Joomla Multisite - pre sales question

Posted by Admodum - 2009/10/15 00:23

Hi there

I am very interested in purchasing this product as it seems to address a particular issue we are having at the moment. However I need to confirm if it will address our particular issue...

We are developing two online stores using joomla 1.5.14 and virtuemart 1.1.3. The idea is to have similar products sold on both websites, but they will be items for men and women.

We currently have the mens products store up and running at, for example www.products.com.

We now need to create a new website under a subdomain, for example www.womens.products.com that references the same virtuemart product database, so that any changes to VM products / categories etc will be carried over to both sites.

So, in essence we will need two separate joomla installs and two joomla databases, two separate virtumart installs but one VM database.

I have had a few searches on the forum to see if this is possible however am coming up with various issues that people are having with the software. Could someone confirm this is possible before I go spending money on it?

If you need any more information about our requirements to answer my query please ask.

Thanks in advance
Jon

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Re:Joomla Multisite - pre sales question

Posted by edwin2win - 2009/10/15 00:38

Dear Jon

With JMS, you can have a single VM installed that is connected to 2 DBs that will share the same VM tables.

To enter more in the technical detail, you will have the same VM PHP code and therefore all their configuration like payment method will be shared.
Concerning the VM DB content, you can have each website with its own DB and share the same VM tables. In this case, this will also share the users between the stores as to share all VM, it is reuired to also share the users.

When working with different DB, you have to check that you have the permission to share tables between different DBs. This require a MySQL user that has the permission in the two DBs.
In general, it is more easier to have the different website into the same DBs to avoid the problem of permission cross DBs.

If you don't have your own server, it may be more difficult to have such permission across DBs but this is technically possible with JMS when you are using a MySQL user with correct permissions.

So in summary, you can have your 2 websites located on the same domain (with sub-domain).
You can share the VM store and will have the users shared between the websites.
As working on the same domain, you will also benefit of the single sign-in.

The only thing that you must take care is the configuration of the payment method, shipping configuration and things like that that will be shared and common to the websites.
For example you will have to use the same "paypal email account" to receive the payment with VM paypal method.

To share the extension, you need MySQL 5.0 or higher and also have the possibility to create MySQL user that have the permission to share the tables.

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Re:Joomla Multisite - pre sales question
Posted by Admodum - 2009/10/15 19:57

Thanks for the response, we currently run an apache cpanel shared reseller package running mysql version 5.0.81-community.

The payment process is secured using an instantSSL certificate. Will software work with the secured payment process in place?

Thanks
Jon

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Re:Joomla Multisite - pre sales question
Posted by edwin2win - 2009/10/15 20:16

JMS works with https - so that should works with your instantSSL.

As you are working with cPanel, you have to check with your hosting provider if you can increase the permission of MySQL user.
cPanel has a know bug that does not provide "ALL PRIVILEGES" correctly.
In fact there are some rights missing. The "ALL PRIVILEGES" are only correct for MySQL 4.x but is not enought with MySQL 5.x.
So as explained in the tutorial video CP-02, you perhaps need to contact your hosting provider to increase the MySQL user privileges.
http://www.jms2win.com/tutorial#jms12x-CP-02

So you have to check that you can grant the MySQL user with "create view and show view".

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