The new Tiki infrastructure for improving bug reporting and solving

FOSDEM 2014, wikis devRoom, February 2nd, Brussels

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Document also available at: http://tiki.org/Presentations
The wiki way of writing software

- Combination CMS + Wiki + Groupware +++
- All-in-one codebase
- **The Wiki way of writing software**
- Lots of features, but no duplication
- 274 code committers since 2002. “This is one of the largest open-source teams in the world, and is in the top 2% of all project teams on Ohloh.”
  source: http://www.ohloh.net/p/tikiwiki/factoids/
- Scheduled releases (twice per year)
  - LTS every 3 releases
- 1 million+ downloads so far
- Translated into 40+ languages
- 1000+ pages of documentation
- Runs on standard PHP/MySQL making web hosting easy and inexpensive
- Over a **million** lines of code (including 3rd party libraries such as jQuery, Smarty and Zend Framework)
- Open Source (LGPL)
- A new code commit **every two hours**
- But mostly…
Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware

2/3 hundreds of built-in features

The Open Source Web application with the most built-in features. There are so many, we had to add a search engine!

Other popular apps have a different model: small core + loads of functionality in 3rd party add-ons.

• Over 1000 settings/options in the admin panel!
• **Offers benefits**
  
  • Tons of features, without duplication, excellent code re-use and code review, more collaboration, tight integration, easy upgrades, excellent interaction between features, etc.
  
  • Permits huge changes between versions *because* we don’t have to worry about breaking 3rd party extensions.

• **But does bring challenges**

  • Huge code base to maintain.
  
  • Admin panels
    
    • hundreds of features
    
    • with a total of over 1000 settings/options! (we had to add a search!)

  • *How do you reproduce a user's precise configuration?*
Where we started this

This project was started during the April 2013 Ottawa TikiFest.

Alexander Mette

Pascal St-Jean

Jean-Marc Libs

Nelson Ko
Why we started this

This project was started during the April 2013 Ottawa TikiFest.

We pondered ways of improving Tiki

• Improve code quality
  • Code source quality
    This is handled through a continuous integration server running jenkins which has been running for years (off topic)
  • Better coders & more coders
    We are as open as we can possibly be (off topic)

• Catch regressions
  • Unit testing and selenium infrastructure
    This is another ongoing project (work in progress, off topic)

• Improve debugging
  • We already have had a bug tracker for ages, but too many bugs stay unresolved because they are not understood or not reproduced by the volunteer developers.
  • So we started this new project …
Welcome to the Tiki demo server

Here are the latest Tiki versions running. You can test Tiki with the following login:
User: admin
Password: 12345

Simple, he! :-)  

More info at tiki.org

Have fun!  
The Tiki community

Turn to the Tiki way of life!

HINT! If you try several tiki versions and run into trouble, check your demo.tiki.org cookies and delete them!

If the login box is not visible, just visit /tiki-login_scr.php for the appropriate domain.

There are other demo sites at info.tiki.org/Demo

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Objectives

• To facilitate bug reporting and solving
  It can be quite time consuming to read and understand some of the bug reports (They are often edge cases). Experience shows that if you can demonstrate a bug (and for a regression, pinpoint which commit introduces it), things can get fixed quickly. Even better is to demonstrate the issue with data & all on a server which offers SSH (ideally with debug tools). Or that devs can easily dump the data.

• Help with Bug triages
  Being able tell users that bugs that can be repeated on show will have a higher chance of being resolved. If the user takes the time to help us, then we will take the time to thank them by evaluating the bug clearly demonstrated by the user.

• Releases
  Not only will show.tiki.org help external users but can become a valuable tool for the community especially during release times.
Early requirements

• We could not be sure that it would be useful enough that the time spent on it would not be wasted, and we did not have a lot of workforce dedicated to the project.

• So we have started with minimal requirements to get version v1 running as soon as possible.

• The "simplest thing that could possibly work".
For developers

• Installation reports

• Availability of dumps. Possibility of reproducing a local copy

• Communication with end-users
We drafted a whole user story for user john :
http://dev.tiki.org/show.tiki.org+Overview#User_story

**Summary**

- John starts on a page in the existing development community server
- John fills in the details of his bug report
- John fills a Tiki instance creation form (Tiki version)
- John is notified when the instance is created
- John can create snapshots and upgrade the instance

- Buttons allow developers to dump source and database

- The bug tracker item has a link to the Tiki instance
Make a wish

Subject: I wish to demonstrate show.tiki.org for FOSDEM 2014

Feature: Community projects

Version: 12.x

Description: Please ignore. This is not actually a bug or feature request.
Make a wish - thank you

Click on the icon to stay up to date on the progress of your bug

Don't forget to click on the watch icon. This will help you stay up to date on the progress of your bug.

Thank you for submitting the following bug

- I wish to demonstrate show.tiki.org for FOSDEM 2014

Do you code? Maybe you could commit your fix directly? [How to get commit access]

Tips on getting your bug solved faster

- **TIP** - Reproduce your bug using our feature called Tiki Show. Click here to reproduce your bug now
- **TIP** - Demonstrate your bug using Tiki Capture. Click here to demo your bug now
- **TIP** - Bookmark the following URL: [http://dev.tiki.org/item5119](http://dev.tiki.org/item5119). This will allow you to return and edit your bug report.
- **TIP** - Click on the EYE Icon in the top right corner. Following your bug will help you stay up to date on progress.
the progress of your bug

Don't forget to click on the watch icon. This will help you stay up to date on the progress of your bug.

Create a Tiki Show Instance and reproduce the following bug:

- I wish to demonstrate show.tiki.org for FOSDEM 2014

Please demonstrate your bug on show.tiki.org

To help developers solve the bug, we kindly request that you demonstrate your bug on a show.tiki.org instance. To start, simply select a version and click on "Create show.tiki.org instance". Once the instance is ready (in a minute or two), as indicated in the status window below, you can then access that instance, login (the initial admin username/password is "admin") and configure the Tiki to demonstrate your bug. Priority will be given to bugs that have been demonstrated on show.tiki.org.

Version: 12.x ▼ Create show.tiki.org instance

Tips on getting your bug solved faster

- TIP - Reproduce your bug using our feature called Tiki Show. Click here to reproduce your bug now
- TIP - Demonstrate your bug using Tiki JCapture. Click here to demo your bug now
Create a Tiki Show Instance and reproduce the following bug:

- I wish to demonstrate show.tiki.org for FOSDEM 2014

This bug has been demonstrated on show.tiki.org

Accessing the Tiki Instance that demonstrates this bug

The URL for the show.tiki.org instance that demonstrates this bug is at: http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org. Note that if you get a popup asking for a username/password, please just enter "show" and "show". This is different from the initial login and password for a new Tiki which is "admin" and "admin".

The install log is at http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org/infc.txt

Snapshots

Snapshots are database dumps of the configuration that developers can download for debugging. Once you have reproduced your bug on the show.tiki.org instance, create a snapshot that can then be downloaded by developers for further investigation.

Snapshots can be accessed at http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org/snapshots/. Note that if you get a popup asking for a username/password, please just enter "show" and "show".

Create new snapshot

Destroy this show.tiki.org instance
Reset password to 12345

Multiple new comments, including
1. Thank you
2. See the doc page
3. lucky man :-) 
4. It works!!
5. How to update
6. how to update?
7. Is unified index on?
8. Thank you
9. Idea for workaround
10. All for nought

Mobile

Switch to mobile site

Keywords

The following is a list of keywords that should serve as hubs for navigation within the Tiki development and should
This seemingly pointless step serves to make the whole setup useless to spammers.
Welcome to the Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware installation walkthrough. This is page 6/7.

---

**HomePage**

**Congratulations**

This is the default homepage for your Tiki. If you are seeing this page, your installation was successful.

You can change this page after logging in. Please review the wiki syntax for editing details.

**Get started.**

To begin configuring your site:

1. Log in with your newly created password.
2. Manually Enable specific Tiki features that you didn't enable with the Admin wizard.
3. Run Tiki Profiles to quickly get up and running.
4. Run the User Wizard to set up the main preferences for your user.

**Need help?**

For more information:

- Learn more about Tiki.
- Get help, including the official documentation and support forums.
- Join the Tiki community.
This Tiki instance was created on the Tiki show community website
Creation date: 2014-01-30 02:53:15
Version: 12.x
Related to Wish: http://dev.tiki.org/item5119
Created as http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org/
Installation log: http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org/install_log.txt
This information is also kept here: http://jyhem-9952-5119.show.tikiwiki.org/info.txt

===== Instance History =====
== Thu Jan 30 03:53:15 CET 2014 TIM action: CREATE
Path: .
URL: https://svn.code.sf.net/p/tikiwiki/code/branches/12.x
Repository Root: https://svn.code.sf.net/p/tikiwiki/code
Repository UUID: b456876b-0849-0410-b77d-98878d47e9d5
Revision: 49632
Node Kind: directory
Schedule: normal
Last Changed Author: jonnybradley
Last Changed Rev: 49628
Last Changed Date: 2014-01-29 18:45:46 +0100 (Wed, 29 Jan 2014)
Technical infrastructure communication

- Secure communication between the bug tracker on the Tiki community server and the show.tiki.org server
  - The show.tiki.org server is remotely piloted from dev.tiki.org.
  - We pass arguments to a restricted shell account
    `/etc/passwd → ctrl:x:1000:1000::/home/ctrl:/usr/local/sbin/tim-ssh`
    - Disable MOTD
      `sudo touch /home/ctrl/.hushlogin`
  - RSA key pair
    `ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096`
    `ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub someone@show.tiki.org`

- Parameters
  - Set of instructions
    `ssh ctrl@show.tiki.org <command> -u <user> -t <svn tag> -i <instance id>`
    Command (one of: create, destroy, snapshot, debug, info, update, reset)
    -h Show this message
    -i id of instance
    -u username on Tiki.org
    -U userid on Tiki.org
    -t SVN Tag (Tiki version)
    -p admin password (simple passwords only)
    -P Subdirectory path
Technical infrastructure
show.tiki.org

show.tiki.org configuration

• Linux, DNS and apache configuration
  we need tiki.org on a registrar which allows catch-all entries such as *.show.tiki.org
  apache configuration :
  
  <VirtualHost *:80>
  ServerName *.show.tiki.org
  VirtualDocumentRoot /var/www/%1
  
• Dedicated scripts
  • what they do :
    • We have a repository of tarballs of all available Tiki versions, which we extract in /var/www/<username>-<userid>-<bugId>, then we create the empty database and run our standard setup script.
    • The calling server gets back information on correct execution or error messages
    • Scripts output is logged in the install_log.txt and info.txt files
  • Where to find them?
    • In the Tiki source! (doc/devtools/tim)

http://sourceforge.net/p/tikiwiki/code/HEAD/tree/trunk/doc/devtools/tim/
Technical infrastructure
community server

• It is all integrated with the existing Bug tracker
• It is an improvement of Tiki's database feature (Tiki Trackers)

• General principle

```php
$fullstring = "$command -t $svntag -u $username -i $id -U $userid ";
$conn = ssh2_connect('show.tiki.org', 22);
$conntry = ssh2_auth_pubkey_file(
    $conn,
    'ctrl',
    '/home/ctrl/.ssh/id_rsa.pub',
    '/home/ctrl/.ssh/id_rsa'
);
$stream = ssh2_exec($conn, $fullstring);
stream_set_blocking( $stream, TRUE );
$output = stream_get_contents( $stream );
fclose( $stream );
echo "<p>Feedback stream (stdout and stderr)</p><pre>
" . htmlspecialchars($output) . "
" . echo "</pre>
";
```
• This is a very successful project which brought many benefits to the Tiki community.
• Both users and coders appreciate it.
• 200 live sites after 4 months of existence
• There will definitely be a version 2.

«show is superb and has made things so much more efficient.»

-- Marc Laporte, Tiki project admin
Future plans

• «What was postponed/is planned for version 2»
  • Revision-level granularity
  • Virtual Machines instead of Virtual Hosts
    • Other php versions
    • Other webservers (nginx, etc.)
    • ssh access
    • 3rd party software (htmlpdf, curl, crypto…)
  • Clones and upgrades (change Tiki versions)

• We feel it could be of benefit to other web-based projects.
  • It might be either reproduced from general principles by rewriting of adapting our code
  • or, if there is interest, it could be branched off Tiki and expanded as a more generic solution for any wiki (or web-based) application.
• Shall we keep it a Tiki project?

• Shall we make it a project for any wiki software?

• Shall we all make our own?

I'm available for discussing in this wikis devroom today, or in town tonight :)

Conclusion
Questions?

• More documentations:
  • http://dev.tiki.org/show.tiki.org
  • http://dev.tiki.org/show.tiki.org+Overview

• Source code
  • Any Tiki source version > 12.x, in the dev/devtools/tim/ directory

• Tiki devs and sysadmins involved:
  • Jean-Marc Libs: jyhem (at) tiki.org - jean-marc.libs (at) alsawiki.com
  • Alexander Mette: amette (at) tiki.org
  • Nelson Ko: nelson (at) tiki.org
  • Pascal St-Jean: pstjean (at) tiki.org
Thank you

http://tiki.org
• Bonus slide below…
#!/bin/bash
# This is the login shell you use in /etc/passwd
# It is a wrapper around tim, because otherwise all
# arguments passed by SSH will be quoted and
# interpreted as a single argument only by getopt

setup()
{
    export LC_ALL=C
    MY_PATH="\`dirname "$0"\`"
    MY_PATH="\`( cd "$MY_PATH" && pwd )\``
    . $MY_PATH/tim-common
}

setup

$MY_PATH/tim $@

All available: http://sourceforge.net/p/tikiwiki/code/HEAD/tree/trunk/doc/devtools/tim/