

ServasOnLine Drupal Working Prototype Teleconference

April 7, 2011

Attendees: Gary Sealey, John Gunther, Thomas Thomas, Pramod Kumar, Penny Pattison

1. Discussed ServasOnLine challenges, and the generous offer that Mathew made, to develop a working prototype in Drupal, based on the screens designed in Spinea .
2. There is a group of German developers who are meeting April 9-10, and are interested in supporting the project. Drupal has been discussed in Germany for their website. They are not experts in Drupal, but are experienced programmers in PHP, SQL, HTML
3. Both John and Thomas have been staying in contact with BeWelcome technical people, and some in BeWelcome are also exploring Drupal. There has been some discussion of collaborating.
4. Pramod outlined the functions that Mathew has included. Subsequent to the meeting, he confirmed that Mathew recommends Drupal 6, since it has more modules and is more stable.
5. Thomas and John are interested in the technical details of which Drupal modules are being used. Thomas is particularly interested in the user rights.
6. John Gunther noted the need to work to user requirements. **John then volunteered to coordinate the Use Cases, with the caveat that he only has about 5 hours per week to devote to it.** He also indicated that he is willing to contribute to programming and programming management.
7. John emphasized his belief that the system should be flexible enough to accommodate other like organizations. Others agreed in principle, although there was concern that it might delay the working prototype schedule. John's specific points:
 - separate the functionality from the display, so appearance can be tailored independently
 - allow features to be enabled/disabled per organization, including among different Servas countries, for such things as expiration dates, visit feedback
 - use existing Drupal modules where possible

Pramod, as Project Manager, emphasized the need for reasonable functionality to meet the 2009 GA requirements and not going for too much variation in the design if it would delay the project.

8. Pramod indicated that Mathew would like to collaborate with other programmers. In particular, he would like others to help with the 'user friendly' interface, ideally with a designer.

9. Thomas felt that there could be good collaboration with Mathew during the coming weekend (Sat. Apr 9 from 8:00 GMT until the evening, Sun Apr 10 from 8:00 GMT for a few hours), and requested that Mathew attend by phone or Skype. Pramod will share Mathew's contact information.
10. Pramod announced that Amir Levy will be in Russia in May, and will meet with Mathew, ideally to do some development.
11. The group agreed that a huge thank you was due to Mathew, and also to Pramod for facilitating the process. There was enthusiasm that the German group and John, and perhaps others, could contribute to Mathew's work, under the Project Management of Pramod.
12. Next Steps:
 - Pramod send link to Mathew's site
 - Get feedback from the Germany technical weekend
 - See Mathew's first draft of the prototype
 - Arrange another call for this same group of people in a week or two