

Chapter IV

Indiana University Bloomington Libraries Presents Organization to the Users and Power to the People: A Solution in Web Content Management

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Abstract

This chapter describes how the Indiana University Bloomington Libraries created a database-driven Web system that enables librarians and staff to publish content to the libraries' public Web site that maintains a consistent design and places the content into a logical and consistent structure. The

system comprises the libraries' public Web site interface, the content manager (CM) administrative interface, and an intranet. The new Web system was designed to replace a decentralized process that was previously followed to maintain a large Web site of 8,000-plus static HTML pages. The new system made it possible for their large decentralized organization to present a unified and well-designed public interface on the Web. The authors describe the technical and conceptual development of the content management aspect of the system with the hope of increasing understanding of content management systems.

Introduction

The Indiana University Bloomington Libraries created a database-driven Web system that enables librarians and staff to publish content to the libraries' public Web site that maintains a consistent design and places the content into a logical and consistent architecture. The system comprises the libraries' public Web site interface, the content manager (CM) administrative interface, and an intranet. The libraries' public Web site was designed and created to operate with the content manager, which includes all of the input forms for pages and content within the libraries' public Web site, as well as a component called the Resource Manager which, controls and makes available all of the IUB Libraries' online subscription databases and resources. This case study will focus primarily on the creation of the content manager.

Background

The Indiana University Bloomington (IUB) Libraries consist of 16 libraries holding more than 6.5 million items. The IUB Libraries subscribe to more than 300 electronic databases and provide access to more than 30,000 electronic journals through direct subscriptions and serial aggregators. The libraries serve the research and instructional needs of Bloomington faculty and students—including more than 31,000 undergraduates, more than 8,000 graduate students, and more than 1,700 faculty—as well as the residents of Indiana. The IUB Campus is well known for its broad technology access for students and

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