

Community Forge Tools for Localisation

Hello everyone,

Here is the long awaited new Community Forge newsletter

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Wishes for 2015

Best wishes for 2015 from the CommunityForge team. May the year be filled with happiness, health, prosperity.

We would like to thank you all for your trust and remind you that you can join us in this adventure to contribute to our work.

CommunityForge News

We are working very hard for the General Meeting which will take place very soon (more information below).

A new version will soon be released and many projects are being planned.

During the Skype team's latest Skype meetings, Véronique and Marlies have joined us to contribute and we would like to thank them.

A redesign of the CommunityForge site is currently taking place. We suggest you visit the site to discover what's new.

General Meeting

We invite you to participate to the General Meeting and to the two days of training for French speakers on 27-29 March 2015. These days will take place in Switzerland, in the village of Jaun in Gruyère. www.tourismus.juan.ch

The General Meeting will take place on Friday evening at 17h00. This General Meeting is open to all. If you cannot join us on site, you will be able to join us via Skype.

The training days will take place on Saturday and Sunday.

All activities will take place on the same site (lodging, meals, meeting, training)
www.jagona.ch

The necessary information and the application form can be found on the link below:

Application Form

We will send you more information shortly, but sign up quickly as the number of spots are limited.

The different versions of the “heart” of Drupal

The migration from one version of the “heart” of Drupal to the next, are generally imposed to prevent malicious intrusion attempts.

They also allow volunteers programmers of the Drupal community to implant more and more functionalities and to continually improve them.

The drawback is that each new version imposes to verify if the modules created by CommunityForge to answer the specific needs of our communities remain 100% compatible with the recent modifications of the “heart” of Drupal.

We must also, with each new version of the “heart” of Drupal test if the migration from older vulnerable versions of Drupal to the newer version works alright.

The support team is therefore always making sure that everything is maintained which allows us to continue using our platforms without problems.

Finally, we are also taking the opportunity of these migrations to propose adjustments on our own tools. Concretely, when your site will have migrated to 7.34, the block “category of loans, ride-sharing,...) we will be able to sort by category and to refine by type of ads.

If your platform still uses a version of Drupal 6, it is now time to consider upgrading to version 7. The longer you wait to make this migration, the more complex the task will be. Rest assured that the support team will be available to help your community during each of these migrations.

Safety

During the past months, our team has worked hard to increase the safety of our servers and our sites. Once more, the skills of Matthew, our talented programmer, and of Phil, our system operator, have been very precious.

One measure that we have been forced to implement is the installation of Cloudflare. Cloudflare is a sort of mirror of existing sites, located in another location than the site, and that, in case of an attack, suffers the damage, instead of the site. When the mirror site is damaged by an attack, the cloud switches to safety mode, and at the end of the attack recharges the original site. This maneuver allows us to avoid any damage to the original platform.

The 7.31 version of Drupal, and even more with the 7.34 version which contains different functions of connecting with the protections we have established in our Cloudflare, have allowed synchronization between our safety measures in Drupal and those we have included in our Cloudflare. These measures contribute to improve the stability, the protection, and the reliability of our platforms. As a result, our Drupal platforms are today better protected against various attacks.

CommunityForge support France

Why is there a need for CommunityForge support in France?

Since a few months (even a few years) the number of communities equipped with our management software keeps on increasing.

Our presence during the various National Intersels (since Jambville) for the training and the setting up of sites, has strongly contributed to this increase in registrations.

First carried by Tim (the CommunityForge President), then by Mathieu (President of CommunityForge Support France) these representations have had positive effects on the number of registrations and the interest of local exchange trading systems in order to facilitate their management and their everyday life.

But, there is a problem in France. Many local exchange trading systems wish to make donations to help us in our actions, but in France, there is a means of payment that is not cashable in Switzerland: checks.

Our annual charges increase year by year, and it was starting to become difficult to limit ourselves to Paypal payments and various transfers. Because various local exchange trading systems were asking us to accept checks, this has become possible with the setting up of CommunityForge support France.

Moreover (the financial aspect is not what is more important with us) it also seemed interesting for us to have a representation of CommunityForge in France, in order to be officially recognized in France administratively and financially.

We have therefore created an antenna, its address (for the sending of checks or any other matters) is:

CommunityForge Support France

C/O "Mathieu Fémel"

36 Rue Paul Vasselin

76400 Fécamp

This association has its own status and operations.

By its origins, it refers to CommunityForge, but it has its own accounting.

Each French local exchange trading system is a member of the association and can therefore participate in its operations.

Any individual member of a local exchange trading system can join us. For this, just contact us. The first General Meeting will take place in August 2015 during the National Intersel. We will give you more details on this as soon as possible.

Ticket System for Support

A ticket system is operational for our communities.

It is really a management system for incidents that is designed to replace the current inbox in order to better work as a team.

The site <http://helpdesk.communityforge.net/> allows you to post tickets to let us know about your requests for improvement, personalization, detection of bugs (yes IT without bugs doesn't yet exist).

The tickets allow us to follow your requests more easily, to be informed of the status of each request, to transfer it to a more specialized person, etc...

To create a ticket:

- Go to <http://helpdesk.communityforge.net>
- Log in with your user ID and password (if you don't have one yet, you can create one)
- You can then create a ticket or see the status of your request.

Classified ads

In this section, we will list all of our needs or the improvements that you have sent us:

- We are looking for testers for the new upcoming versions.
- We are looking for translators

For more details, you can contact us at support@communityforge.net