

User Guide

How to create a Custom Component

By SBND Technologies

1) Requirements

Let's say we need a basic functionality that allows the site administrator to publish FAQs. We will need one text field for question and one for answer.

2) Create a component for Control Panel

First, we will create a component for Control Panel. With this component admin user will be able to add data for new questions and their answers.

New component can be created in directory `root/cmp`, but it is a good practice to create directories `/back` and `/front` in `/cmp`.

2.1) Create a php file `root/cmp/back/FAQ.cmp.php`. The sub extension “cmp” is important, it tells the system that this php file is a component.

2.2) Declare class `FAQ` in the new file (the name of the class has to be the same as the file's name) that extends `CmsComponent`.

```
1. class FAQ extends CmsComponent{  
2.     // define the name of the database table.  
3.     public $base = 'faq';  
4. }
```

2.3) Override the method `main()` and declare two component fields. For more information about component fields see *component-fields-options.txt* in the documentation.

```
1. function main(){  
2.     // call parent method for save main functionality.  
3.     parent::main();  
4.  
5.     $this->setField('question', array
```

```

6.  'text' => BASIC_LANGUAGE::init()-
    >get('faq_question'),
7.  'perm' => '*',
8.  'lingual' => true
9.  ));
10.     $this->setField('answer', array(
11.         'text' => BASIC_LANGUAGE::init()-
            >get('faq_answer'),
12.         'perm' => '*'
13.         'formtype' => 'html',
14.         'dbtype' => 'longtext',
15.         'lingual' => true
16.     ));
17.
18.     // (optional. By default is false) start ordering sup
    port
19.     $this->ordering(true);
20. }

```

2.4) Add the component in the Control Panel. Go to *Control Panel(cp) -> System -> Components -> Add* in Control Panel and fill in the fields.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Component' form in the Control Panel. The form is titled 'SYSTEM' and 'You are editing: Components / Add'. It contains the following fields:

- *System Name:** tutorial-faq
- *PHP Class Name:** cmp/back/FAQ (with a [browse] button)
- Public Name:** Tutorial FAQ
- Participate in Admin Menu Group:** ☒ (with a dropdown arrow)
- Parent:** (with a dropdown arrow)

At the bottom of the form are two buttons: **Save** and **Back**.



2.5) Default system List view shows columns for all components fields. We can change this.

```

1. function ActionList(){
2. $this->map('question', BASIC_LANGUAGE::init()-
   >get('faq_question'), 'formater', 'align=left');
3. $this->map('answer', BASIC_LANGUAGE::init()-
   >get('faq_answer'), 'formater', 'width=500', 'align=left'
   );
4.
5. return parent::ActionList();
6. }
7. // We will make and formatter for the column "answer" th
   at will cut the answer length to clear html tags and cut
   to 50
8. // symbols.
9. function formater($val, $name, $row){
10.     if ($name == answer){
11.         $tmp = strip_tags($val);
12.         if(count($tmp) > 50){
13.             return substr($tmp, 0, 50) . ' ...';
14.         }else{
15.             return $tmp;
16.         }
17.     }
18.     return $val;
19. }

```



Done. We have finished the administrative part setup.

3) Create a component for client side

First, we have to create a component that extends the FAQ (the previously created administrative component). We then have to create a template file with specific for the task formatting.

Finally, we need to create a page where the question/answer functionality will be presented.

3.1) Create a php file root/cmp/front/FAQFront.cmp.php

```
1. BASIC::init()->imported("FAQ", "cmp/back")
2. class FAQFront extends FAQ{
3. }
```

3.2) Create a template file in root/themes/your_theme/tpl/faq.tpl.

You can see the path to you site theme in *Control Panel(cp)* -> *System* -> *Settings* -> *SITE_THEME* in Control Panel. For more information about themes see section [How To Use Exception And Mobile Theme](#).

```
1. <div class="faq-container">
2. <ul>
3. <!-- foreach(${rows},k,row,i) -->
4. <li><a href="#id_{$i}">${row.columns.question.label}</a><
  /li>
5. <!-- end -->
```

```

6.</ul>
7.
8.<!-- foreach(${rows},k,row,i) -->
9.<a name="id_${i}"></a><div>
10.    <h3>${row.columns.question.label}</h3>
11.    ${row.columns.answer.label}
12. </div>
13. <!-- end -->
14. <div>

```

3.3) Configure the component to use new template

```

1.
2.function main(){
3.    parent::main();
4.    $this->template_list = "faq.tpl";
5.}

```

3.4) Stop administrative actions and formatting

```

1.function main(){
2.    parent::main();
3.    //$this->delAction('save');
4.    //$this->delAction('add');
5.    //$this->delAction('delete');
6.    $this->delAllActions();
7.
8.    // configure this component to use our template.
9.    $this->template_list = 'faq.tpl';
10.    }
11.    /**
12.     * Override this method to stop answer test formatin
13.     g.
14.     */
15.    function formater($val, $name, $row){
16.        return $val;
17.    }
18.

```

3.5) Open *Control Panel(cp)* -> *System* -> *Components* -> *Add* in Control Panel and fill the fields

The screenshot shows the SBND F&CMS Control Panel interface. On the left is a sidebar menu with options: Menu, system, Pages, Settings, Languages, Templates, Components, Users, and Tutorial FAQ. The 'SYSTEM' tab is selected at the top. Below the tabs, it says 'You are editing: Components / Add'. The main form contains the following fields:

- *System Name:** tutorial-faq-front
- *PHP Class Name:** cmp/faq/FAQFront (with a [browse] button)
- Public Name:** Tutorial Faq Front
- Participate in Admin Menu Group:** ☐ (with a dropdown menu)
- Parent:** (with a dropdown menu)

At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Save' and 'Back'.

3.6) Open *Control Panel(cp)* -> *System* -> *Pages* -> *Add* in Control Panel and create new page

The screenshot shows the SBND F&CMS Control Panel interface. On the left is a sidebar menu with options: Menu, system, Pages, Settings, Languages, Templates, Components, Users, and Tutorial FAQ. The 'SYSTEM' tab is selected at the top. Below the tabs, it says 'You are editing: Pages / Add'. The main form contains the following fields:

- Parent:** (with a dropdown menu)
- *System name:** tutorial-faq
- Public name:** Tutorial FAQ
- Subtitle:** (empty text field)
- Include in menu:** A list box containing 'bottom' and a 'top' button. To the right are buttons for moving items: >>>, >>, <<, and <<<.
- Additional menu image 1:** A field with a 'Choose File' button and the text 'No file chosen'.
- Additional menu image 2:** A field with a 'Choose File' button and the text 'No file chosen'.

Content

Paragraph Font Family Font Size

*Permalink

Open in

Open in - settings

META Key

META Description

Component Name

Show in language version ☐ No ☒ Yes

[Save](#) [Back](#)

SBND F&CMS

SYSTEM TUTORIAL FAQ

You are editing: Pages /

Filter Data

[Add](#) [Delete](#) [Menu Positions](#)

System name	Title	Target	Component Name	Position	Show in language version
home	Home	self		top	English
tutorial-faq	Tutorial FAQ	self	tutorial-faq-front	top	English

Show: 10 | 20 | 50 | 100 | All

[Add](#) [Delete](#) [Menu Positions](#)

We are done. When you open the page in client side you will see the FAQ functionality and UI.

Tutorial FAQ

Tutorial FAQ

- [How to create component](#)
- [How to extend default control panels components](#)

How to create component

The short answer is: **EASY** :)

How to extend default control panels components

First you have to know the components id. You can see this information in section "**system-component-names.txt**".

If you know "**How to create component**" you can extend all control panel interfaces too easy.