

All + All -

Mambo Roadmap

Disclaimer

The following is the proposed Roadmap for Mambo 4.5.x and 4.6.

It is likely to change depending on the features implemented in previous versions and other features requested during development and use of previous versions.

4.5.1a

4.5.2

GOALS & PURPOSE

Fix bugs reported in 4.5.1

Examine community feedback - assess problem areas

Little or no DB schema changes

Maintain high level of backward compatibility

Minimal new features

Consolidate and enhance some existing features

Aim to complete within 30-60 days

Informal Test/Beta/Release Cycle

Known Issues

Have found cause. Script not responding to Opera, when Opera identifies itself as Opera. Works ok when browser set to identify as MSIE 6.0... annoying, not critical!! Just making this known.

Provide database backup solution

Using Latest CVS from Phil Taylor's website (Mambo 4.5.1 CVS 20/09/04 02:26GMT vCVS) go to backend, help, index shows index help file. now try to show Site, Template Manager. Can you also see that the menu "disappears" behind the help index file. (is also valid for menu:components etc.) ?

1. Tooltips in IE are shown under other objects. They should be over them, in front. See Content Items --> Parameters --> Tooltips.

2. Main or User Menu, the Toolbuttons (New, Edit, Publish...). In IE the 'Cancel' Text is not shown under the image but aside. If you go with the mouse over some buttons then you should see on some an underline in the middle.

Investigate Safe Mode support

Global Checkin Improvements

Add pre-checkin step allowing you to select items to be checked in

Performance Improvements

Implement single getItemid process with no URL passing

Buffer admin components prior to template output

Code Consolidation

Reduce repetitive HTML output code

Stage 2 of Admin code consolidation

Merge com_registration, com_user and com_login into a single component

Merge mod_mostread and mod_latest modules into a single, multi-purpose

module

Consolidate 'Blog - Category Multi' & 'Blog - Category'

- Possibility of terminating from a component
~ <http://forum.mamboserver.com/showthread.php?p=88214&posted=1#post88214>

■ Scheduled for Removal

MENU_default

toolbar_default option in mainframe getPath method

Frontend com_banners

(mod_banners does the same job)

■ Configuration

Configuration variables will move into a class and a global variable (\$_CONFIG) rather than many individual variables (\$mosConfig). This improves performance, security and coding. Backwards compatibility can be supported for this change.

At present the configuration.php file in Mambo use a variable method e.g.

```
<?php
$mosConfig_sitename = 'My Site Name';
?>
```

By moving to a class based method will provide a speed increase in the general operation of Mambo e.g.

```
<?php class mosConfig {
// database
var $DBHOST='localhost';
var $DBUSER='root';
var $DBPASS='';
var $DBNAME='4_5';
var $DBPREF='mos_';
var $DBTYPE='mysql';
}
/** @global mosConfig $_CONFIG */
$_CONFIG =& new mosConfig();
```

■ Administration

Improve cross browser compatibility in Administration

■ Interface Improvements

For Menu options change from Tab Structure to table structure utilised elsewhere - e.g. Manage Contacts

Add descriptions to the Menu Option selection page

Best option would be some Javascript that would show only the description currently selected

Add orderby select for Users Manager

■ Trial Presentation Layer Templating

Trial use of patTemplate for selected administrator components

■ Moveable administrator directory

Allow for the Administrator directory to be placed in a different location on

the same server for security reasons.

- CMT installer rollback function
 - If the installer fails for any reason - provide a backout system to delete files and folders that were created.
- Tools Submenu
 - Allow for wrapper functionality in Admin
- Ability to change the access permission of files that need to be writeable
 - Requires switching handling in different OS
 - simple toggle ability to make something writeable / on writeable
 - make it a mambo.php mosAdminMenus class function
- Examine auto archiving features
 - Trash handling
 - Extend Trash Handling to Sections and Categories
 - Allow disabling of Trash Handling - i.e. straight delete
 - May necessitate the Icons also changing from Trash to Delete so as to highlight the change
 - Use different Icons for Trash & Delete
 - Clean Trash function
 - Under 'system' submenu
 - deletes all items from trash manager
 - Registration
 - Add parameters to change default access type of new users
- **Parameters**
 - Add new parameter type that will allow selection of Section or Category IDs via a dropdown box
 - Allow activation of individual Params for Display Pages
 - Example: on the frontpage it would allow individual news items to have different settings for print|pdf|emil or in regard to sections & categories being visible
- **Components**
 - Contacts
 - Look at allowing users to edit their linked contact info
 - Archive
 - More display options for archives
 - Content
 - more display options
 - more flexible options
 - Examine custom content class creation
 - Could be part of 'Advanced' Tools Submenu
- **Modules**
 - Amalgamate 'Latest', 'Most Popular' & 'Newflash' into into modules into one 'News' module
 - Add more parameter options
 - Unpublished news module
 - Recently submitted news
 - logged in users
- **Mambots**
 - Mambot improvements
 - Enable use of mambots within section/category description

Mambot installer to install parameters into database

Add function to mambot class that will load mambot params from database

where you can use parameters to control what mosimage mambot does (1. Strip all tags, dont display images 2. Replace tags with images.)

- Add more parameter options to TinyMCE
 - e.g. loading of stylesheet and allow panel to appear top or bottom
 - <http://tinymce.moxiecode.com/docs/using.htm>

Soft Port to ADODB

To facilitate future cross-database support and the the phpGACL library.

~ <http://phpgacl.sourceforge.net/>

Install library and modify database.php

Move limits syntax into setQuery arguments, eg

```
$query = "SELECT * FROM mos_users";
$limit = 10;
$offset = 0;
$setQuery( $query, $offset, $limit );
```

■ Language

■ Language constants will move into a class and a global variable (\$_LANG) rather

than many individual defines. This improves performance, security and coding. Backwards compatibility can be supported for this change.

At present the language files in Mambo use the define method e.g.

```
<?php
DEFINE ( '_ADD_CONTENT', 'Click here to add new
content' );
?>
```

By moving to a class based method will provide a speed increase in the general operation of Mambo e.g.

```
<?php
class mamboLanguageEN extends
mamboAbstractLanguage {
/** Common Language variables */
var $ACTIONS = 'Actions';
var $BACK = 'Back';
var $LOGIN = 'Login'; }
$_LANG =& new mamboLanguageEN();
?>
```

Activate language related information e.g.

```
/** @var string Official element name of the
language */
var $_name=null;
```

```

/** @var string language locale for the locale
formatting */
var $_locale=null;
/** @var string iso charset of html files */
var $_iso=null;
/** @var string iso code of the language */
var $_isocode=null;
/** @var string The name of the last merged class
*/
var $_lastMerge=null;

```

Convert Frontend Language Support

Template change: Integration of dynamic language changes
 Add support for special print function
 which takes care of html decoded output for JS outputs

Add Backend Language Support

Add support for Backend language installer
 Add language file editor from 4.6 prototype CVS

Consider how Right-to-Left languages (eg, Arabic) might be supported

Consider how component menu items might be translated

4.5.3

■ GOALS & PURPOSE

Fix bugs reported in 4.5.2

Some DB schema changes (mainly ACL)

Stage 1 of better Access Control ("Can I do this?")

Preparation for 4.6

Aim to complete in 3-4 months

Formal Test/Beta/Release Cycle

■ Scheduled for Removal

■ Polls

There is an existing project called PollXT. This project already provides many enhancements over the core poll component/module today.

~ <http://mamboforge.net/projects/pollxt/>

■ Banners

Banners component and modules. There are better systems available such as phpAds.

Weblinks

Legacy mambot module

■ Sections and Categories

Consolidate into one heirarchical table

Allow content to be assigned in multiple categories

Make 'Frontpage' redundant by blogging a category

■ Versioning Support

Use parent_id in content table to support true versioning

Add version manager

■ Web Services

In order to provide a better mechanism for adding content to Mambo outside of administration it is proposed to remove the editing feature from the frontend

content component and move it to a web services based external application. This application could be a separate PHP install or a 3rd party Java, Perl, Python etc. application. The gains from this proposed moved will be plenty. Firstly security will be improved as the worries about XSS or SQL injection will be further removed. Performance of the content component will be enhanced as the component will be drastically reduced in size.

■ RBAC - Stage 1

Upgrade phpGACL

Add user groups manager

Reconfigure groups heirarchy, something like:

ROOT

- Users
- - Anonymous (Public)
- - Registered (Site groups)
 - - - Authors
 - - - - Editors
 - - - - - Publishers
- - Administrators (Admin groups)
 - - - Super Administrator

Ability to configure acces to functions

Look at massaging phpGACL to support roles (probably as groups of ACL's)

■ Administration

■ CMT Installer upgrades

- Add support for packages of elements to be installed from one file
- Add manager to handle elements installed as a bundle
- Add functionality for CMT upgrade packages

■ Presentation Layer Templating

Continue conversion of administrator components

■ Link Manager

- Optimize handling of contente integrated links
- Enable check of href links (still existing)
- Enable cross linking within the site
- Overview of links used within the site
- Enable linking with counter like WebLink component

■ Templates

Consolidate Site and Admin template functions into a single class API

■ 4.6

GOALS & PURPOSE

Fixed relevant bugs reported in 4.5.3

Major upgrade

Make oppotunities out of changing web technologies

Access prevalence of PHP 5.x, MySQL 4.x, etc

Little or difficult backwards compatibility

Stage 2 of better Access Control ("Get everything that I am allowed to see?")

■ Scheduled for Removal

mainbody.php
metadata.php

- Web Services
 - Allow for the Administrator to connect to a remote site. Components must have the ability to expose certain calls for this protocol.
- RBAC - Stage 2
 - Access control on content items
- Authentication
 - Develop Mambots to allow for other Authentication models (for example, via LDAP).
 - Also examine cross-authentication with other apps (single point sign on)
- Workflow engine
- Templates
 - xHTML compliance (xMambo)
 - All output will be redesigned to conform to X-Mambo principles (that is, xHTML, more layout styling via css rather than tables).

 - This puts Mambo on track for more easily complying with Accessibility Issues (like tablet screen readers, etc) and for alternative stylesheets for printing, etc.
- Database
 - Node-based content/object schema (NBS)
- Language
 - Multi-lingual content support

Legend

Work completed

Work in progress

Stable release

Under development