

Motion Browser

Nigel D. Pegram

May 12, 2019

Contents

1	Readme	1
2	Installation	2
3	History	2
3.1	Version 1.0	2
3.2	Version 1.1	2
4	To Do/Planned features	3

1 Readme

Browser-based user interface for the Motion application. Developed by Carlos Ladeira (caladeira@gmail.com), Updated by Nigel D. Pegram (ndpegram@gmail.com). This software is distributed under the GNU public license.

Tested with Motion 4.0

This web page reads the mysql database filled by Motion and output events by day. It creates small thumbnails where you can click to watch the movie file for the same event. You can also delete the events you select.

It's a good interface in case you are running Motion on a computer without monitor/keyboard/mouse, only network!

It is supposed to work with the following motion.conf options set as shown (for better results):

```
pre_capture 8 (works for me with a framerate of 6)
post_capture 8 (ie)
```

```
output_all off
output_normal best (or) first
output_motion off
text_event %Y%m%d%H%M%S
ffmpeg_cap_new on
ffmpeg_video_codec msmpeg4
sql_log_image on
sql_log_snapshot off
sql_log_mpeg on
sql_log_timelapse off
sql_query INSERT ... (I use the default)
mysql_db motion (my database name)
mysql_host localhost
mysql_user ... (the user name i created in MySQL)
mysql_password ... (the password associated with user)
```

2 Installation

Install the files into the appropriate location in your web software's file tree.

Use the following to create your mySQL table.

The directory where you store your motion files must be writeable by the user under which the web software is running. In Ubuntu, for example, this is the `www-data` user. For example, if the directory to which motion is saving the video and image files is `/var/lib/motion`, then you should issue the following (assuming the web user is `www-data`). You will likely need to issue this commands as a superuser.

```
sudo chgrp -R www-data /var/lib/motion
sudo chmod -R g+rw /var/lib/motion
```

3 History

3.1 Version 1.0

20060000 Original Carlos Ladeira version.

3.2 Version 1.1

20060422 Adapted by Nigel Pegram.

- Updated to PHP 7 and mySQL 14

- Adjusted to stream video files rather than download
- Miscellaneous bug fixes.

4 To Do/Planned features

- Update the code to object-oriented format, including separating javascript into separate file.
- Add link to video preview “box” to allow downloading of file, rather than streaming.
- Add button to delete data and files based on user-selected date.
- Building on the above, add settings and code to respond to disk free space falling below a preset level. This should trigger a warning/dialog, which the user can then set a date up to which all files and database rows are deleted. There are a number of possible ways to implement this:
 1. Insert a date into a file which a cron script reads and acts on during low load periods.
 2. Delete from within the web browser (problematic as it will tie up the browser when, presumably, the user will want to interact with it).
 3. Use a hybrid approach. Delete the database rows immediately, but write out the files to delete for later crontab processing. The advantage of this approach is that the items will no longer display in the browser and the interface should remain responsive.

Question: where to save the list of text files? Possible locations are /etc/motion or the files directory. The latter seems preferable. It seems wise to set this as a variable in the config file which defaults to the files directory.