EngineAPI - DLXS Module

DLXS Workshop August, 2010

What is EngineAPI/DLXS Module?

- EngineAPI is a PHP Framework (Yes, yet another one) developed by WVU Libraries.

- DLXS Module is an EngineAPI Module that provides a PHP front-end to DLXS

Why PHP?

- Ruby & Rails has had stability issues with out applications. Has changed too frequently in the past.

- Perl, couldn't accomplish everything that I wanted to without writing a custom server

- Python, white space formatting caused problems between editors and operating systems.

- Java, 1995 called and wanted their programing language back

- Miva. Not as much community support as PHP.

DLXS Module Provides

- Dreamweaver compatible templates

- Php programming interface

- Staff doesn't need to learn XSLT

- Easier Web2.0 image effects

- Search links embedded

- Mix classes on the same website

- Cross collection searches (coming soon~ish)

- Don't have to relearn where functions are in the DLXS Templates

- Finding Aids 'react faster' (common complaint from researchers)

- Collections can be located on different servers without installing middleware

- Utilizes EngineAPI

What EngineAPI Provides to the DLXS Module

- Templates. Load different templates for different browsers (built in mobile browser detection). Different templates for different pages in the same site. Different Templates for different sites.

- Sophisticated ACLs

- Multiple domain support. Run several domains from the same box with the same install.

- Run multiple versions of EngineAPI on the same or multiple domains.

- Statistics. Engine can track statistics for each image, collection, search, etc ... configurable.

- Much More (Breadcrumb navigation, permissions, metadata entry, file management, email, mysql, form validation, rss, searching, and more ...)

Security

Passed WVU Office of Information Security's Audits, including IBM's AppScan software with 100% score. Only software audited on campus that has passed all of the OIS tests.

Why Run on External Server?

- Lock DLXS middleware down to specific ip address(es), use EngineAPI's access control lists for authentication (mysql, ldap, ip, plain text) or by IP authentication (Only require login when off campus)

- Load balancing and high availability. use the DLXS front end to dynamically hit different DLXS servers.

- Development. Run a development website using production data.

- Integrate Collections and images into existing web sites.

- Additional Security.

Future

- Finish up Finding aid class

- Cross collection searching

- Text class interface

- Code Cleanup.

- DLXS 14 support

- Admin interface so librarians can setup their own metadata collection systems.

http://systems.lib.wvu.edu/engineapi
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