

# Joomla CMS

by Philip Cowen

Coventry LUG meeting  
21/10/08



# Joomla CMS

- Background
- Installation
- Elements
- Configuration
- Backing Up Site
- Additional Resources
- Reference Sites



# Background

- Joomla is a content management system (CMS)
- Can be used to build websites and online applications
- Is open source and freely available to all
- CMS is software that keeps track of content on a website (text, photos, video, music)
- Requires little technical skill or knowledge to manage



# Background

- Joomla start in August 2005 as a fork of Mambo following dispute over direction
- Joomla is the English spelling of the Swahili word jumla meaning "all together" or "as a whole"
- Joomla 1.0.0 released September 2005 as re-branded version of Mambo 4.5.2.3
- Joomla 1.0.15 is current release of version based on Mambo fork



# Background

- Joomla 1.5 released January 2008 as ground up re-write not using Mambo code
- Joomla 1.5.7 is current release of this version
- Both versions maintained and supported
- Available from Joomla download [site](#)



# Installation

- Pre-requisites
  - PHP 5.2+ recommended, 4.2 minimum
  - Some versions of PHP interfere with the installation (4.3.9, 4.4.2, 5.04)
  - MySQL 4.1.x+ recommended, 3.23 minimum
  - Apache 2.x+ recommended, 1.3 minimum
  - Apache to be compiled with with `mod_mysql`, `mod_xml` and `mod_zlib` support
  - Further details from Joomla technical requirements [site](#)



# Installation

- Steps
  - Download Joomla
  - Unzip files
  - Move unzipped files to folder in /var/www
  - Change ownership of folder (**whole or parts**)
  - Change file and directory (**permissions**)
  - Create database
  - Follow web installer



# Installation

- Demonstration of installation
- Reference to existing website  
[www.safety-ecology.co.uk](http://www.safety-ecology.co.uk) built using Joomla





# Elements

- Templates control overall structure/appearance
  - Can add additional templates (free or paid)
  - Can edit template HTML/CSS to change appearance
  - Can use template switcher
- Components core element displayed in main body
  - Banners, contacts, news feeds, polls, web links
- Modules provide additional functionality
  - Main menu, template chooser, hit counter
- Mambots



# Configuration

- Managing content
  - Sections > Categories > Content Items
  - Cannot create content item without section/category
  - Static content items does not need section/category
  - Images
  - Menus
  - Frontpage manager
- Managing users
  - Front end or back end



# Configuration

- Contacts
- News Feeds
- Polls
- Modules



# Backing Up Site

- Save files
- Export database
- Restore file and set permissions
- Import database
- Update configuration.php file



# Additional Resources

- Many sites with Joomla resources
  - Joomla
  - Joomla Shack
  - Joomla Tutorials
  - Joomla Designs
  - Best of Joomla
  - Joomla Themes



# Reference Sites

- Examples of sites using Joomla
  - [About Joomla](#)
  - [Joomla 1.0.x Showcase](#)
  - [Joomla 1.5 Showcase](#)

