

# Getting Started With PHAkt

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## Overview

In the **Getting Started with PHAkt** tutorial, you will use PHAkt to create an ADODB database connection in Dreamweaver MX. The PHAkt ADODB connection will allow you to connect to all common database models, whereas Dreamweaver alone only supports MySQL. In further tutorials you will become familiar with additional features of PHAkt and their use in building a dynamic site.

## About This Software

PHAkt is a server model for Macromedia Dreamweaver MX and 2004, allowing PHP generation using the same techniques as when developing ASP/JSP/ColdFusion. It is a better alternative to the PHP\_MySQL server model because it can connect to other databases: PostgreSQL, Access, MsSQL server, Oracle, DB2.

To enable PHAkt, make sure to select **PHP\_ADODB** as the **Testing Server** for your site.

## What's Inside?

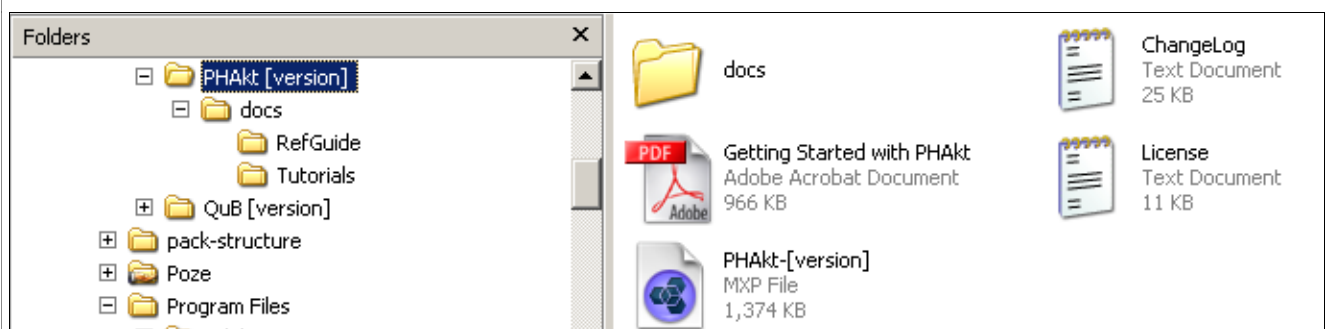


Figure 1 PHAkt release folders

The installation kit includes a root folder and one sub folder. The root folder is where you will find the PHAkt [version] .mxp file for installation. Also in the root folder is the Getting Started with PHAkt tutorial, and a copy of the ownership license. Here is what the sub folders contain:

### doc

The doc folder has six sub folders. The sub folders contain a wealth of information about your new software and how it works.

- **Refguide**

The **Refguide** folder contains the **PHAkt 2 MX Quick Reference Manual** and an SQL file. The manual provides instructions for quickly implementing all PHAkt2 features. The features are demonstrated in a sample application with a search function, login system, and insert, update, and delete pages. The finished application can be found in the archive file in the **Refguide** folder.

- **Tutorials**

The files in the tutorials folder help you build a dynamic website using PHAkt. The folder contains a pdf tutorial, and two SQL files to set up a sample database. One SQL file is for MySQL, and the other for PostgreSQL.

### Building a dynamic website with Dreamweaver MX and PHAkt

In this tutorial you will create a password protected dynamic site allowing contact management for a client's employees. The tutorial demonstrates how Dreamweaver MX can be used to create database driven websites using PostgreSQL as database and PHP as the scripting language.

## Installing PHAkt

The installation procedure for PHAkt is very simple.

1. Under the root folder, you will find a **PHAkt -[version].mxd** file.
2. Double click this file. The Macromedia Extension Manager will automatically begin installing the extension.

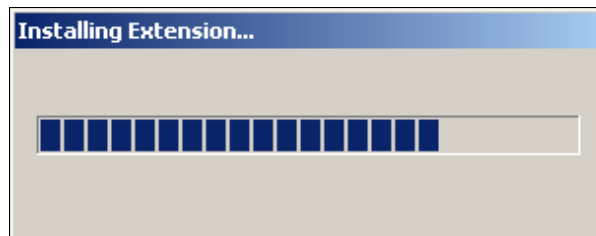


Figure 2 Extension Manager Installation Progress

3. A Macromedia disclaimer will appear. If you agree to the terms click the “Accept” button.

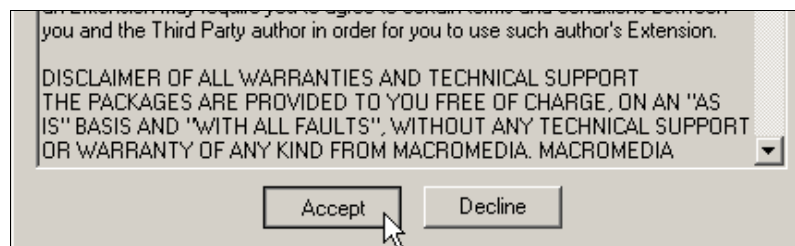


Figure 4 Macromedia Disclaimer

4. When the Extension Manager finishes installing (usually just a few seconds), a dialog box will appear notifying you that the installation is complete.

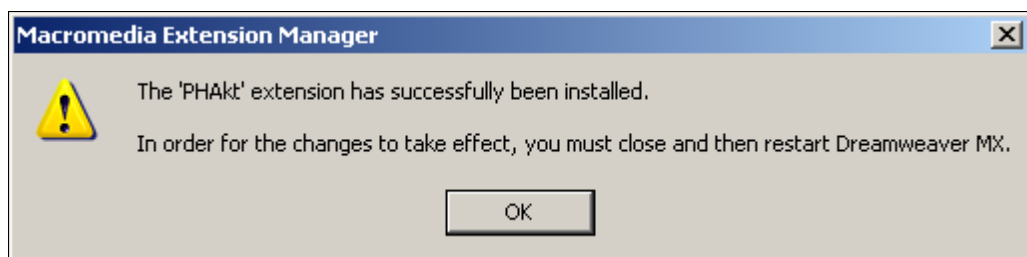


Figure 3 Installation Success

5. If you have Macromedia Dreamweaver open, you must close it then reopen it for the PHAkt elements to appear.

## Upgrading PHAkt

To upgrade PHAkt, complete the uninstalling procedure in **Chapter 6**. Once the uninstall finishes, install the new .mxd file using the instructions in **Chapter 4**.

## Uninstalling PHAkt

To uninstall PHAkt you must :

1. Open the **Macromedia Extensions Manager**.
2. In the Extensions Manager, select PHAkt.

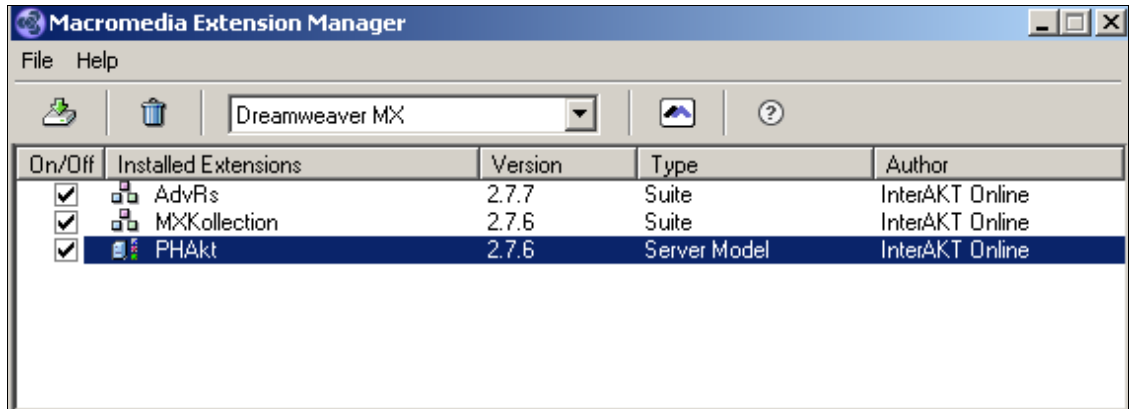


Figure 4 Macromedia Extension Manager

3. Click the **Remove Extension** icon (garbage can).



Figure 5 Remove extension icon

4. After choosing to remove the extension, a dialog box appears asking you to confirm the removal. Click **Yes**.

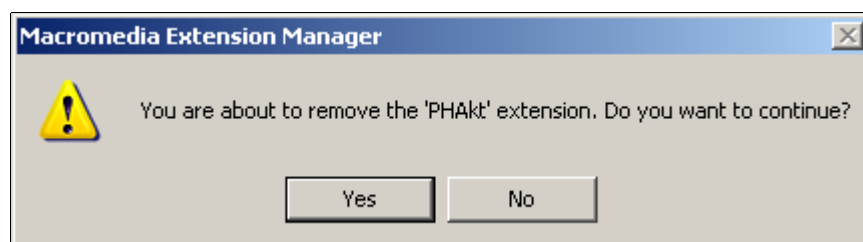


Figure 6 Confirmation window

5. Once you confirm, a window will appear displaying the removal progress.

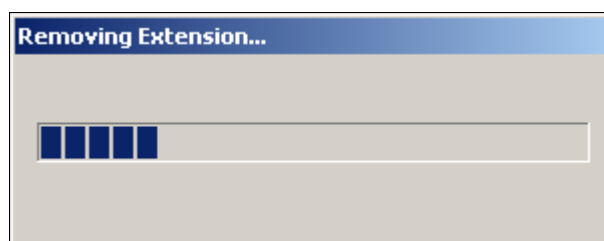
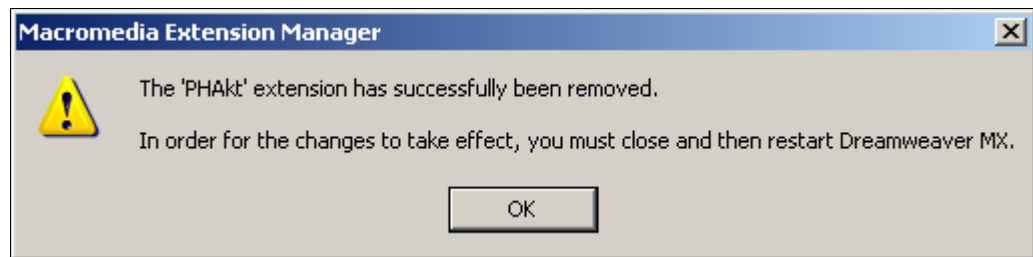


Figure 7 Removal progress

- When the Extension Manager finishes uninstalling, a dialog box will appear to notify you that the removal is complete.



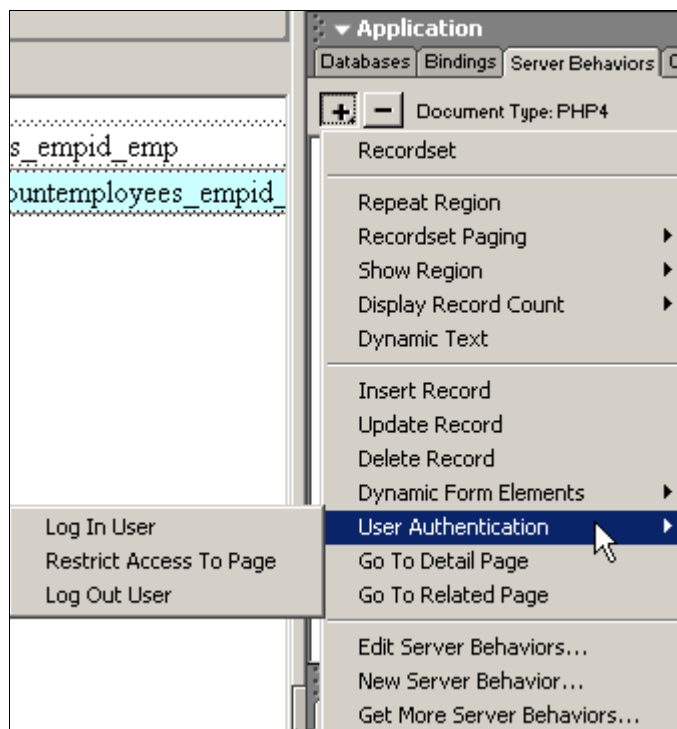
*Figure 8 Removal Success*

- If you have Macromedia Dreamweaver open, you must close it then reopen it for the PHAkt elements to be removed from the interface

## Exploring PHAkt

### Workspace Orientation

The new PHAkt elements will appear in the **Server Behaviors** tab of the **Application** panel. The new server behaviors, **User Authentication**, **Go To Detail Page**, and **Go To Related Page**, can be seen in the image below:



*Figure 9 PHAkt Server Behaviors*

These new Server Behaviors are covered thoroughly in other PHAkt documents. Your release folder contains a **Quick Reference Guide** and a **Building a dynamic website with Dreamweaver MX and Phakt** tutorial which cover these elements.

## Application Scenario

By default, Dreamweaver alone only allows database connections using MySQL. In this tutorial, you will set up your connection using ADODB. The ADODB connection provided by PHAkt will allow to connect to 19 different database models giving you much more flexibility in your Dreamweaver development.

## Site Configuration

Open Macromedia Dreamweaver MX. Using the “New Site” option from the “Site” menu, create a new site named “phaktStarted.” Configure your site following the next three steps.

### Configuring the Local Info section:

The Local Information section is where you define the location where you store all site files before uploading them to the server.

**Note**

For the site configuration section, you must provide your own settings. The following list is just an example.

- **Site Name:** phaktStarted
- **Local Root Folder:** C:\Work\PHAkt\MySQL\phaktStarted\
- **Refresh Local File List Automatically:** Checked
- **Default Images Folder:** You can either enter the name of your images folder, or leave this blank
- **HTTP address:** <http://work.iakt.ro/test/gbu/phaktStarted>
- **Cache:** enabled

### Configuring the Remote Info section:

- **Access:** Local/Network
- **Remote Folder:** W:\test\gbu\phaktStarted\
- **Refresh Remote File List Automatically:** checked
- **Automatically upload files to the server on save:** checked

### Configuring the Testing Server section:

- **Server Model:** You must provide your own server model. In this tutorial, PHP\_MySQL was used.
- **Access:** Local/Network
- **Testing Server Folder:** W:\test\gbu\phaktStarted\
- **Refresh Remote File List Automatically:** Checked

**URL Prefix:** <http://work.iakt.ro/test/gbu/PHAktStarted>

## Using PHAkt

In this section you will use PHAkt to set up an ADODB connection.

1. Create a new page by right-clicking the site folder, and selecting the **New File** option.

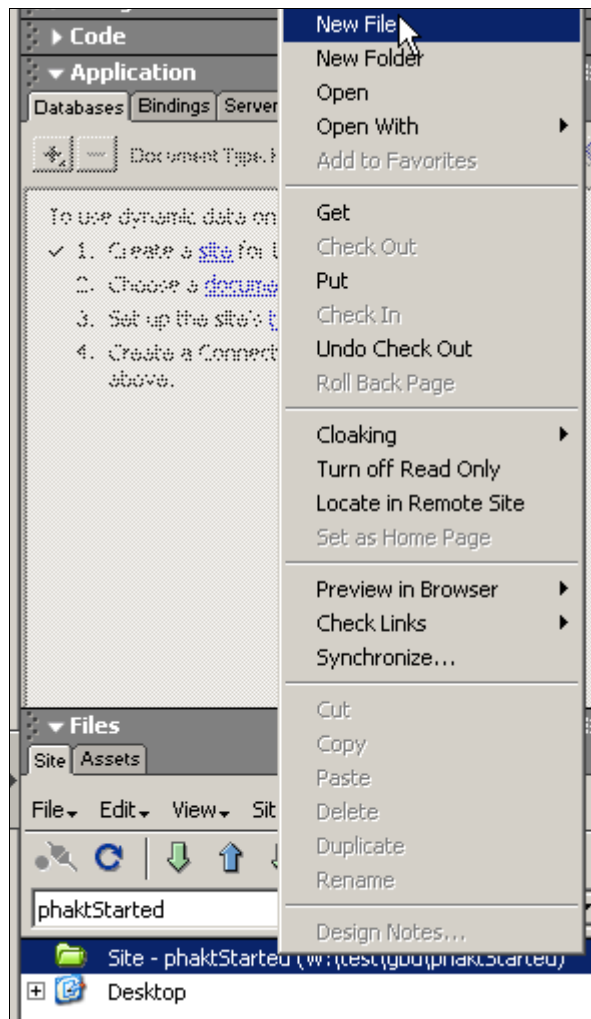
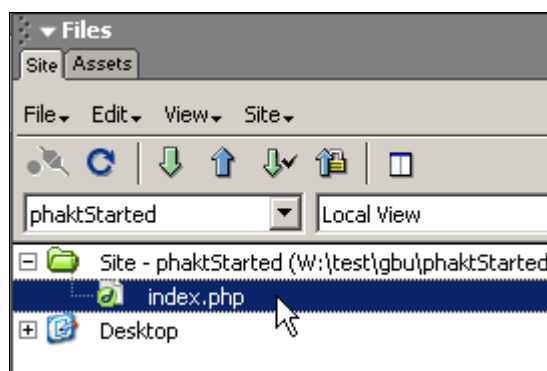


Figure 10 Creating a new file

2. Name the file `index.php/index.cfm/index.asp`
3. Double click on the file to open it.



4. In the **Application** panel, select the **Databases** tab.
5. Click the plus sign, "+", and select **ADODB Connection**.

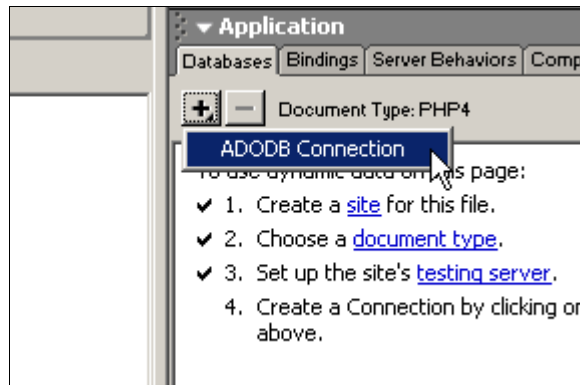


Figure 11 Creating an ADODB connection

6. You should see a configuration window like the one below:

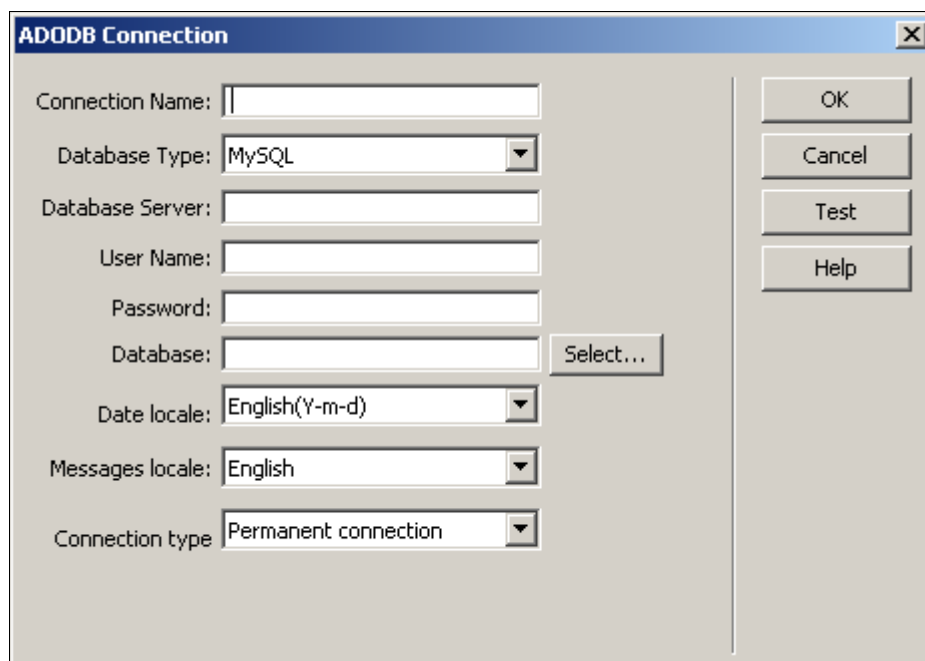


Figure 12 Configuring the connection

7. In the **Database Type:** field, you will notice that the drop down contains all common database types as shown below:



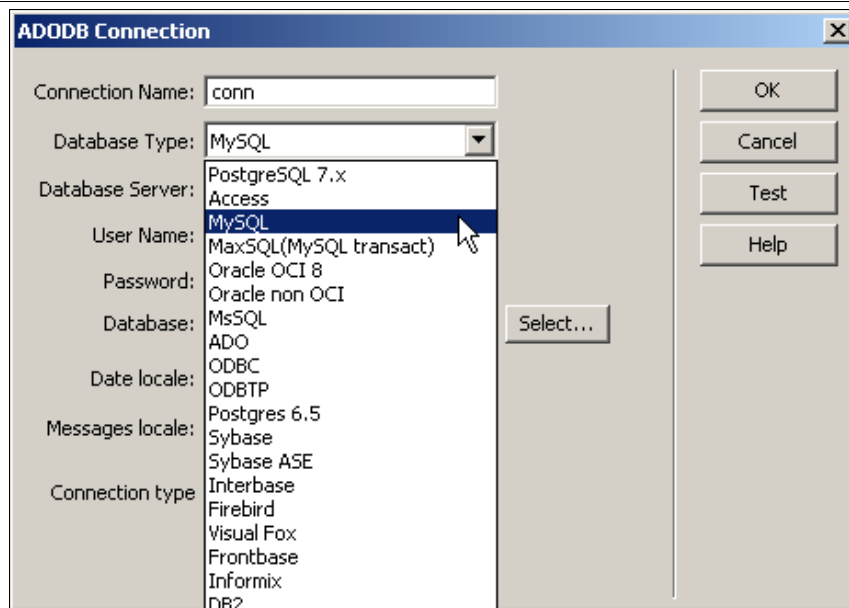


Figure 13 Available DB types

8. For this tutorial the configuration should be similar to the one below:

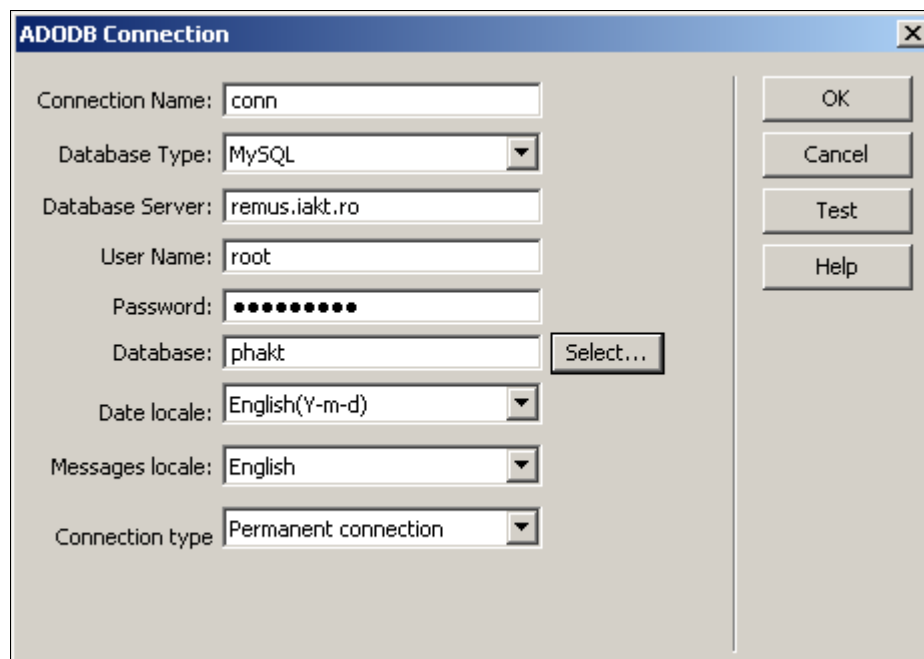


Figure 14 Sample Configuration

9. Click OK. The new connection should appear under the **Databases** tab.

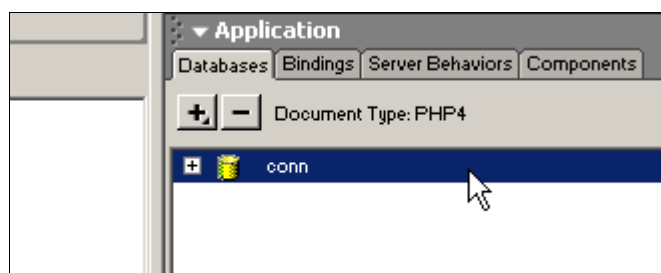


Figure 15 Finished connection

Congratulations on finishing the **Getting Started with PHAkt** tutorial. Now that you've set up your the connection, you can learn more about PHAkt with our other tutorials included in your release package. The package contains a Quick Reference guide, and a tutorial for building a dynamic site with Dreamweaver and PHAkt. For more information, see the next chapter, or visit our website at <http://www.interaktonline.com/Products/Free-Products/PHAkt/Overview/>.

## Resources

Now that you have been introduced to PHAkt, you can move on to the more specific tutorials for additional features of the software.

Included in your installation package are two additional tutorials which provide a more in depth look at PHAkt.

- **Building a dynamic website with Dreamweaver MX and PHAkt**

In this tutorial, we will create a password protected dynamic site that will allow contact management for a client's employees. This tutorial will demonstrate how Dreamweaver MX can be used to create database driven websites, using PostgreSQL as database and PHP as the scripting language.

- **Quick Reference Guide**

This tutorial will provide the instructions necessary to create a small dynamic web application which contains a search function, a login system, a data query, an insert, a delete and an update page. All is presented as a small project in ten steps. The web application will manipulate an employee list, and you will find the finished application in the attached archive.

By using these tutorials, you will be able to create complex dynamic sites in very little time, and without writing any code. Enjoy using PHAkt, and let us know how you find our products and tutorials by e-mailing [products@interaktonline.com](mailto:products@interaktonline.com).