

Web Strategy: Using Drupal to Transform Your Business

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Who's this guy?

I'm Jason Pamental (@jpamental in most places)

- Built my first site targeting Mosaic and Netscape 1 while studying Graphic Design
- Built my first DB-backed CMS site in 1997
- Have run my own small shop, worked for several others variously as CD, Tech Dir, designer, developer, consultant, infrastructure manager
- Have seen too many correlations between headless chickens and web projects
- Have made a career over the past 15+ years looking for connections, bridging gaps and reconfabulating widgets to use them in new ways to solve vexing problems

Web Strategy Defined

It's the 'big' picture:

- **business understanding:** knowing your or your client's business what it does, who it serves, how it works and how it doesn't
- design: including info. arch., usability, user experience, interaction & visual design
- **technology:** what's out there, what it can do, what's coming and when, how it works and how it doesn't, how it can work with and support business and design goals
- Web Strategy is the top of the tripod: supported by and connects the legs & in turn supports and gives direction to the

...and why you should care

It's your job to make it all work

There are too many good tools out there to just make a pixelbased brochure

The web's growing up, so must our thinking. Web tech enables us to make fantastic stuff – you have to study your org or your client and find the opportunities

Why this @ a Drupal Conf?

- Because building a blog in Drupal is a waste of Drupal's time There are over 6,000 projects on Drupal.org (2 Way Video Chat, Activity Stream, Google Buzz, Multivariate, Petition Node, Role Contact)
- Innovation & Inspiration work both ways:
 - Study your client for opp's (pain points) and look for modules to help
 - Browse the modules directory you'll find amazing stuff that might set off some light bulbs for this or future projects

Plays Well With Others

- Drupal has incredible possibilities with just the contributed modules, but that's just the beginning
- **RSS+Feeds=Near limitless content sources**
- Built with PHP and jQuery don't see what you need? Build it or buy it and integrate
- Services, LDAP, OAuth, FBConnect modules examples of even greater interoperability with larger/more complex environments

Some Examples

- An Online Corporate Newsroom
 - A Tech Company's Partner Content/Support Hub
- A Sailmaker's Rebate Program

CVSCaremark.com/newsroom

- Needed to simplify workflow: single platform w/revision and workflow controls
- 1-Click publish and submission to wire services (w/auto-gen Word doc attachment)
- Simultaneous email notifications to 20,000+ subscribers
 - Solved: PR team can publish once and distribute to main site, IR site, newswires, RSS and Email

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NineTechnology.com

- All the usual suspects: needed CMS, platform for marketing & PR
 - ... but also integrated with Hubspot and Salesforce
- Also needed a way to manage branding, materials for marketing and support for multiple partners
 - Using Drupal as core plus PDFlib to dynamically create cobranded datasheets and other materials



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NorthSails.com

(Disclaimer: this wasn't built in Drupal, but could have been and I'll talk about how)

Needed to tie print promotion with online call-to-action, receiving and processing of trade-in sails and issuance of rebates

Customer gets promo card with new sail purchase

Goes to website to register, print shipping label

Receiving center checks shipping label and matches codes on intranet page (tied to same DB) – works for partial shipments too. Check-box updates logs receipt of sails

Auto-generated email to Accounting; log in and generate printout w/all eligible rebates, w/ customer info, sail info and rebate amount elegible

So what about you?

- Time permitting (checking watch...) let's talk about your project
 Look around: what's the opportunity? Look for things that take time, things that are oft-repeated, things that need sequenced participation from several parties
 - Even just using core Drupal roles, actions, triggers and permissions you can build great communication tools and workflows.

Look, Think, Plan – THEN Do

- When starting a new project, don't just listen to what they want to do. Figure out WHY
- Focus on understanding the problems, issues & challenges first
- Wide angle lenses see more. Be one go in and see what people are doing, how they work, what takes their time
- [Tackle one timesaver: get people a few hours back & measure the benefits: that opens the door for bigger opportunities

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Thank You!

 I welcome your feedback!
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 Now go make great stuff