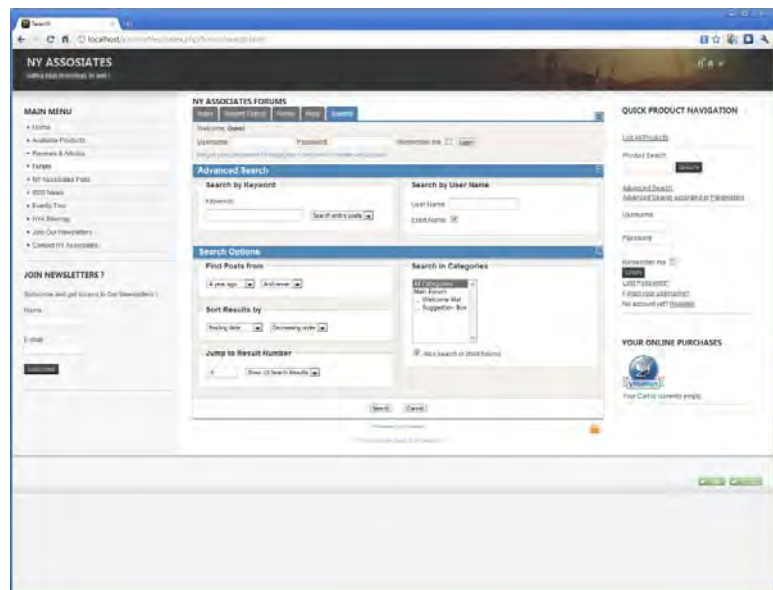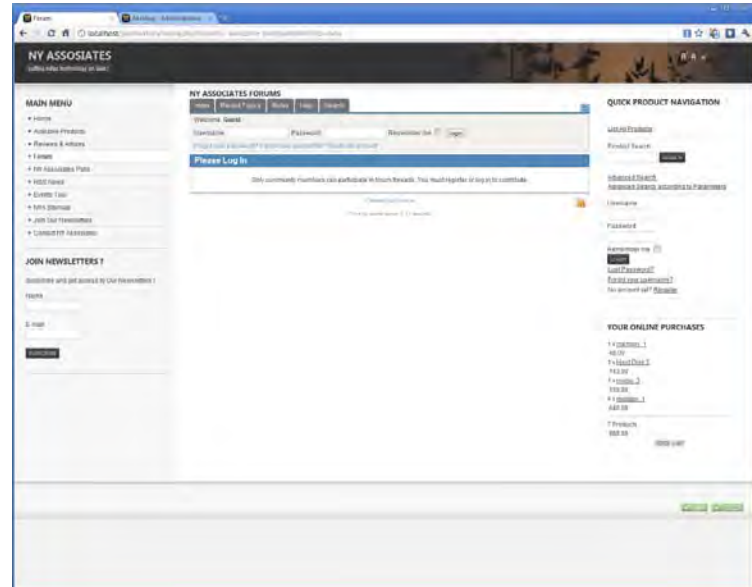Nevertheless for the case that a user tries to actively communicate on the forum, or submit a new thread and post in on board, he is prevented by the system which suggestively informs the user to initially log or register to acquire the appropriate permission.

On the other hand if a user is already registered and logged on to the system, he is instantly provided with complementary usage mechanism for joining the forum. Therefore the user gets access to more activities on the forum as he - from the start - is assigned to more button for usage. Also while in place to submit a post, the user is provided with the proper facilities such as editors, uploading images, create and edit profile etc.

In the example shown in the screenshot the user creates a new thread and submits for publishing to the system.
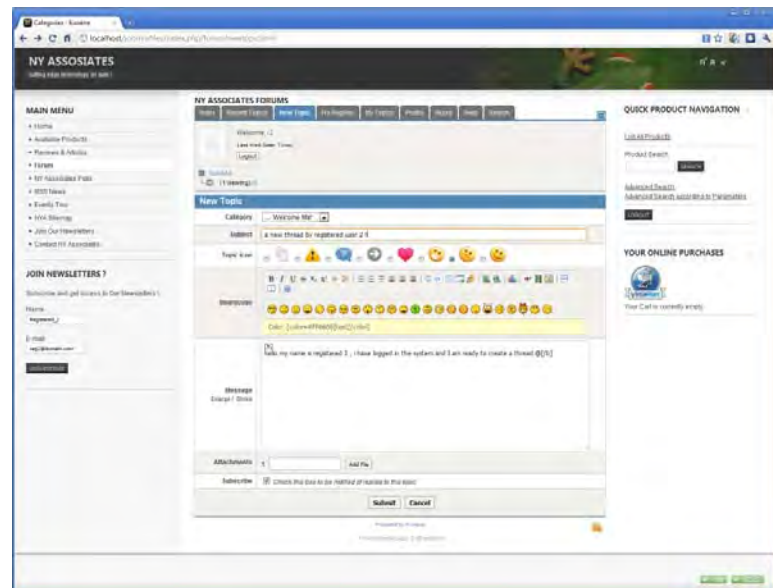
The screenshot provides the evidence that the thread created by the user has successfully been published on the discussion boards.
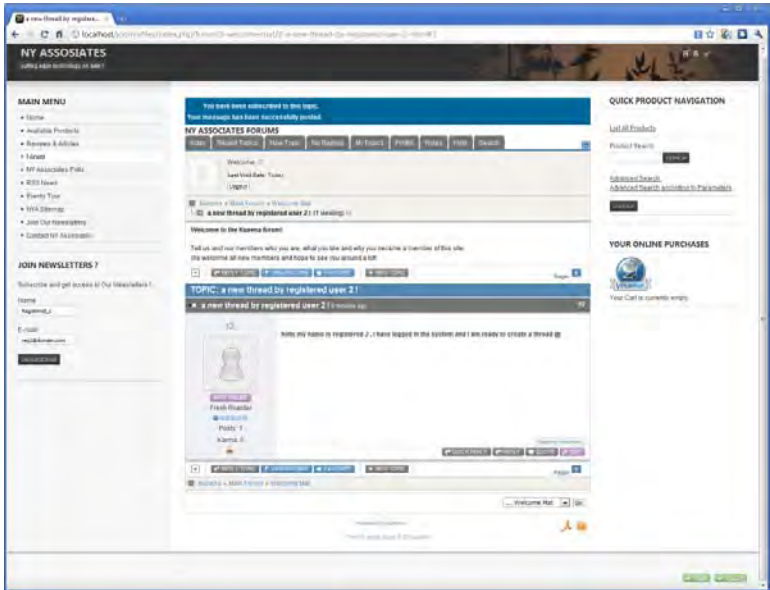
2.1.8. Polls Releases

"Polls" are located on the right sidebar of the portals display page. Not all pages accommodate the poll participation while initially the functionality while this can primarily be found on "Articles & Releases" and generally within pages with similar informative context. From the sidebar users can provide their vote to the system and this could happen only once for each poll subject since the vote is ip-oriented. Additionally the user can display an overview of the voting results from within the sidebar as this is described in the next screenshot.
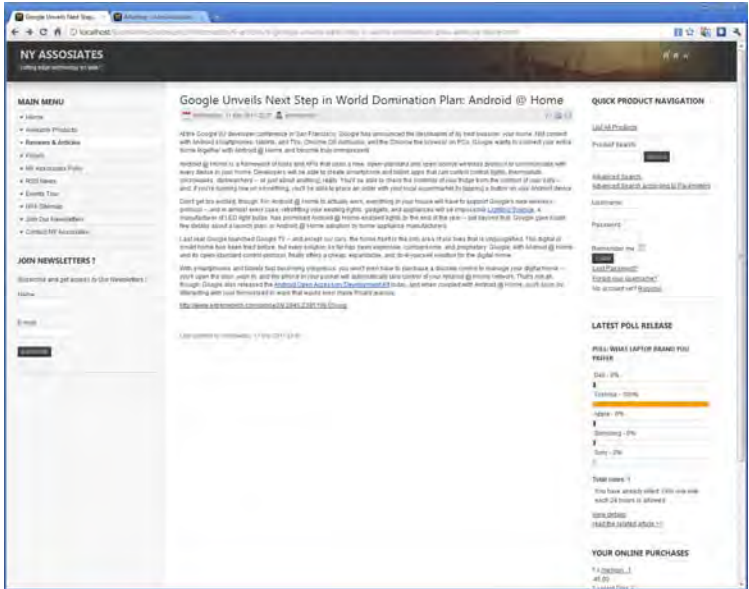
Nevertheless users can move to a standalone page regarding only the polls functions by selecting "NY Associates Polls" button hosted on the navigation menu. The new page that is loaded is constituted exclusively and generates all the voting polls found on the portal and by selecting one of the linkable headers listed may grant access to contents. In the next screenshot we can see that the user has generated the Polls listing context.
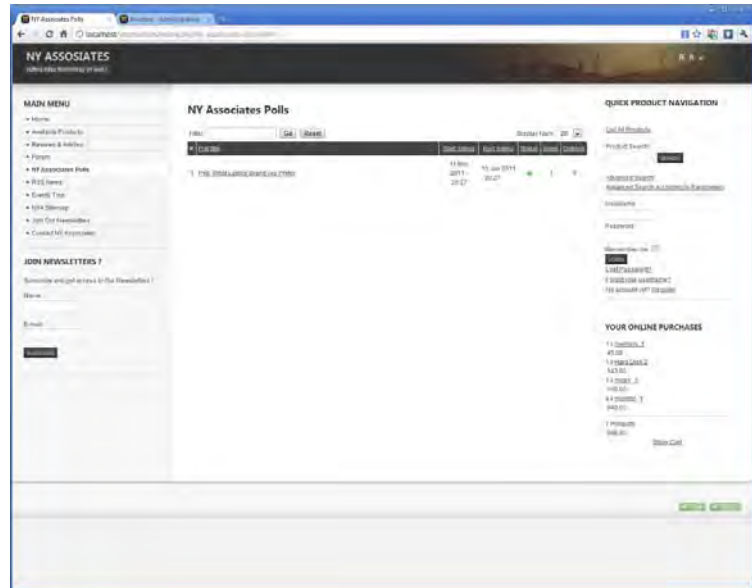
The image demonstrates results for the current voting poll running on the system.
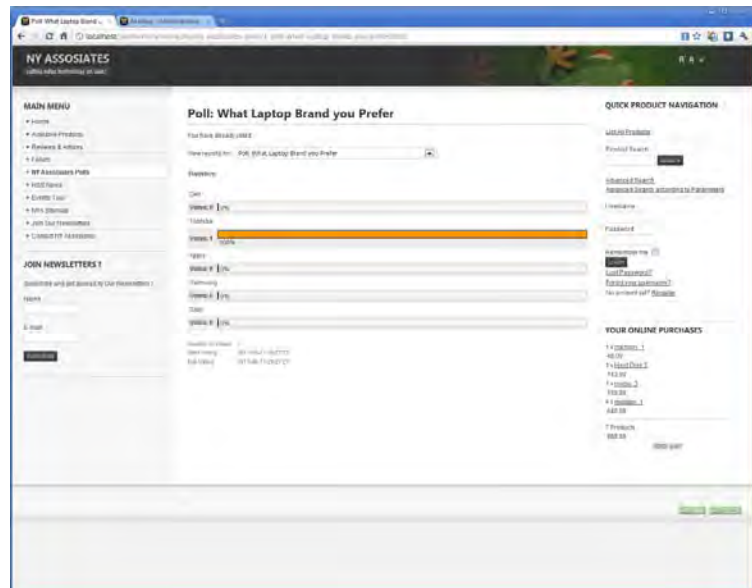
2.1.9. The Portal's Sitemap

A useful guiding sitemap generates function for linking paths of the portal and empowers the users to navigate confidently on the portal, keeping track easily and move to all pages that can be found on the portal. The sitemap page can be accessed by clicking on the "NYA Sitemap" control hosted on the main navigation menu.
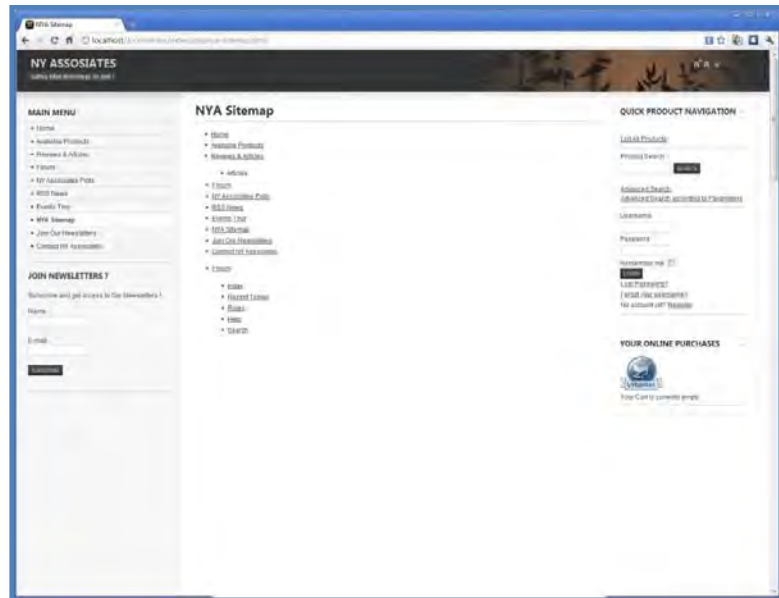
2.1.10. Contact Form

For user's communication with the portal, the main menu enlists a "Contact NY Associates" control button that - as been selected - directs the user to a form display. The user provides identification input and generates email activity to deliver textual messages to the authorized personnel.
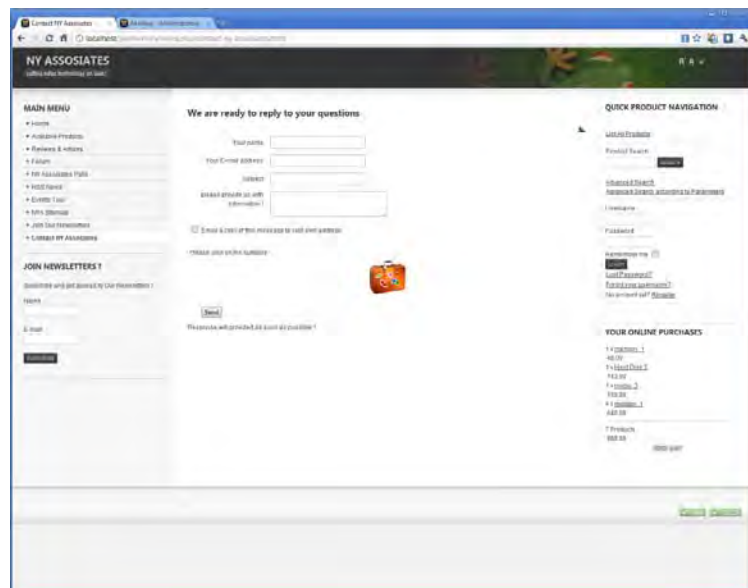
2.2. Administrator functionality

While administrative personnel logs the system there are complement functions generated by the portal enforcing with authorized users to apply maintenance procedures. As some of those we can follow the steps as a authorized user like "editor" interacts with the portal in order to create and publish an article, or to enter the store facilities granting access to multiple resources.

2.2.1. Upload article

On the following screenshot the logged on "editor" user enters the "Articles & Reviews" page and move on to the "Articles" link. Likewise a "public" user, the "editor" displays the list of articles but there is some additional potentiality for him to execute. Next to all articles there is a pencil image next to the article header that delegates with the user's capacity to enter and edit the article. Moreover at the bottom of the page there is a blank paper image that while triggered provide input to the authorized user to enter and create a new article all over from the start.
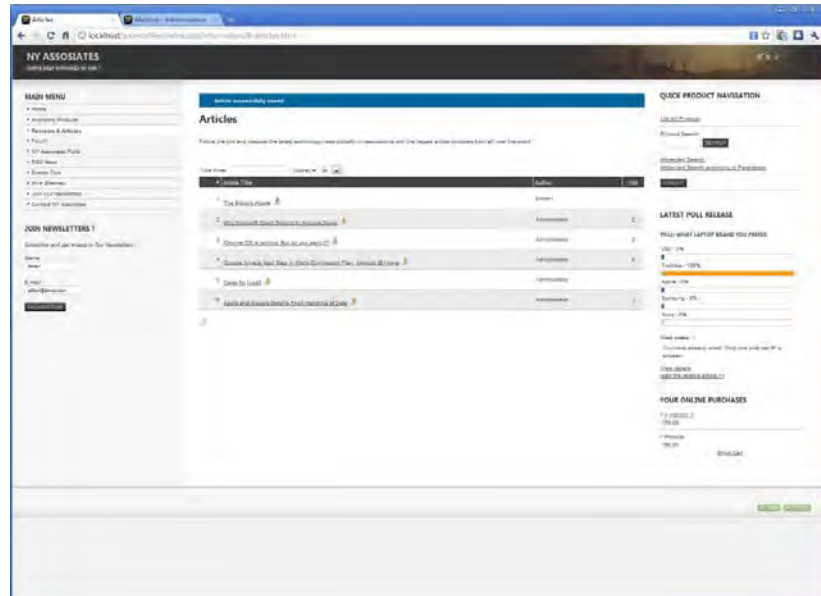
The next step of the "editor" user is to enter the "create new article' page by clicking on the blank paper. The user is redirected to a new page labeled "submit an article" where he maintains all the necessities to carry out a article submission while also deliver it on a visual formatted context. In addition there are build in control function to guide the articles "behavior " on the portal as whether it should be a front page article, or restricted to register users etc.
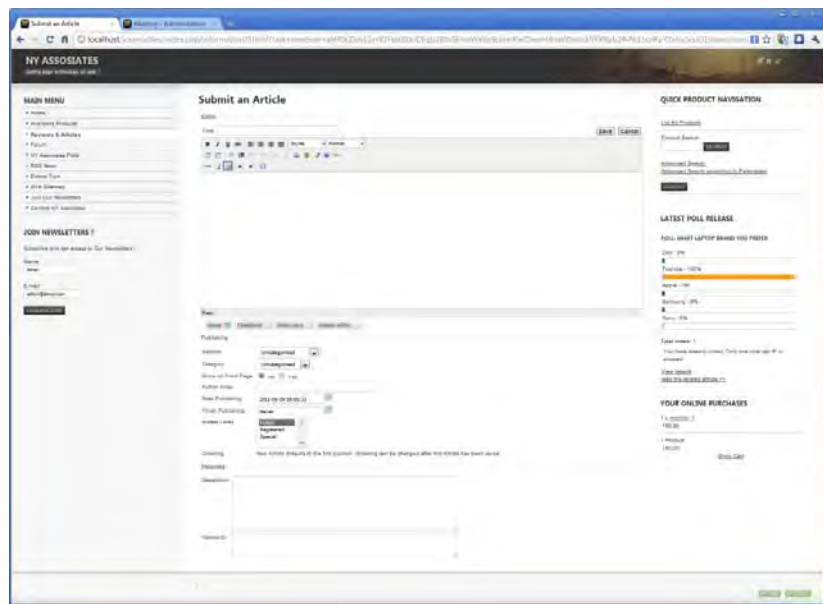
The user provides the textual context on the visual facilities, controls the functional behavior of the articles for publishing and submits a finishing to the system.
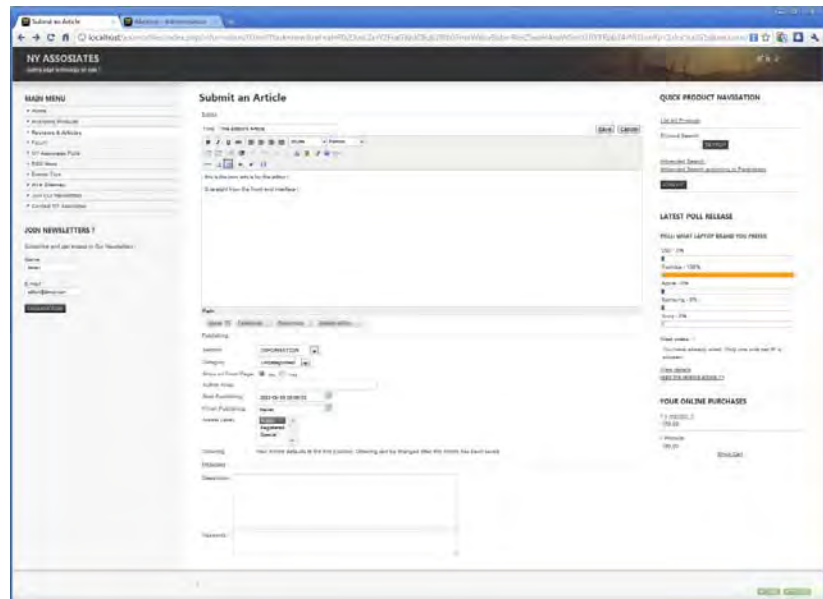
After taking the initial step for the articles construction, the user can see his articles leaving the editing state page. While the only thing that prevents the article from being published is the indication of the pencil image at the top that is signified in blue color.
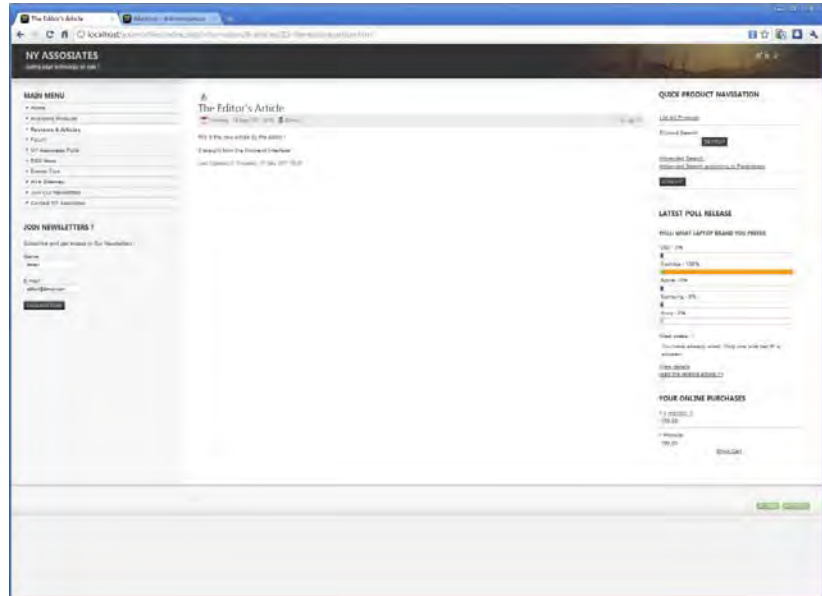
The user moves to the home page and also sees the article on the top of the page, since he has triggered the articles behavior effectively. Nevertheless the article is still signified in blue mode providing an alert to the user that has to be approved by an executive in order to true display on home page.
The only reason that the article is being displayed so far is that the user is still logged on to the system and therefore can preview it. For the case of log out by the same user the article will remain unpublished.
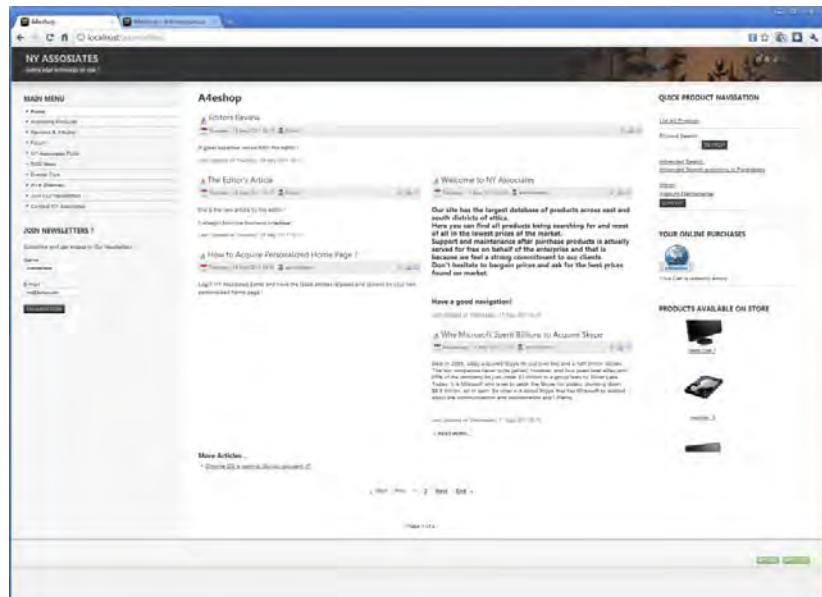
The next steps are the executive's (administrator) steps where entering the portal and the regarded "articles" page he is being displayed with the editor's article that is ready to be published.
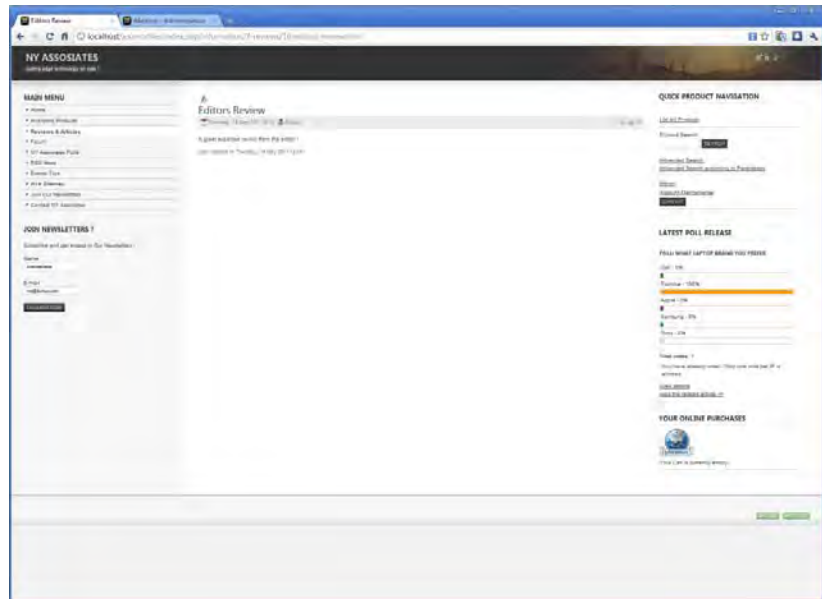

Moving a step further, the administrator enters the "edit mode" of the original article and provides input by approving the article for online publishing using the proper system's controls.
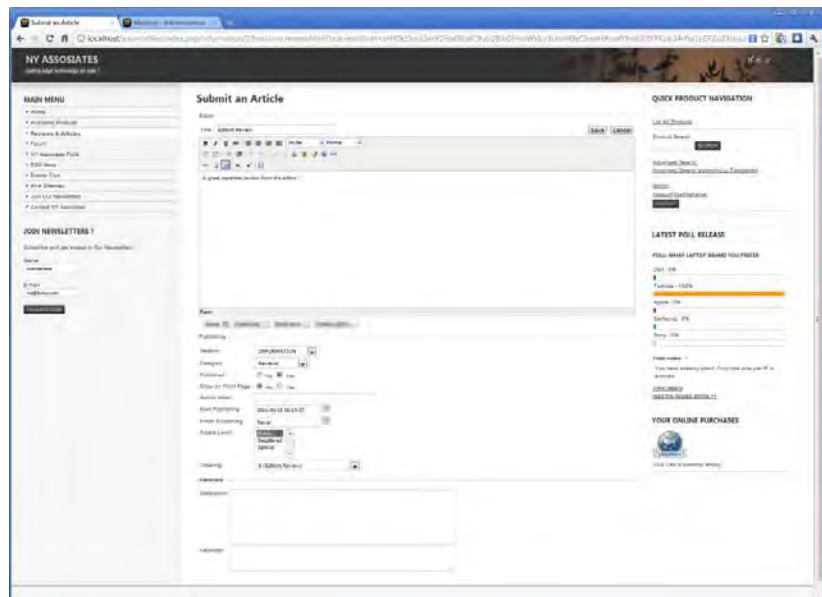
Leaving the "edit mode" and after taking the essential activity, now the articles has escaped the blue pen indication and thus is already published on the front-end of the system, in the home page.

The following screenshot demonstrates the case of a public user (there is no login information on the specific inputs) accessing the Articles listing on the "Articles & Reviews" area.
The articles that the editor has created labeled with a "Editor's Article" is on the top of the list.
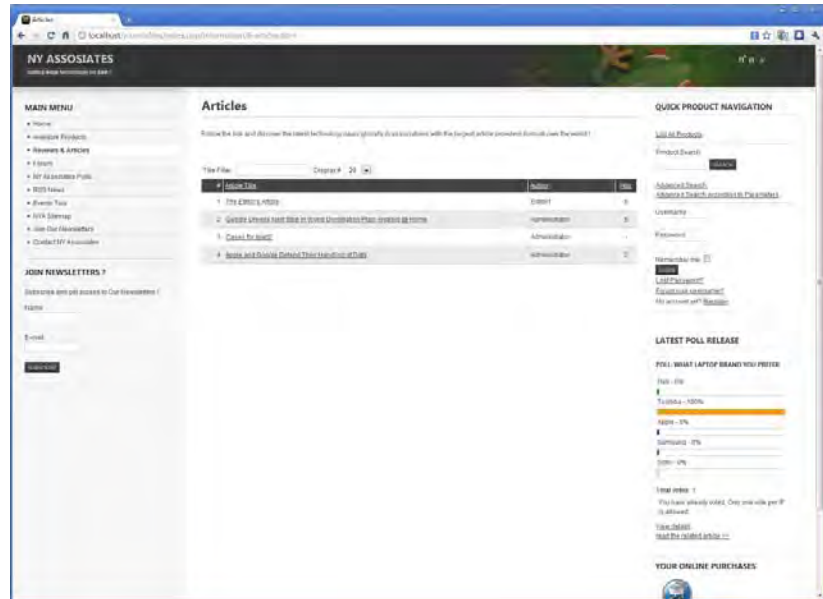

Likewise the article is displayed at the top of the portal's "Home" page as it was previously been assigned as by the "editor" users.
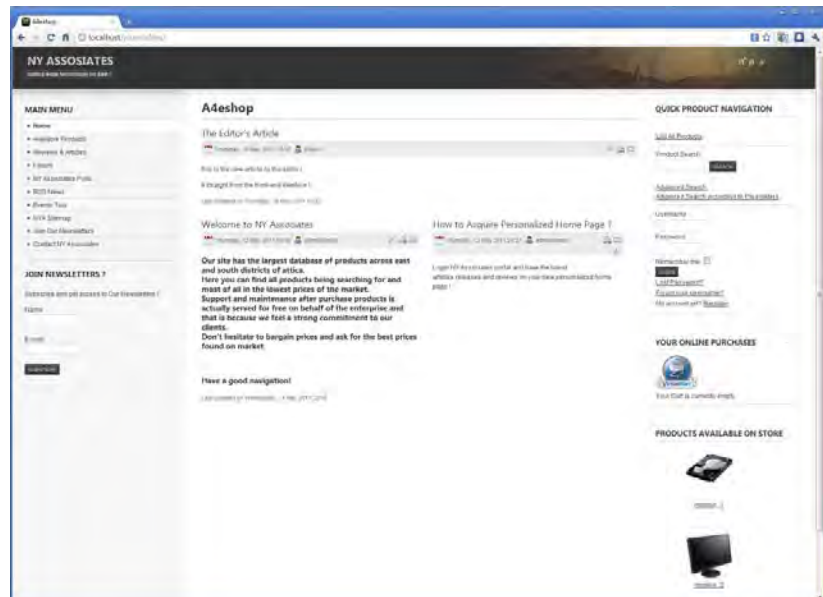
2.2.2. Upload product details

In the following example an authorized, user like the "publisher" user, is demonstrated for granting access to the portal's back-end "store" functions and controls by login to the system on the Home page.

Initially we examine the case where a non-authorized "store" specific user, like the "editor" user, missing the key registration for accessing the "store" back-end control of the portal. On the next screenshot we can see that there is no access for the "editor" user to enter the store.
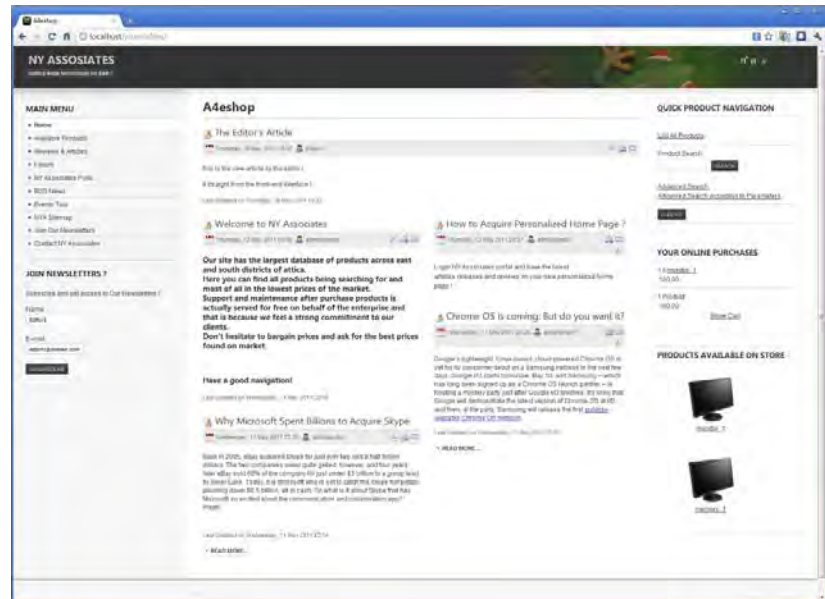
In contrast, an authorized user, like the publisher user assigned the proportional access to edit the store contents, maintains an additional link entry on the right sidebar under the name "Admin".
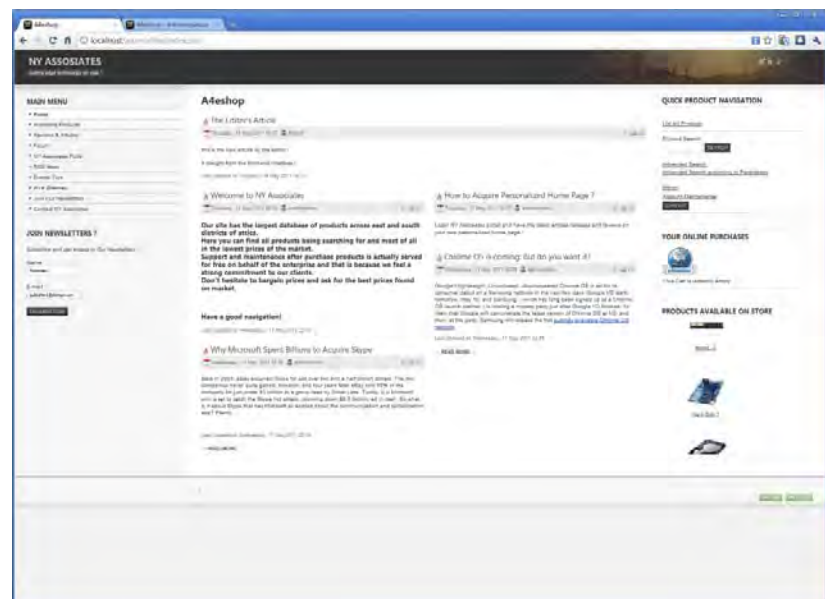
Clicking on the link "Admin" the authorized user is redirected to the "store" control page that delivers him with the potentials to control the front-store on demand.

This interface provides the user with the capacity to apply changes on the store for numerous of different domains, all aligned on the left sidebar of the display.
Those composed of: adding products, make special prices for products, create new categories of products, fold and label with users categories etc.
In addition the "store-admins" can generate reporting facilities of selling products, "hits" for products, users purchases etc.