Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/12 22:32

Hello Edwin,

I belong to the group of the first purchasers of JMS, starting from its first years and then seen it growing. Before 8 years or so, we have even spoken by telephone. Basically, I have thoroughly understood the concept of making slave sites. I have even used in its earlier versions beginning from Joomla 1.5.

For some reason, I did not use Joomla after purchasing JMS 1.3 any more. Now I want to use it.

Recently, I tried to configure it on J 3.8.12.

One of the first error I received was that of Folder loop that was caused due to openbase_dir restriction. I had to change the http.conf to have it lifted and to touch outside the public_html. This is bad because it opens doors to security issues. This problem came definitely from checkpatches.

After rectifying this problem, I have now problems of creating slaves. Creating master as replica and share is no problem.

However, when a domain is created with its links on a separate http dir of public_html, all tables with new prefixes are created. In the tools, I cannot add, delete or uninstall any tables, components, modules, etc. They are read only in slave.

In the template, I have seen that I could click on the tab for sharing. In there, I only have a choice to choose sharing of users.

In the earlier versions, I had known that one could choose different tables for sharing components, etc. This is not available.

The users are also not shared. New users gets created into the slave site. I want to have them shared.

I have tried to use both, sharedMaster and replicamaster templates, as well as fresh slaves template. I can install a slave domain, create links except that I cannot choose components to be or not to be shared of users not getting shared

Any suggestions as to where I could be making a mistake? May be I do not have a template in my system or something is missing. The check patches shows all green.

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Re: Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/12 22:53

Some more info:

All tables from master are cloned into slave.

The master and slave sites resolves from its respective different directories without any problems,

especially the slave is served from linked dirs.

With this information, many possibilities of problem areas can be excluded.

The user registration and changes functions independently on both sites and are not being shared, which is what I want.

These sites are fresh and empty sites. They do not have any component or plugin. Its fresh J 3.8.12 with JMS 1.3.

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Re: Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/13 10:11

Thank you for your fidelity and I have retrieved your info that show that you are effectivelly an early adopter (oct-2008). Almost 10 years.

First, concerning the open_basedir, this depends on your Server Administration tool and how you have defined domains.
For example, under cPanel you have to create all the website under the same cPanel account and use the "Addon Domains".
In Plesk, you have to use their subscription to declare all the domains under the same subscription and have the correct permission.

The sharing of the table was always been depending on extensions.
We never provided any JMS that allow choosing which MySQL table that can be shared or not. The reason is related to the consistency of data. You can not share a table if there are reference inside this table to another table that would not be shared.
This is the reason why we do manual review to declare which extension and decide which one can be shared or not.
As you mentioned that the "JMS Template" only propose you to share the users, this means that you don't have any other extensions containing a sharing definition.

If you think that some extensions could be shared and that you would like that we proceed with a review of them, please send us their installation package and precise for which version of Joomla you would like that we do this review.

When a website is created with the sharing, use the JMS Tool and the "table tab" to verify if you have a link.
Remark: the sharing is defined the first time that the website is created.
Change the JMS Template to add the sharing after that you have created the slave site will not have any effect because the tables are already present.

replicMaster do a copy of the tables. (Replication means Clone, Copy)
shareMaster should create sharing of the #__user% and #__session tables when the website is created.
The list of sharing pattern can be saw in the JMS Template "sharing tab". The sharing patterns can also be saw in the JMS Tools / Component tab.

The sharing of MySQL table is NOT related to the installation of the patches.
The patches are required for the PHP code and not for the DB.

As this is fresh website, I suggest that you delete the slave site and select "delete the DB" to ensure that all the tables are deleted.
Verify the shareMasterXXX table that you want has the sharing of users correctly selected. Potentially review which directory must have a symbolic link and also the one that could be ignored like "license.txt", "readme.txt", ...
When done, you can re-use the shareMasterXXXX rule to create your slave site.

Cross-check with the JMS Tools that you have now the #__users table that is shared.
Becarefull that some browser may have cache and that the data might not be refreshed correctly.
Another possiblity is to use the PHPMyAdmin to verify that you a VIEW instead of a TABLE for the #__users in the slave site that you have created.

The sharing is illustrated in the tutorial video #16.
https://www.jms2win.com/en/tutorial#jms12x-16

I hope this will help you

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Re: Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/13 11:39

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Hello Edwin,

Thanks for your explanation. As I am experienced on Linux since 21 years, I have deeper understanding on many such things.

Had I exercised my patience, then I would _NOT_ have placed my "first" post in the last ten years. I am not used to asking for solution or support on such small matters. I have solved the problem now myself. The current templates are the culprits, as they did not map sharing of users. Using the default templates, sharing of users did not work. Thus, I created a new template, configured everything from scratch and applied it to the slave. Sharing of users worked immediately.

When I deleted the slave, it did not offer me deletion of the cloned database tables. I did it manually from phpmyadmin.

The scripts have problems and requires updating of codes.

Regarding openbase_dir, you are partly true. My configuration of http.conf was perfect. The JMS scripts required me to open certain other dir. I have done this with a protected htaccess. When I am finished, I will close the openbase_dir and have it function within the dir-shell.

> If you think that some extensions could be shared and that you would like
> that we proceed with a review of them, please send us their installation package
> and precise for which version of Joomla you would like that we do this review.

You chose the term "sharing" everywhere. In theory, you coded php scripts to clone all tables with users sharing. It would be better to use the term "cloning tables" everywhere instead of sharing and the term "sharing" only for the purpose of "user sharing". This way, English speakers would understand these things quicker and clearer.

It is wrong to think that everything should be cloned and nobody may need to have tables shared, other than user tables.

For example: What if I have a few profile tables that are associated with user tables? I will need to have them in the master DB. What will happen with slaves? I will have to create links to the master domains from the slave domains to have changes in users profiles made. Here, there will be a chaotic mix of slaveOne.com for login and master.com for changes of profiles. If I have profile tables cloned to slaveOne.com, then what about other slaves, like slaveTwo.com, etc.?

Let me give another example: What happens if I have a category table, one country, states and cities table? How can I could use it in slave domains? Currently, I could only clone them. MaxMind and GEOID offers these infos. They costs about 40 Megabyte per language. What happens if one has 30 - 100 domains, where country/states/cities data is to be used in the registration forms? Here, while the user tables are shared, but their associated tables are not.

Lets say what happens when I use categories IDs in blogs and directories? They could be the same within the same server under different DB with Joomla. One could use Ajax to get the geo_id, country_id, state_id, city_id, cat_id, subcat_id, etc. in registration, profiles, directories, etc. These IDs should remain the same between multiple installations of Joomla. Likewise, as you see in this example, there are number of reasons why there is an urgent need to have shared concept, while keepong the cloning technology as it is.

A solution of this option is to have a field in the shared table to be added, for e.g. "site_id". If the value is 0, it could work as global for all connecting DBs. Otherwise, it may have the domain.com in it.

With this solution, you could then have FlexiContent to be shared too, which you earlier claimed to be difficult or not possible. Other developers could offer a FlexiContent Plugin to work with JMS multisite, or you could offer it as well.

Above all, I would welcome if you could enhance such a feature in the current version to work with Joomla 4.x. If you bring out a new JMS version, I am afraid I will not be able to buy and will not enjoy its benefit.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/14 08:58

Hello Edwin,

I have now found out where exactly the problem was and is. When I created a new template and got user sharing to function with it in the slave site, I could not achieve the same sharing function of user tables between databases in the slave site with that new template, specifically after I deleted and re-created the slave site.

The lacking function got repeated. In the newly re-created slave site based on functioning template DID NOT WORK!

Thus, there is no bug in predefined templates. It is the procedure of creating a slave site during the configuration steps. One additional function is missing. The problem is that the scripts do not generate VIEWS in SQL user tables later on if one uses the initial stage of mapping master to a slave for file and

folders without DB mapping.

Finally, I created SQL VIEWS in the slave site for all related user tables manually. Then sharing works, as it works on VIEWS.

So the problem is that the creation of VIEWS for user tables in a slave database is missing. This could be easily added or modified to offer admins to add a user function at a later date. Here, one should warn admins that adding the function to share users later means dropping user tables in the slave database.

The same thing you could offer for every other component to be shared in the slave. It is just the matter of creating VIEWS in slave database to be linked to master database. Because this functions already exists, it should be no problem to offer your clients this functions.

For example: What if one uses membership components? Even here, one needs to generate and map VIEWS of all tables of this component to the master database.

So long as this function is not implemented in php, I am afraid I will have to do it manually for all other components.

For all other users: You are welcome to ask me how to do this manually. Then, I could offer a generic code to generate VIEWS for user tables to be inserted in SQL monitor in phpMyAdmin.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/14 10:39

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1) Concerning the open_basedir, if you setup the httpd.conf manually, perhaps that you could get inspired from plesk and their subscription.
In their case, they have the account directory that have under that domains/ and httpdocs directories for all the domains website. We get inspired of them when recommending our directory structure like /domains//public_html
and /domains//subdomains/>SUB DOMAIN/public_html.
See our Powerpoint page https://www.jms2win.com/en/documentation/doc_download/27-
page 16

Therefore, if the open_basedir point on the "/domains" directory of the account, this is OK.

2) Concerning potential issue on the delete and cleanup of the DB tables, you are the first in to report that. Perhaps that the MySQL user / password was wrong and didn't allow JMS to connect on the DB to remove the table.

3) As explaines, JMS can share several extensions and is not limited to the users.
Perhaps that you prefer the word "clone" to "replication" but I think that the word "sharing" remain valid and is correct on what we do when selected.
English is not my native language. So I can accept your definition but I think it is too late to change that in JMS as everybody know my terms now.

4) Concerning of sharing of other tables (your example SlaveOne.com), if they are managed by "public" extensions like Community Builder, JomSocial, EasySocial, Hikashop, VirtueMart and many other extensions, you have probably saw that those extension are proposed for the sharing.

You have the choice to share them or not depending if you want to have the relationship with the "parent, template site" (not necessarily the master).
All depends if you want to keep their data specific or shared with the "parent" website.
In most cases, when you share an extension like CB, JomSocial, ... you also have the joomla users that are shared.
There are some exception like "Widget kit" that does not require the user and that you can share independently.
So this is you that know when you create the architecture and dependencies of your website that know which tables must be shared to keep the consistency of the data.

5) Concerning the "category", all depends the extensions.
When the extension use the Joomla #__category table then the extension can NOT be shared.
Most extension are using their own table to manage the categories. In this case their content can be shared.
In very few specific case, if you architecture show that you need sharing of the joomla categories, it is possible to create a specific plugin to declare such specific sharing in JMS.
We already did such kind of thing when you have for example a website that is in fact a webshop for which you want to share everything except very minor table like configuration to be able providing specific shop name, address, email. Otherwise, you share all products, orders, ..., everything.

So you have to do a deep analysis of the relationship between the data that needs to be shared and cross-check the potential consistency issues.
This is the reason why we do not provide such table selection because we can not guarantee that doing such complex thing will not cause consistency issues.

6) Concerning MaxMind, when using JMS Medium, it is included and all the data are available to all the website.
MaxMind use files on the disk that are shared.
There is nothing in the DB.
What is generally happening is that each extension have their own copy of MaxMind data and re-doing the same.
So you may have several copies of the MaxMind files and this is the same with a standalone website. You have several copies in each extensions that use their APIs.
Therefore this is NOT related to the number of website and you can have 1000 website and will just have one instance of their "GeoIP.dat" "GeoLiteCity.dat" in each extension (not in each site).

7) In the case where you would share a Blog content (ie EasyBlog) in which you want to write a page that provide reference to something (ie. using a category), you have to provide a full URL (external link) including for images or any material to ensure it is NOT related to you current website and can be found from any places. Becarefull that when using JCE or similar editor, they may replace a full URL by a relative URL - that is wrong.

8) Your proposal to add a column with "Site ID" is something that we doing for partial sharing when the author of an extension accept to enhance their extension with additional functionality when JMS is present.
This is what we are doing with Hikashop, HikaMarket, EasySocial and other extension (JomSocial declined to do it).
With Hikashop, it is for example possible to create specific Hikashop categories that are only saw by specific website. We can also have specific price, specific currencies, specific taxes and many other things.
This allow for example have a website in UK that deliver good in currency GBP and and another website in Ireland that deliver goods in EUR and have a different tax rate. In fact the different website share the

same warehouse and same inventory but the deliveries are done for a specific website (entities).

So if you have such kind of needs, you have to do a deep analysis and select the appropriate extension that can cover your needs.

9) Concerning FlexiContent, as they can impact everything, we can not guarantee the consistency of the data.
Therefore, if you need such kind of things, this must better considered as a specific development than a product that could leads to plenty is issues.

10) Concerning Joomla 4, we are waiting the Beta before verifying the compatiblity.
In the past, when we did such kind of thing with J3 and previous in Alpha we had to redo the job.
So we prefer to wait that the J4x functionalities are frozen before verification.

11) Concerning the "VIEWS" and the possibility to replay the actions, we effectively don't write into a log such kind of info.
What you have is the "Maintenance" menu that provide you some partial information when DB structure mismatch is found. In the case of a VIEW it can propose the repair as MySQL statement. To use with cautions.

12) Again concerning the sharing of the users, a pre-requisite is to use a MySQL user that have the permission to create the VIEW and have access on both DBs. Otherwise, the creation of a VIEW is not allow and just a copy of a TABLE is possible. Verify the MySQL user privileges and access on the DBs.

I hope this answer all your questions

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/14 11:48

Hello Edwin,

Thanks again for your detailed answer and beautiful support. You are unchanged and just great in giving support, which I already know it from your telephone conversation before eight years.

>> 3) As explaines, JMS can share several extensions and is not limited to the users.

Before many years I have used the JMS extension. I stopped using it. I just started using it before a couple of days.

Earlier, it was possible to choose extensions to share or not.

I did not find such an option any more in the template or later on under Tools, although you mention that this is possible. In the sharing tab, I can only see that users table is shared i.e. linked.

There was no where an option under the Tools menu to choose which component I would like to have it shared and to be linked to master db.

Currently, I could only un-install some components from the master and remove it from slave.

Am I missing something here?

Perhaps this may be another procedural mistake I may have made and omitted a step. Could you pl. explain, if I made a mistake of understanding and if other components could also be shared?

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/14 19:29

Hello Edwin,

I checked it there is a free component available to create SQL queries for VIEWS in a slave database. This is not the case.

It is such a big pain and a time consuming job to manually create views for many tables, like #__categories, #__languages, #__content, #__contentitem_tag_map, #__content_frontpage, #__content_rating, #__content_types, etc. and creating SQL Queries for generating VIEWS in the slave database to make links to the master database.

I was wondering why have you not offered such a feature in the last ten years because this is very important to have such a sharing functionality later on after a slave database has been created.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/15 10:06

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3) The choice to select which extension to share is present in the JMS Template rule (sharing tabs).
If you don't see any other extension for the sharing, that means that you don't have more.
You can go also in the JMS Tools menu and in the top right "help" button, you have the list of extension defined in JMS.
You can go directly on the page here.
https://www.jms2win.com/en/list-of-extensions?view=extlist&id=269&Itemid=53
You have columns that tells you what can be shared per joomla version.

So check the list of extension and if it marks as not shared, this means that no body request its sharing or that the sharing is not possible.
If you see an extension that was marked as shared in a older joomla version and that you want that we redo the checking for a more recent version of joomla, send us the package in attachment of an email and specify that you want a review for sharing and for which joomla version. If this is possible, we will add the definition in JMS.

Concerning the VIEW, we don't have tool that build that and we don't know if other extension would do that.
If you want to do that manually, see the MySQL reference manual for the syntax.

What we can do is create a specific plugin - just for you - that allows you creating such kind of specific sharing rule via an XML file.

We do that with 1h of support that you can order at
https://www.jms2win.com/en/joomla-multisite?page=shop.product_details&flypage=flypage_multisites.tpl&product_id=35&category_id=1
In this case, you will be able to define your own extensions and own sharing rules that will appear in the JMS Template (sharing tabs).

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/15 11:16

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Hello,

Thanks Edwin for your support and for your offer to develop a specific plug-in.

From the links I can see that you are one of the very few people who knows about Joomla components, modules and plug-ins, especially when one sees the in-depth overview of all these things in a table form.Just amazing. Your efforts are just excellent.

I am extremely impressed.

Thats actually very disappointing. You deserve to be a lead developer for Joomla core. With your excellence, you would be the best suited person to modify Joomla core and make all changes to react to Multi-sites. Horrible thing is that you also have to earn your living and such an activity will not offer you financial advantage.

For certain components, I want a full sharing and for others, I only want it in parts to have the same IDs cross the databases. To do coding of this kind, one requires many days and weeks (and not hours) of work. Looking to a one time generation of SQL Query for VIEWS so easily with GUI tools, this is not worth for "one client". If there are a thousand clients who may want to do such things, then it makes sense. Consequently, there is a ZERO change to have a specific plug-in to be developed.

I am doing these things manually with certain GUI Tools on MySQL for creating VIEWS for connection to masterDB. I do have many MySQL GUI Tools, like dbforge, Navicat, etc. I have generated VIEWS for those tables in the masterDB. I have exported the structure of these VIEWS of master tables to be shared. I dropped these tables and created VIEWS in slaveDB from the SQL Monitor in phpMyAdmin.

With this procedure, I have ported the TABLE structure from masterDB ---> VIEWS structure in slaveDB. Everything work fine. Further, in each of these steps, I have saved a generic SQL code for installing VIEWS in slaveDB. Then I can run SQL queries for creating VIEWS in all other slaveDB, where I want to have things shared. Thus, I only need to substitute four values in my SQL queries definition file for a new slaveDB. Then apply in the new one.

Exactly that is what your extension JMS does through plug-ins. It creates links to masterDB. I would love to have this part working in JMS so that I do not have to do this manually.

The best way to develop such a functionality would be to make Steps of configuration and an explanation of each step after checking certain parameters. Thats one of the most important thing I had discussed with you in our last conversation on telephone before eight years. I had told you that your clients will definitely become frustrated if you do not follow a stepped installation of JMS slaves.

The sharing button in Tools and Template is in there. But that does not work in my case or it is not supposed to work the way I want. Let me explain.

I have a master DB with basic functions i.e. default core 3.8.12 installed. Then I cloned the masterDB with sharing of users. For sharing, I had to create the VIEWS for all users table manually in the slaveDB.

Then I installed K2 in masterDB.

In the masterDB--->Tools Menu "after choosing" the masterDB, it offers to populate the K2 component into the slaveDB. Thats not what I want. I do not want to create a new component in there and populate it.

In the masterDB--->Tools Menu "after choosing" the slaveDB, it shows in the Components--->K2 under "Site" a plus sign and under Action a drop-down with values "install Extension/share Extension".

After choosing "share Extension" for K2,

slaveOne.com.....Option.....Action.....From site.....Overwrite.....Status
com_k2.....com_k2.....share.....:master_db:...Box (read-only) x
Invalid action (with Red coloured background)

In the Template for creating slave domains, it does show sharing of K2 but only in read only modus. This is because the slaveDB has been created already. So one could only apply sharing manually from Tools Menu, which is what I did.

Thus, sharing is not possible for me.

In the earlier versions this part was working very easily. Not any more. Hence the question about if the sharing works or if I am missing something.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/17 01:04

Hello Edwin,

I have now updated to the latest of 1.3.74 Medium and patches of 1.3.67, both latest from yesterday.

I still am _NOT_ able to share K2 from masterDB to slaveDB.

In my post above, I mentioned that I get "Invalid action (with Red coloured background)" error.

The same error I get after update also. The K2 component is not in slave. Thus it offers me to either install or share. But I cannot share and I do not want to install.

Just for a trial, I tried to install it too and I got the same error.

Can it be that there is some change required on my server locally? However, I could not figure it out because almost all other parts of this component are working without problems, especially after I ironed

the error of openbase_dir and template config.

I think the best is to use JMS for generating links on the slave and do all sharing manually. This is really a bad thing but I will have to do so, it seems as I am not even able to share the simplest and most common known component to make it work...

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/17 09:43

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Concerning all the specific requirements, I think understand partially what you would like but this require a specific development that I don't want to include in JMS due to all the side effects and potential increase of support that this will probably leads.
As I already said that allow creating views without any control is dangerous in terms of consistency.

Concerning K2, you said that you can not share its content.
Would you please send me in attachment of an email the K2 package that you are using to let me try reproducing it.
You let suppose that there is a regression bug somewhere.
So I would like that you precise with which version of Joomla and which version of JMS that was working to help me comparing and searching this potential regression bug.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/17 11:21

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Hello Edwin,

>>> Would you please send me in attachment of an email the K2 package that you are using to let me try reproducing it.

The package of K2 is not different because I have downloaded it from the web install tab in Joomla.

>>> Concerning all the specific requirements, I think understand partially what you would like but this require a specific development that I don't want to include in JMS due to all the side effects and potential increase of support that this will probably leads.

JMS is a tool for clients having multiple domains for 1) “cloning““ and 2) “sharing“.
Both these functions are fundamental to concept of multisite and, thus, are fundamental needs of your clients.

JMS has become a little toy to clone a specific set of configuration of an extension. It has failed to develop in the area of sharing in the last ten years, at least after I purchased it, and to demonstrate intelligent technique of “sharing“.

In the area of “sharing“, JMS has remained dumb and primitive.

What it does, I can do it all manually without JMS. While doing so, I can develop templates for creating a new. JMS is merely a management tool to grab parameters of external Joomla installation and manage configuration of the external slave databases from the main code base.

From day one, the demand by all clients was there, for “cloning““ and “sharing“. From day one, you have not developed sharing technology in JMS the way how a mature product should have achieved in ten years.

You have developed php codes to clone from a master database on per component basis. This is necessary and helpful for newbies and experts. In the last ten years, you have developed cloning technology much more and left sharing technology too restrictive. The conceptual focus should have focused on sharing technology and “thereafter“ cloning. What you have not developed is a generic sharing function to convert parts of a component into VIEWS and to have certain tables shared.

A wrong belief is to have inconsistency of a slave database by views. The fact of using VIEWS already means that database tables are absent in a slave. But that's a choice an admin makes.

>>> As I already said that allow creating views without any control is dangerous in terms of consistency.

Well, “ dangerous in terms of consistency“ for whom? Are you talking about foolish or newbie clients, who do not know what they are doing, or talking about experts like me? People like me do not need any babysitting on what could be consistent and what not.

You do not want to develop sharing function in parts of a component. You give reason that there could be foolish clients, who may result in some inconsistency upon using sharing functions. Thats the reason why experts like me cannot avail these functions.

I have the capacity and competence to program shell scripts *.sh to clone a Joomla installation and create links to directories, then ones I want for slave domains. In fact, I have developed such cloning shell scripts for Bonfire on CodeIgnitor that works like charm. Likewise, I could also develop - without problems and too much work - shell scripts to create sharing MySQL tables of same code base for slave sites. JMS is in my list only for comfort and ease.

When I want to have a set of tables shared, and not full component, then I have technical reasons. The same apply to others. If a client - as a user of JMS - is a fool or a newbie, and does not know what should be done with it and what not, then it is not necessary to think that “he should not be, or cannot be allowed to be, foolish!“.

You are trying to be extra careful, of course in the interest of your clients. But then, you are imposing restrictive approach on functionality of JMS and, consequently, are not developing coding logic on certain fundamental features of JMS. They are missing today.

For example: If I have DJ-Classifieds or EasyBlog extension, I may want to have the same category or geo IDs in different slave databases. If I have twenty subdomains that focuses on twenty categories, then I may want to have a central table in master DB for categories for DJ-Classifieds or EasyBlog and showing these table on categories in all these slave databases. This allows to have the same IDs and have different data specific to that slave domains.

Sharing such common tables also means reduction of space. The geo database from a website (GeoNames?) requires 35 MB for one language. They offer 8 - 10 such databases for free. Two languages would costs 70 MB in one database. Why should one have 20 slaves x 70 MB cloned?

Every seperate database table will have to be indexed and their handles to be generated for queries. This requires sever resources.

On the contrary to your declaration, there is a “consistency of data“ amongst master and slave and “not inconsistency“ of data“!

The stupidity of Lead developers of Joomla has lead to embedded stupidity in Joomla's core. Every developer of component wants to have their own category IDs and own geo IDs. There is no consistency. It is not wrong to offer Joomla users to have a consistent ID system of categories and location IDs. Had that been there, one could use it in Registration process optionally asking a new user from which country he is based in. As this is missing, every developer of component or plug-in wants to demonstrate his expertise and make new IDs.

Sharing such tables based on categories or geographic locations within a component in master database is a fundamental need of every client. Because this function is not in JMS, no one has asked about it. If I am the first one, then it does not mean that this is a specific need of mine. This is nothing specific to myself.

What JMS should do is to let admins specify a component and then capture dynamically all tables related to it. One could also generate a drop-down tables to be selected for sharing, just the way how vData component in Joomla does. Having chosen the component or tables, one could then dynamically generate codes for sharing and convert them into VIEWS. Here, one could also have the data imported into master, if the table structure is the same or drop it.

Because the sharing technology has remained under developed in the last ten years, while it is scalable, I am really sorry to say that JMS today is too restrictive in terms of its usability.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/18 09:15

Concerning K2, I have downloaded the version 2.8.0 and installed on the master with success and it is correctly defined in JMS as I have been able to select this extension in JMS Template and be able to create slave site that share its content.
I also been able to use the JMS Tools and add K2 as shared extension into an existing slave site.
Therefore, I don't find any issue concerning the K2 sharing.
If you want that we connect on your environment for a deeper diagnosis, this is still possible with our billable support that you can order at
https://www.jms2win.com/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&page=shop.browse&category_id=1&keyword=&manufacturer_id=0&Itemid=1&orderby=product_name

Concerning the VIEWs, more than 90% of our customers must be considered as novice and does not have any experience in the sharing and in consistency.
Perhaps that you are an expert and know how to ensure the consistency of the data. This is great and therefore as you said, you are able to create the views manually.

As I told you, we are able to create specific plugin to let you add in XML specific rules. We do that with 1 hour of support to create such specific plugin.

Concerning your example of partial category sharing in DJ-Claissified and EasyBlog, this can not be

done in JMS without modificiation of those extensions to add a field in their tables.
Concerning EasyBlog, I think that you can ask to the author of EasyBlog to add such functionality. When they did that for EasySocial, we suggested that also do it for EasyBlog but they didn't implemented it because they didn't saw the interest for their customers, like for EasySocial. So perhaps that you can submit them the request to add the PHP Code in their extension to filter on the JMS Site ID in the categories.
For the moment, EasyBlog is only defined for a whole sharing of their table and not partial content.

The same for any extensions for which you would like to have a partial sharing. Request that to the author of those extensions because the modification in their code must be maintained in the time.

Concerning DJ-Classified, we never received any request to share their content.
Again, send us the extension in the attachment of an email and specify for which version of joomla you would like the review for the sharing.

Concerning the consistency of the data, you are wrong.
For example, you can not have inside an extension a reference to an "Article ID" to provide a specific text if this article is not also shared between site. (ie. to make reference to general condition, specific description, ...)
When you have such kind of things, this mean that you also have to share all the article and all the categories and all the users and all the tags, and finally almost all everything. In this case, this is no more a sharing but you have to use the same DB with same prefix between the websites. This is our "Share all site".
Perhaps that you know what you are doing but the majority does not know that and does not take care about the data. Once they are facing to the problem, in general this is too late and it is very difficult to fix the data in the DB once plenty of records and reference are created by live users.

Perhaps that you consider that JMS is too restrictive but as I already mentioned, we can develop a specific plugin to let you add specific rule in XML files.
As you mentioned that you have the skills, this is probably the solution to your needs to declare any rules under your own responsibility.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/18 12:59

Hello Edwin,

I give up as any discussions with you cannot help in substance. Even in our telephonic conversation before nine years, I had the same feeling. In the above post, I tried to explain any misunderstanding, if there was one. It was not that...

Where the the hell did I talk about sharing "Article ID"? You are making a joke by talking about "Article ID" sharing, when I am talking about "Category ID" sharing.

Your answers are thoughtless and pointless. I discussed about something generic and you begin to talk on something extension specific. As one could see, both of us have no common point to talk about, if you answer something else that what I am trying to address.

Regardless of this, I want to honestly thank you for your take time to answer my request. I will assure

you that I will not do so in the future, in placing questions of this kind. This was my terrible mistake that has wasted my time and have eaten your time as well

This is now my last post.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/19 09:35

Sorry to see that you didn't understand the example with the article sharing that illustrate the fact that we can NOT share any tables without knowing deeply all the relationship and why we don't want to provide such generic sharing that would leads to inconsistencies. This is the inconsistencies that force us to forbid to allow sharing whatever, as most people does not take care of the consistencies.

I told you that a specific plugin where you will setup XML file can do that but this is a specific thing that we create from time to time for specific needs like the one that you have described.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/19 10:21

To all other users, who may be watching or following this postings:

Following SQL query will create sharing of categories of articles from the Joomla default component:

```
DROP TABLE IF EXISTS `slave_tableprefix_categories`;
CREATE ALGORITHM=UNDEFINED DEFINER=`slave_dbusername`@`localhost` SQL SECURITY
DEFINER VIEW `slave_tableprefix_categories` AS  select
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`id` AS `id`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`asset_id` AS `asset_id`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`parent_id` AS `parent_id`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`lft` AS `lft`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`rgt` AS `rgt`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`level` AS `level`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`path` AS `path`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`extension` AS `extension`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`title` AS `title`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`alias` AS `alias`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`note` AS `note`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`description` AS `description`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`published` AS `published`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`checked_out` AS `checked_out`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`checked_out_time` AS `checked_out_time`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`access` AS `access`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`params` AS `params`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`metadesc` AS `metadesc`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`metakey` AS `metakey`,
```

```
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`metadata` AS `metadata`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`created_user_id` AS `created_user_id`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`created_time` AS `created_time`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`modified_user_id` AS `modified_user_id`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`modified_time` AS `modified_time`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`hits` AS `hits`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`language` AS `language`,
 `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories`.`version` AS `version`
from `master_dbname`.`master_tableprefix_categories` ;
```

Just substitute respective details, like master_tableprefix, etc. This SQL query will drop the table categories from default installation in slave database and after that create a VIEW from the master database table of categories.

With this, all categories from the master database will appear in the slave database.

Consequently, all the category IDs in master and slave databases will remain the same.

You could create new categories anywhere, from slave or master. Then the new categories will be saved in master database as all other slaves have a direct access through VIEWS.

Exactly this is also done with the User tables. They are one one ones in master, which any slave uses.

The above concept does no different than that.

With this method, every user could create VIEWS of a specific table in master database and have that shown in a slave database. This might be interesting and important, if one wants to have the same details from a table made available anywhere in any slave.

The advantage of this system is that one has the same categories from the master but will have different data of articles in the Joomla content component.

To have a merge of all slave articles, one could easily configure the auto-increment of an article in the table_content to have for slaveOne.com starting from 100000 and slaveTwo.com starting from 200000 and so one.

Thus, later, one could even import all articles into one website if one wants. Although if one does not, there is no harm.

To do such a replication of a master table, you simply create a new VIEW of that table in master. Then export that view, change necessary details like above example, and run that SQL code in a slave.

That table_category will be shared.

Likewiese, if one has masterprefix_countries, masterprefix_states and masterprefix_cities, then one could create VIEWS of those master tables and display them into all slaves. Thus, all the Geo-IDs of countries, states and cities will be the same in all slave databases.

Thats it.

And this tiny little thing Edwin did not understand. Thats a pity...

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/20 09:03

If you do such kind of sharing, be careful that you also need to share the user that is made in reference.
You also need to share the Assets table that are used to determine the ACL that are given to the categories.
As well as all the relationship and the category "options" and permissions must also be shared.
The additional "params" may also have content that is local to a website. (ie. the image path).
So you have to ensure that you also have the same "media options" and that you share the same image path on all the sites.

By your post, you clearly show that you didn't took in account the consistency and create inconsistencies when all the relationship are not also shared.

Perhaps that in your specific case, you also have shared all that and that it works fine for you but this explain why we refuse to generalize such kind of sharing without any control.

Thank you for this illustration that shows what CAN NOT be done without any control and why in such specific case we propose to develop a specific plugin to declare the specific sharing.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/20 10:58

Hello Edwin,

Of course, the only interest in your postings above, and all other postings, is to seriously help me out and no other. The example given above on creating SQL VIEWS was merely to contradict you and demonstrate there is only category_id in that table and had nothing to do with article_id, which you mentioned in your posting above.

The above SQL query for creating views is merely an example for someone else, like you and myself, who has sufficient knowledge to grasp fundamentals. Thats it. Then one could take this approach to do all necessary, at their own risks.

I am not commencing any sharing on slave websites today. I use it since many years now. Of course, I have done all necessary and shared all tables and directories, not today but, before half a decade. All works fine.

I am not sharing templates directory. I wish I could because it is possible to have different *.ini or *css files based on domains. This, I copies templates dir and I did not care about the loss of SSD webspace. But to have site_id, it is a bit complicated to have it in templates available the way I want.

So any discussion you made, or will make in future, will never help me. My installation is very specific to my ideas and concepts. I only came here to give you some feedback based upon my competence and expertise as well as give you some stimulation and motivation to develop multisite extension further. No more and no less. In this process, I got entangled with personal discussions and things about my installation, which is not necessary.

I also believe that you will ask more money from clients when Joomla 4 comes out.

Thus, I have already an interest to develop shell scripts and have some sharing of tables, etc. for Joomla 4 to generate slave sites and do all needful without JMS extension and achieve the same, without hacking the core, which JMS does.

JMS has been a comfortable tool to generate configuration.php and create links. I could do this all by myself without any help from php code. This is what I plan to do in the next months as I failed to convince you on certain conceptual matters here in my postings.

I will see if I could publish on Github my shell scripts for creation of slave sites.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/21 10:03

Sorry to tell you that in your previous post, you didn't warn the readers that doing such kind of category sharing will cause inconsistencies.
Now you accept the fact that this create inconsistencies and that you would have shared the other things without warning the readers of those inconsistencies.

This is the trap that I have tried to explain to the readers several times and that justify that this is what we don't want provide in standard due to the high risk of inconsistencies that are very hard to repair and therefore very expensive to repair.

We told you that we can create a specific plugin to define such kind of rules to add them to the JMS Template (sharing tabs) and the JMS Tools.
The plugin that we can create allows, with 2 XML files, defining when a directory is present, the list of tables that are used by this extension (or not).
You can also define a list of tables that can be shared with a wildcard and exclude some specific tables.

When those definitinos are added via plugin to JMS, they are merged with the JMS definitions and allows, depending on the context, deciding which tables must really be copied and which one can be shared. You just need any single rule amoung all the extensions definition that require a sharing to automatically convert the definition of a copy of a table into a sharing.

The solution to your needs exists but you don't want it.

Instead of that, you prefer spend time to develop scripts.
So have fun.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by jms2win_user - 2018/09/21 11:06

Hello Edwin,

I am tired and sick of having exchanges with you. Because my post had a subscribe activated, I kept on getting your emails. Nor, I will see if I can deactivate this in configuration somewhere.

Most of things you discuss here and just ridiculous. I have exercised my diplomacy and not written many things here. I have seen that you cannot help me and want to get into an endless spiral of baseless discussions.

I have never participated in discussions in the last ten years and after placing this post for the first time, I now even repent on knowing the manner and content with which you place counter arguments.

So from now on, I will not answer to your postings.

It should be very clear that I am not a fool and am an experienced person.

To make allegations, that I have been misleading your users, is nothing but more of a joke with which you downgrade yourself.

Simply because I see your mistakes and exercise restrictive form of postings here, does not mean that I am accepting certain inconsistencies or those kind of things. It is foolish to publish a claim to my postings here and declare that I have accepted inconsistencies and was misleading your users. Just a piece of Garbage.

Also, it is not my business to advise you on the quality of professionalism you should exercise here. This is your site, this is your business and keep doing with it what you want.

However, I will now have to take a distance.

Earlier, you said that one should share assets_id. Otherwise it will not work.

Because I was already sick of such useless discussions, I did not explain these things in-depth.

I did not and do not share assets table but only category table, i.e. to have category IDs shared.

With this, everything is working fine.

It will also work fine without JMS. Site sharing has nothing to do with JMS, once the mappings are properly configured. In my case, they are all correctly mapped.

For example:

If one has 100 tables, all data will be cloned in a slave database, including assets table. Thereafter, if one creates a VIEW of the category table - and NOT ASSETS TABLE - then category IDS will be shared.

Thus, there is full consistency between databases.

Thereafter, if one shares all respective users tables by creating VIEWS, there will be full consistency everywhere.

The principle is that the basic format of all tables in master and slave remains the same.

So for example, if I have DJ-Classifieds and EasyBlog installed in Master (before cloning the slave), I

could thereafter decide to share categories table in these extensions. If I have prefix_countries, prefix_states and prefix_cities in that set of 100 tables, then all these tables will be shared based upon creation of VIEWS.

The reason why all these things will work is because the assets table and all other details in a table, which is not shared, is available in the slave as a duplicate data. Here, it does not matter which database but the fact that the data is the same - i. e. - consistent everywhere.

For example, in these 100 tables, I will also have extension table. Their IDs will also be the same. So sharing works everywhere as well.

If I am not sharing extension table, and want to in stall a new extension in one of the slave site, then only that extension will be available in the slave site. It will not interfere other things because it will not be recognized by other sites, including master or slave.

The concept would become, therefore, a shared data in all tables, and some tables will be shared through VIEWS and others not. But they all will be having same IDS and data in to, all 100 of them at the time of cloning.

And thereafter i.e. after the cloning is done, the slave site specific activity begins. User registrations and modifications takes place in Master. Specific Articles will be inserted in a specific slave site pulling category IDs from the master. So, there is really no problem I have observed in my method in the last seven years.

That's why I have repeatedly mentioned that I do not want to have any help from you. You have been bringing me in a position to talk.

Thus, this is now my last posting. I do not care what you will write here and if you do so, I will not want to read or answer it.

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Re:Slave template and sharing not working

Posted by edwin2win - 2018/09/22 09:13

Again, you are wrong when you said that a full sharing of the category is OK when you don't share the asset table.
The only case where that could works is when you don't use any ACL because in this case, you don't have any records present inside the ACL to authorize the access to the categories.

When using the ACL and watch deeply, beside the Asset, you also have to share the module, the article, ..., all that are using the ACL to restrict the access to some content. The reason is that you can not give the access to a category or module content or article or .... #1 if in another site the content of such category, articles, module #1 makes reference to another content. So you have to also share them.

So again to the readers be careful when trying to do such kind of sharing.
If you want to do that, as mentioned earlier, we can develop a specific plugin and show you how to setup your first specific sharing that might have limitations.

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