

Assignment 2 ITMD 562 README

This document is the README for the second assignment of the class ITMD 562, Web Site App Development. The objective of this assignment was to develop a website using PHP for a marketing company that would meet a series of required functionalities, which were divided between a normal user (a client) and an admin (employees of the marketing company).

The contents of this submission are divided in a series of folder, all of them contained in the “src” folder. The structure is as follows:

- Administration/
 - admin.php
- Content/
 - {Folders of the different companies}
- Include/
 - assignment2_common.php
 - common.php (basic HTML structure for the pages)
 - databasefunctions.php
 - login.php
 - logout.php
 - upload.php
- css/
 - bootstrap.css
 - justified-nav.css
- index.php

Administration

The basic functionality of the administration part of the application allows an employee of MiddleClik (the marketing company) to log in and upload marketing material to the different clients of the company. To do so, the admin.php script shows a log in form that, when submitted, makes use of the login.php script in the Include folder to check if the username and password entered are correct, and if the user is an employee of MiddleClik. To do that, it needs to connect to the database provided in the assignment, and the functions to do so are in the databasefunctions.php script. After trying to retrieve the user, it check if indeed a user was retrieved or not. If it wasn't, the information entered in the log in form is not correct, and a message would appear. If the user is retrieved, the application save the username and the company of the user in the \$_SESSION variable. If the user company is different than MiddleClik, the user would be redirected to the index.php script, as he doesn't have permission to access the administration tool. The function mysql_real_escape_string is used to avoid SQL injections.

If the user is indeed an employee of MiddleClik, a form will be shown where the admin can upload an html snippet or an image, for a particular company and for a particular marketing campaign. This form is printed making use of the uploadForm() function found in the assignment2_common.php

script. These files will be saved in the Content folder, in a path like Content/{company}/{marketing campaign}.html for the html snippets ,and the same for the images, which will maintain their original extension. As part of the graduate extension, the admin will be able to upload a csv file too, but only one per company, which will be saved as Content/{company}/marketing.csv. The upload of the different files is done through the upload.php script in the Include folder, where there are a series of checks to verify that the process is completed correctly. For example, an error will be shown if the admin tries to submit the form without selecting neither an image, a csv nor an html snippet, or if he tries to upload as an image a file that is not an image, or as a csv file something that is not a csv file. It also eliminates characters not valid for a folder or file name from the company and the marketing campaign names.

Admins are also able to visit the index.php page to see the material uploaded for their own company, MiddleClik. Whenever a regular user or an admin are logged in, in place of the log in form there is a button that allows the user to log out of their account, using the logout.php script found in the Include folder.

User

The user side of the web site is similar to the administration side. There is a log in form in the upper right corner of the admin.php page. The process of the log in is the same as for the admin part, but when a user is logged in, the website will show the contents of the folder belonging to the company the user is part of; first the csv file (if there is one), then the html snippets (as iframes) and finally the images. All elements show the campaign name to which they belong. Those elements are printed using functions located in the assignment2_common.php script. If there are no elements for any of the three possible kind of files, the header for that section is not printed. Three new links appear in the navigation bar in the top of the site, letting the user go directly to the csv, html snippets or images sections.

If a logged in regular user (not an admin) tries to access the administration part of the application, he would be redirected to the index.php page.

Common.php

Both the admin.php and the index.php script use the common.php script to write the basic structure of the web pages. They also include the session_start() and the ob_start() / ob_end_flush() functions required for the application to work properly.

Design

For the styling of the site a template using bootstrap has been chosen, as it provides a good interface for the requirements of the assignment. The attached bootstrap.css and justified-nav.css files included in the css folder provide the styling rules followed by the different sites of the application.