Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/02/26 12:22

Dear Edwin,

how many levels can be created with multisites?
To make it clear, let's see my example.
I want to create a site that sells sites.
I only want one install (what is a must as well because of billable websites and frontend creation).
To sell a site in different colors first I need to create a slave site of the master, let's call it (COLORBASE)that will be replicated to color sites (BLUE, PINK, RED, etc) that is for the frontend for the users to create site.

It means 3 level oftemplates
For replication of the master what will be the base for colors. It creates the COLORBASE site
For replication of COLORBASE, that will create BLUE, PINK, etc. sites in the backend
For replication of BLUE, PINK, etc, that are the templates for the frontend creation

For the second level it works, but I am unable to create the third level.
Is there a way to solve this or a work around?

How would you solve this issue?
Perhaps it is related to this issue, but it is my question generally: What should be the action for for multistes folder in this case (copy, symblic link or ignore)?

Thank you for your help!

Regards

Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/02/28 09:38

There is no limit in the number of level.

I don't know why you say that you are not able to create the third level.
In you JMS template rule, select the "template website" in your second level to allow replicating it.

In terms of directory, if you decide to deploy website into folder, this is you that define where you deploy the website.
Concerning the "/multisites" folder, this is the place where JMS saves its data. So this is structure managed by JMS. If you expect more than 1,000 slave site, we recommend to change a setting in the /administrator/components/com_multisites/multisites.cfg.php" to configure it without the LETTER TREE.
So uncomment the lines.
define('MULTISITES_LETTER_TREE', true);
define('MULTISITES_REFRESH_DISABLED', true);

This will change the /multisites directory strucutre.
This "multisites.cfg.php" setting must be changed when there is no slave site.

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/02/28 09:56

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Dear Edwin,

I said that I couldn't because I couldn't :)
As I found it was because of two other problem
I had to reinstall the component
but after that I still had this problem
detailed in this topic .

In the case of first and second level the folder name was the same like domain name both were {site_id}.
In the case of third level I defined the folder name to {user_id}{site_prefix} and the domain to {site_id}
and this cause problem.

To understand the situation please, see the last posts in the above topic to get th point. Thank you!

Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/02/28 11:30

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Here, when you mentioned that you re-isntall JMS, I suppose you mean that you installed JMS into a slave site to try managing a slave site from a slave site.

JMS is NOT designed to be managed from a slave site.
Only the master website should manage the slave site.

The only exception when JMS can be installed in a slave site is to allow creating menu item in the slave site to allow proposing a website creation from the front-end.

This is not what I have understood with your description that describe that you were not able to create slave site based on "BLUE" or "PINK". Such slave site derived from "blue", "pink" can be created from the master website when you select the JMS template rule that correspond to build the website based on "blue" or "pink".

So in you master website, you can propose to create website based on
COLORSBASE
or based on
BLUE or PINK, ...

If you want to create group of template, use the "filter group" to define the group of templates that are

available in a category (group).

In JMS, there is no level of folders.
This is you that describe where you deploy the folders.

The hierachy (or dependencies) of the websites is not related to the folders structure as you can decided to deploy the folder anywhere.

Concerning the JMS {site_id}, it must be unique. It identifies a website whatever "your level".
So if you want to create a virtual hierarchy in the site ID, up to you to decide of a site ID value.

Create a hierarchy is a human view that you can reflect with "deploy folder" but the internal JMS slave site definitions, will remain saved as "flat" website in the "manage site". Only the JMS Tool menu try display the hierachy between the website based on the JMS Templates rules that are used by your slave site definitions.

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/02/28 12:44

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Dear Edwin,

you misundertood me. Of course, I handled JMS from the master site (I have read the documentation and seen all your tutorials). I needed to reinstall JMS on the master, because I found there should be some error as I couldn't create things what I could before. Perhaps it happened because of the upgrade. So, I reinstalled it on the master site. That was what I meant.

I understand as well that the hierachy (or dependencies) of the websites is not related to the folders structure as I can decided to deploy the folder anywhere.

But, you completely misunderstand what is my {site_id} issue, so I try to highlight it as clear as possible.

- I have the master site in public_html
- I want to create a slave sites in public_html/multisites directory into {user_id}{site_prefix} folder. So, the path is for slave site is public_html/multisites/{user_id}{site_prefix}
- I create a template site and give the domain name of the slave sites mysite.com/{site_id}

Until know I think everything is upon your documentation, am I correct?

- Then I create a site with the help of the template.

Now, if I go to mysite.com/{site_id} my site should be live here, that is in the public_html/multisites/{user_id}{site_prefix} directory. Am I right or wrong?

Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/01 11:59

If you decide to deploy the website into the multisites/{user_id}{site_prefix} then
the domain name corresponding to that is mysite.com/multisites/{user_id}{site_prefix}
and NOT the mysite.com/{site_id}

If you want to have mysite.com/{site_id}
then you have to deploy the website into public_html/{site_id}

The domain URL and the location on the disk must match.

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/03/01 12:47

OK, thank you for the answer.

This is not the best solution for me as I have weddingof.com domain. I would like to let users to create for example weddingof.com/janeandmike (upon wedding of Jane and Mike idea).
It means that the directory "janeandmike" must be in public_html between the master site's core files. Not the best... :-/

So, it means, if I want to make customers to let them create a site weddingof.com/{site_alias}, {site_alias} must be the directory name in public_html. As I have seen in the forums so far, usually you don' suggest such a non-uique directory name.

I really don't want very much to critizise you, as the idea and potential is great behind JMS multisite, and I like it, but the documentation and tutorials are poor. You make bot for your customers and yourself a lot of extra headache and work with this.
For example it was very misleading tutorials, that it seemed like I give mysite.com/{site_id} I could have a different domain name like the directory structure behind.

Generaly, there are many things what you repeat in your tutorials, or detail unnecceseraly deep (how to create subdomain and DB in Cpanel), but there are many not speaking about at all, or don't give a solution (meanwhile subdomain creation in CPanel is detailed you are telling me to create a script for folder structure).
Few example:
- I really don't know how to use it "Alias link" field in the template as it is not in your documentation and you don't use it in your tutorials.
- letter tree (for exapmle if I use letter tree enabled and create a slave_site, independently that I copy the whole template folder, the slave site will always have that template color setup like the master. If I disable letter tree but do everything else the same way, the slave site and the master site template color setup can be independent)
- to level domain parsing
- variables (for example I used {rnd_psw_6} for DB prefix, but caused problem as it uses special characters as well)
- Alias link filed in template creation
- and many things like this

Best regards

Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/01 13:11

If you want to create an alias that point to the deploy folder, you can do it and use in this case the additional "Alias folder" parameters where you would write something like {root}/{site_id}

You always need to have a matching between your URL and the location on the disk.
If you want to create a link from the public_html/{site_id} ---> public_html/multisites/{site_id} then you have to use the sample above.

How to create a website in a subdomain is illustrated in the tutorial video CP-04
http://www.jms2win.com/en/tutorial#jms12x-CP-04

The letter tree is a parameter that change the /multisites directory structure when there are a lot of slave site expected. In this case, the website are not more save with the name but with a letter tree of the name.
This can impact your template definition when you decide to deploy the website into the internal JMS structure.

Yes you can not use a random password generation in a DB prefix or DB name as you have specifial character. Why don't you use the User ID in your rule?

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/03/01 13:31

Thank you for the asnwers.
I wanted to use the random password for DB prefix as I wanted to make frontend creation as simple as possible. I wanted to force users only to give alias, title and chosing the tamplate.
If I use user_id I need to add site_prefix as well, to allow a user to create more sites stored in the same DB with more prefixes. In this case user need to provide a site prefix as well (for example a literature teacher who wants to create a wedding site will hard to understand what the prefix for).

Thanks for the alias explonation and example, I will try it. To be honest I did already, but as it is named "link" I have typed http://mysite.com/{site_id} into the "Alias link" field.

Yes, the aim of the letter tree I understand I only haven't found anything about it in the documentation.
By the way, is it normal that using the letter tree the slave site cannot have it's own template color setup, if I disable letter tree than I can set up the template color of the slave site independently from the master? I think it shouldn't be different.

Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/03 14:05

The letter tree is something more or less internal and this condition the way that JMS saves its internal information.

I will try to add some explaination in the User Manual for that.

What do you mean by the template color?
Is it a parameters that you setting inside the Joomla template manager where you setup the template to have a specific color or layout ?
If YES, depending on the Joomla version, the way that joomla manage the parameters is different.
Under Joomla 1.5, you have as many "params.ini" files as you have websites.
In Joomla 1.7 or 2.5, the parameters are saved in the DB and therefore are specific for each website.

Some templates companies creates their own framework to replace the joomla framework.
In this case, this depends on the template company and depends on their framework.

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Re: Slave site of slave site
Posted by joekker - 2012/03/03 16:52

Yes, the latter is the case.
I use Joomlart template with JAT3 framework, but I did copied (full copy not special copy) all plugins and templates to every slave site, as template setuo depends on the template folder and plugins.

So, yes, I change the color in the template settings.

But still I dont understand, why works template color setting
- properly with not letter trees
- wrong with using letter trees?

The only difference i the two setup is letter tree, everything else is the same.

Regards, Jozsef

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Re: Slave site of slave site
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/05 10:15

The reason is probably related to the T3 or the template itself that potentially assume to have a "flat name" and not a "letter tree" name to retreive the template folder.

Did you specified something in the "template folder" field ?
If yes, did you put the {deployed_dir}/templates ?

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by joekker - 2012/03/06 12:00

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Yes, I did specify template folder.
I guess you wanted to write {deploy_dir} instead of {deployed_dir}, right?
What is the difference between {site_dir} and {deploy_dir} both are absolute path to the site folder if I well understand.

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Re: Slave site of slave site

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/07 18:45

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{site_dir} is the path where JMS save the site information.
When you do not deploy a slave site into a specific directory, this is the place where JMS save the "configuration.php" file of the site.

When you specific a value in the "deployment folder" then this is the {deploy_dir} that must be used.

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