

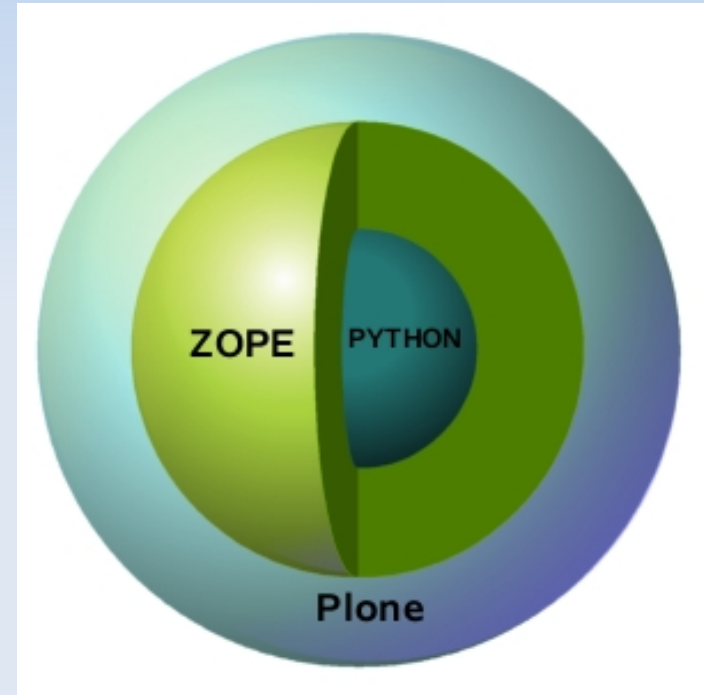
- **An Introduction to Plone**

- 

- David Symons
- Ingenious Software

# Overview

- Plone, just Plone (not an acronym).
- Based on Zope (Z Object Publishing Environment)
- Written in Python
- Runs on Linux, Windows, Mac OS X, Solaris and BSD
- Straightforward packaged installation
- This presentation is about version 2.5



# Philosophy

- **Easy to Use** Usability is a priority
- **Easy to Install** Packaged
- **International** i18n features
- **Standards Compliant**
- **Open Source** GPL
- **Extensible** Many add-on Products available
- **Technology Neutral** eg. integrates with many RDBMSs

# Features

- “Through the Web” Management
- Sophisticated security regime
- Accessibility features built-in
- Internationalisation (i18n) Capabilities
- httpd server included Or configure Apache to talk to it
- Maturity

# Installation/Configuration

Configuration steps (to set up the VM):

- « apt-get install plone-site »
- Installs Zope with it
- 3 install questions (for Zope Instance creation)
- Use Zope Management Interface (ZMI) to create a “Plone Site”

Other steps:

- Configure your httpd to talk to it (tutorials available)

# Administrative Interface

In the VM:

- Log in as admin (password: ubuntu)
- Site Setup
- (take a look around)
- Portal Settings
- Check “Allow users to select their initial password”

# Basic Content Management

- Firstly Join Up
- Go to My Folder
- Add an Image
- Create a News Item
- Delete it!!
- Undo :-)
- Submit it
- Go Home to see if it's there

# Basic Content Management

- Log out and back in as admin
- Look for the Review portlet
- Review the News Item
- Publish
- Go Home and see if it's there now
- Log out. Still there?
- Log in as the user. Can you edit it?

# Content Workflow

Content Owner creates/edits Draft Content



Owner submits Content



Reviewer examines Content



Reviewer flags Content as Published

# Site Customisation

- Change Logo
- Remove the Calendar portlet
- Change the date format
- Fun with Tabs
- Remove the byline
- Change the colour scheme

First open a 2<sup>nd</sup> browser tab pointing at the portal front page <http://localhost:8081/Plone>

# Change The Logo

*In the Zope Management Interface (ZMI):*

- `portal_skins/plone_images/logo.jpg`
- Click Customize
- Upload a new image
- Save Changes
- View results in the 2<sup>nd</sup> tab (may need to clear cache)

# Remove the Calendar portlet

## *ZMI:*

- Go to the top level of the Plone site
- Click the “Properties” tab
- Edit the **right\_slots** property to remove the portlet\_calender line
- Save Changes

# Change the Date Format

*ZMI:*

- portal\_properties / site\_properties

# Fun with Tabs 1/2

## *Home / Contents:*

- Add a Folder called “Software”.
- Check the results (ie. Refresh)

(Tabs are autogenerated from the top level folder-ish objects)

To stop this:

- Site setup / Navigation settings

# Fun with Tabs 2/2

Putting the Software Tab back. ZMI:

- portal\_actions
- Scroll to the bottom

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Title                  | Software                     |
| Id                     | software_tab                 |
| URL (Expression)       | string:\$portal_url/software |
| Condition (Expression) |                              |
| Permission             | View                         |
| Category               | portal_tabs                  |
| Visible?               | ✓                            |

- Click **Add**. Refresh to see the result.
- Note the “Move Up” and “Move Down” buttons to set Tab ordering

# Remove the Byline

The byline is the “by John Doe...” line that appears at the top of documents by default.

*ZMI:*

- `portal_skins/plone_content/document_byline`
- click on “Custom”
- (note the new location)
- Comment out contents of the outer div

```
<!--
```

```
-->
```

# Alter the Colour Scheme

*ZMI:*

- portal\_skins/plone\_styles/base\_properties
- click on “Custom”
- (note the new location)
- Make and Save changes
- Refresh 2<sup>nd</sup> tab to see them

# Alter the Colour Scheme

You should end up with this :-)



[www.watercentre.org](http://www.watercentre.org)

# Overriding the default CSS

## *ZMI:*

- portal\_skins / plone\_styles / ploneCustom.css
- Click on Customize
- For example to use a custom background image (that has been uploaded to the Custom folder):

```
body {  
    background-image: url(background.jpg);  
    background-repeat: no-repeat;  
    background-position: center;  
}
```

# Security - Users

- site setup / Users and Groups Administration
- click 'show all'
  - manager** can administer the portal
  - reviewer** can review/edit/approve content
  - member** can create content
- Users can have one or more roles
- And/or they can be members of groups

# Security - Roles

## *ZMI:*

- At the root of the site click “Security”.
- Scroll to the bottom.
- Add a role. “Rejecter” perhaps?
- Note that the role appears as a new column in the Security view.
- Go to Users and Groups Administration to see the results.

# Security - Groups

- Logical Categorisation of Users
- eg. Marketing, Finance, IT ...
- Groups have one or more roles

# Scaling - ZEO

## Zope Enterprise Objects

- “allows multiple processes, machines, and locations to work together as one transactional object system”
- Centralised Object Store (Zope Storage Server)
- Multiple Zope (and hence Plone) Servers for load balancing/redundancy

# Tips

- WYSIWYG Editor: Consider installing the FCKEditor (careful with the name). Kupu is installed by default.
- Check the default workflow policy for your install. Has been known to change between releases.
- Modify CSS rather than Templates (where possible). Makes things more “upgrade-proof”.
- Use FireFox Web Developer extensions for testing CSS. Not just applicable to Plone.

# Plone and Zope resources

## **Main sites**

- [plone.org](http://plone.org)
- [zope.org](http://zope.org)
- [plone.net](http://plone.net) (sites, case studies, companies, hosting)

## **Sample Sites:**

- [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)
- [www.e.govt.nz](http://www.e.govt.nz)
- [www.watercentre.org](http://www.watercentre.org)

Many many more at: <http://plone.net/sites>

# Community and Support

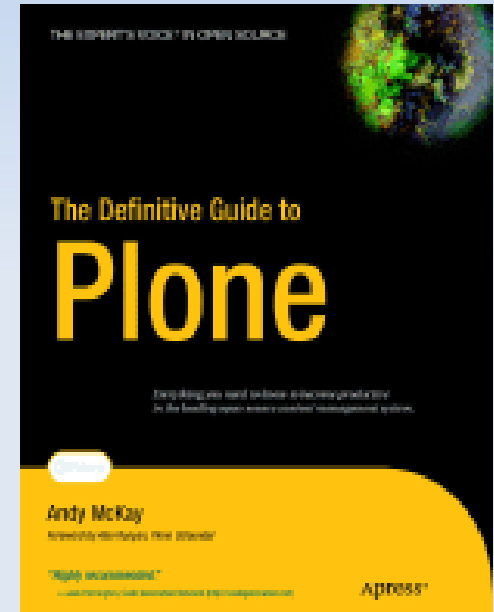
- plone.org for
  - demonstrations
  - documentation
  - mailing lists
  - add-on products
  - support options (free & paid)
- Live Support via:
  - IRC: #plone on Freenode (~130 users 4/5/07)
  - Java applet on plone.org (connects to #plone)
- Locally:
  - Ingenious Software [www.ingenious.com.au](http://www.ingenious.com.au) :-)

# Add-On Products

- Plone Skins
  - Weblogs
  - Polls
  - Surveys
  - Database Integration
  - Project Management
  - Geospacial - Maps
  - Editors (including ... careful ... FCKEditor)
- ... and many more

# Input to this Presentation

## The Definitive Guide to Plone by Andy McKay 2004



Available online:

<http://plone.org/documentation/manual/definitive-guide> (PDF)

<http://docs.neuroinf.de/PloneBook> (HTML)

# Plone Tutorial Virtual Machine

- 4.1Gb (1.1Gb as a tgz file)
- Ubuntu 6.10 Desktop Install
- Installed the “plone-site” package
- Created a Plone site within Zope
- <http://localhost:8081/Plone>
- Software versions:
  - Plone 2.5
  - Zope 2.9
  - Python 2.4
- O/S User Account: ubuntu/ubuntu
- Plone Account: admin/ubuntu

The End

Questions?