

LITAWP: Home Page

Title Page

WikiWikiWebs: New Ways of Interacting in an Internet Environment

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(30 September 2004, at 03:03 AM)

Introduction

In this session we will cover:

- Basic wiki concepts
- Types of wikis
- How to choose a wiki engine
- Examples of wiki engines
- Examples of wikis in action
- Wiki installation and configuration
- What makes a "successful" wiki
- Further reading
- Questions and comments

(07 October 2004, at 09:05 PM)

Wiki Basics

What is a wiki?

- my first *wiki* [1] experience was a bit confusing
- my *second* [2] was a bit better
- a form of *social software* originally developed by Ward Cunningham for the Portland Pattern Repository

- allow authorized users to create and maintain web sites using HTML forms and text-based markup
- HTML knowledge not usually needed
- typical features include:
 - easy to create **New Pages**, and edit existing ones
 - a **Wiki Sandbox** for new users
 - a list of **Recent Changes**, in reverse chronological order
 - access to **Page History** (see history of *this page*) [3]

(11 October 2004, at 01:00 PM)

Types of Wikis

Leuf and Cunningham class wikis into 6 types, based on who has access to them:

- fully open
 - the LIANZA IT-SIG wiki
- lockable
 - Wikipedia
- gated
 - the USC Aitken wiki we used to develop this presentation
- members-only
- firewalled
- personal
 - this one

(05 October 2004, at 05:10 PM)

Choosing a Wiki Engine

- Over 100 different wiki engines and growing
 - A wiki for every operating system
- Selection issues to consider
 - Visit the wiki developer's web site
 - Project Maturity
 - The wiki developer and end user community
 - W3C standards compliance
 - Local resources and expertise
 - A choice is a commitment

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Wiki Sampler

- QwikiWiki <http://qwikiwiki.com>
- PmWiki <http://www.pmwiki.org>
- TikiWiki <http://www.tikiwiki.org>
- USC Aiken Open Source Project <http://opensource.usca.edu>

(08 October 2004, at 07:54 PM)

Wiki Case Studies

Real World Library-related Wikis

- LIANZA/ITSIG <http://wiki.lianza.org.nz>
 - Koha Project wiki http://www.saas.nsw.edu.au/koha_wiki
 - New Zealand government Tertiary e-Learning Standards Wiki
<http://tertiary.customer.onesquared.net/~TertiaryELearningStandards>
 - University of South Carolina - Aiken Library <http://library.usca.edu>
 - University of South Carolina - Campus Libraries Council
<http://library.usca.edu/clc>
- Wikipedia is gaining a higher profile
<http://wikipedia.org>

(08 October 2004, at 07:56 PM)

Wiki Installation and Configuration

- Wiki administrator
 - usually the library webmaster
 - needs to be familiar with server and operating system
 - a wiki can be appended to an existing institution website
 - best to have server dedicated to the wiki
 - needs server access for wiki installation and upgrades
- Basic wiki
 - Bare bones application—workhorse not showhorse
 - Just works—Boom! A complete website ready for content
- Beyond the basic wiki
 - a tinkerer's dream - infinitely configurable
 - dress up with templates and themes
- Handout - *Sample wiki configuration file* [4]

(08 October 2004, at 07:59 PM)

Wiki Success Factors

What makes a *good* wiki?

First, having a clearly defined user community, so that the wiki has a purpose and people know who and what it is for. People will also be encouraged to contribute by:

- having an effective initial structure
- monitoring new and changed content, and deleting inappropriate content regularly

- having a statement about copyright and content ownership
- making a “page history” link available
- displaying basic text formatting when someone edits a page
- having suggested page naming conventions and writing style guidelines

Some wiki engines will host other types of software, such as discussion boards and blogs

(09 October 2004, at 06:43 AM)

Further Reading

A recent in-depth article about wikis is:

Lamb, Brian. (2004) Wide open spaces: wikis, ready or not. *Educause Review* (September/October):36–48.

Lamb covers wiki philosophy and issues particularly well, with some examples of educational uses of wikis. He doesn't discuss specific wiki engines, or how to choose one.

Other useful articles are listed in the paper in the conference folder.

(07 October 2004, at 08:39 PM)

Questions and Comments

This presentation is an example of wikis in action: we used a wiki hosted at USC Aiken to write the abstract, handout, and draft of these slides. The story behind it ...

In conclusion, what type of wiki is in your future?

(09 October 2004, at 06:47 AM)

Links

1. http://localhost/~brendachawner/qwikiwiki_v1p4p1/index.php?page=MyFirstWikiExperience
2. <http://www.elvis.ac.nz>
3. <http://localhost/~brendachawner/pmwiki/index.php/LITAWP/WikiBasics?action=diff>
4. [Attach:litapresentationconfig-php.pdf](#)

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