DRUPALCAMP OTTAWA

#DCO2025

DRUPALCAMP OTTAWA

#DCO2025

Drupal 101

David Pascoe-Deslauriers - Coldfront Labs Inc. - May 2nd, 2025

DRUPALCAMP OTTAWA

#DCO2025

Session Recordings

Speakers, hit the record/red button!

Attendees, remind speakers about the record button!

All recorded sessions will be available online on the DrupalYOW youtube channel.

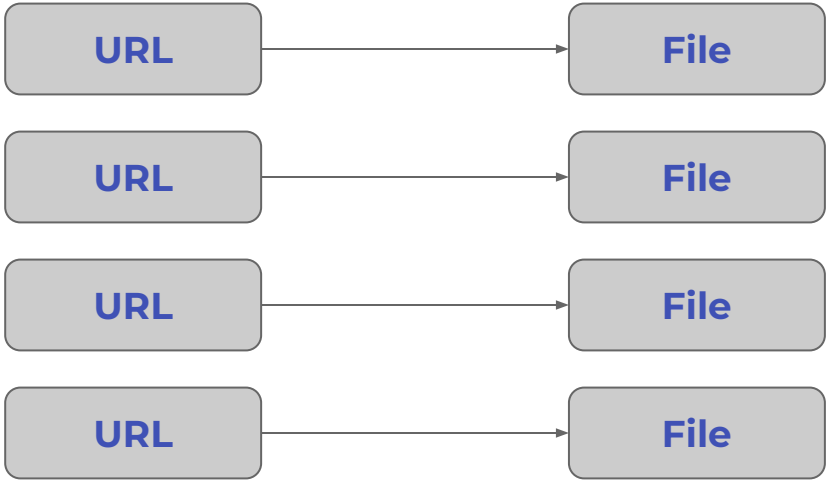
Coldfront Labs Inc.™

1.

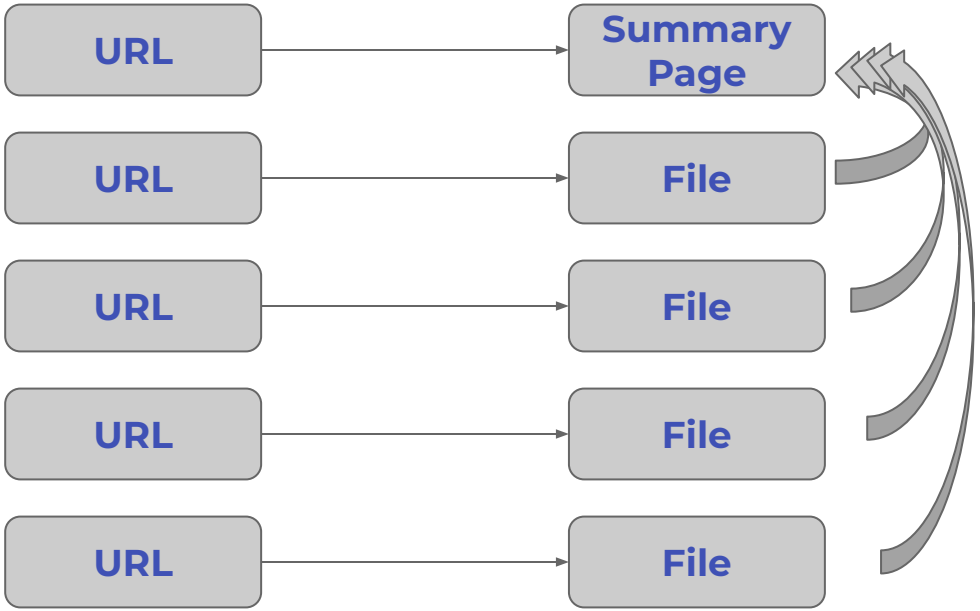
Content Management

Coldfront Labs Inc.

Content Management
Static Content

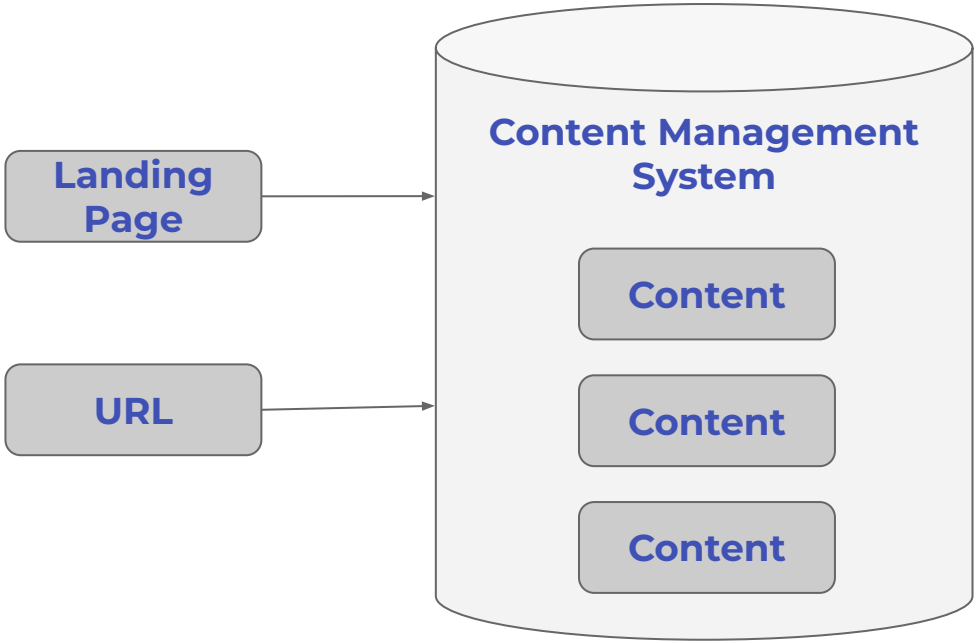


Content Management
Static Content - Problems



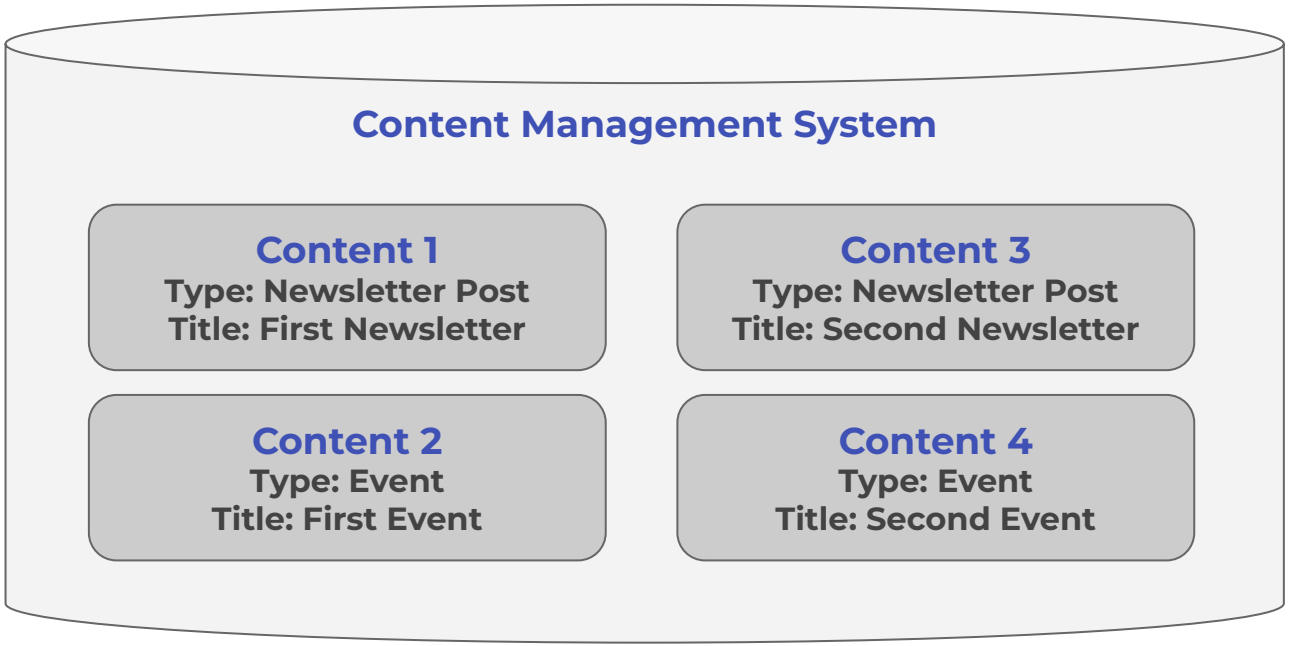
Coldfront Labs Inc.

Content Management
Dynamic Content

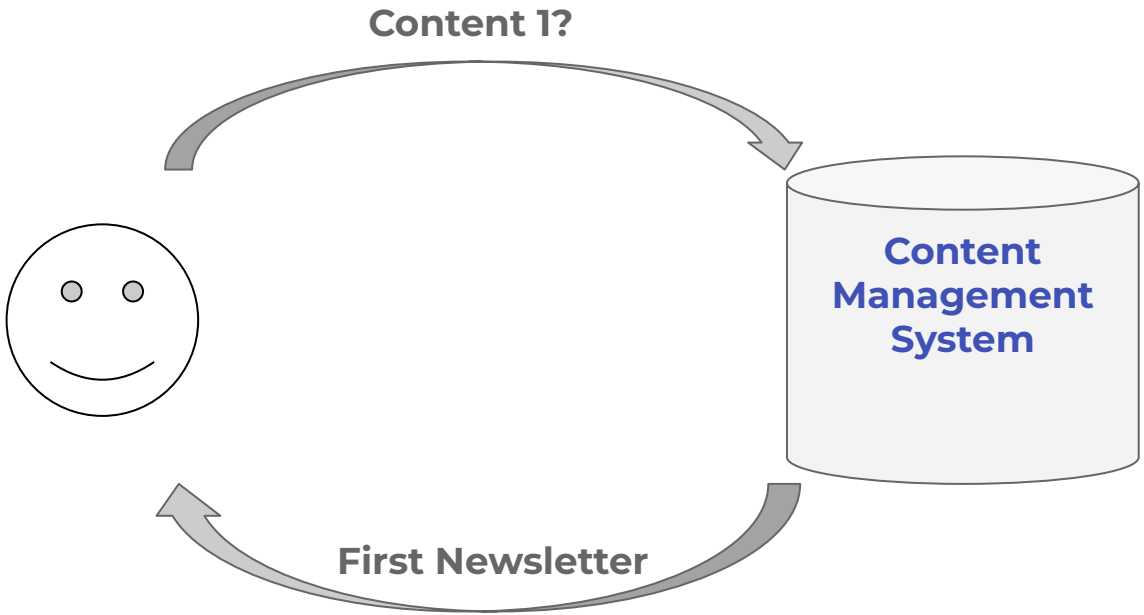


Coldfront Labs Inc.

Content Management
Dynamic Content

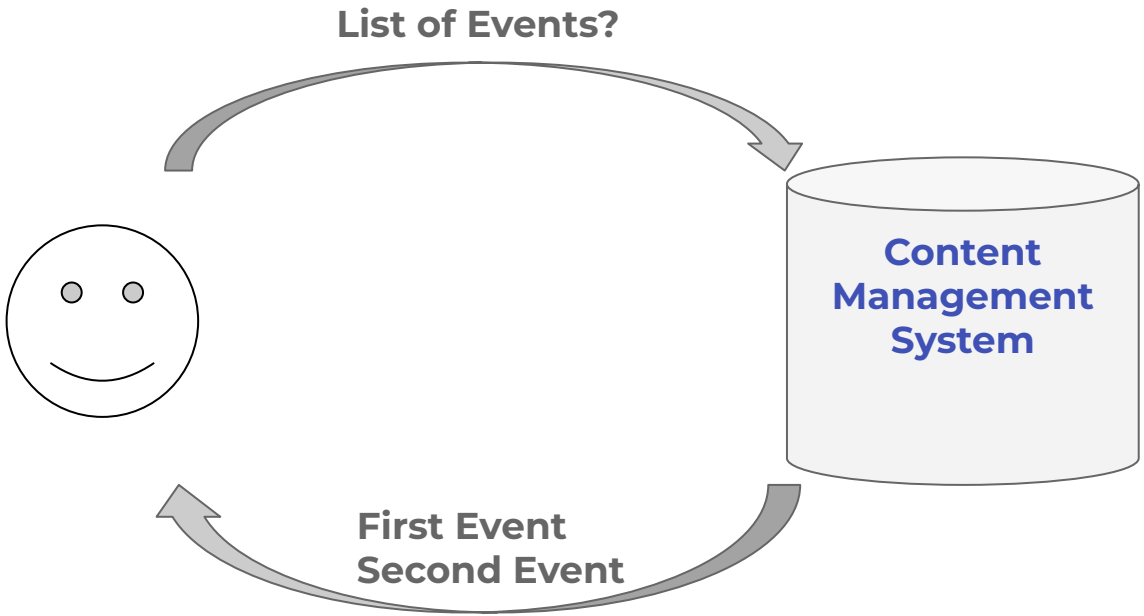


Content Management
Dynamic Content



Coldfront Labs Inc.

Content Management
Dynamic Content



Content Management
Different Types of Content

We have different types of content which contain different types of data points.

Groups of content that share a model/template are called “content types”.

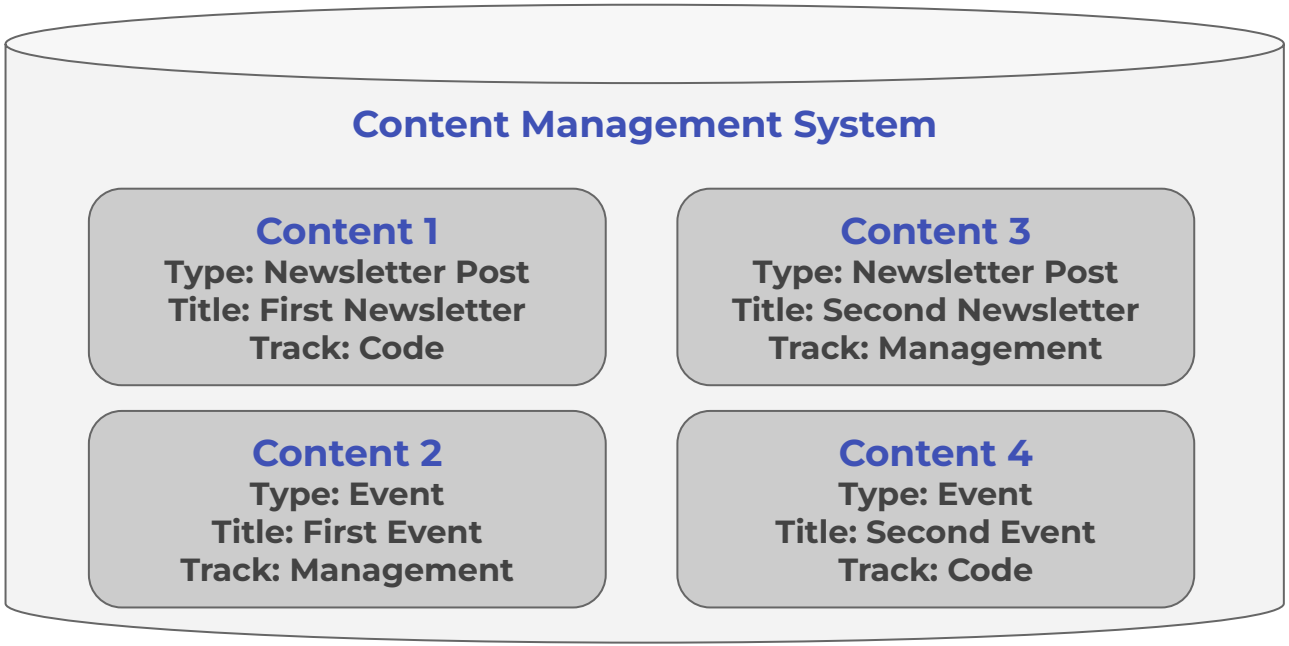
Content Management

Different Types of Content

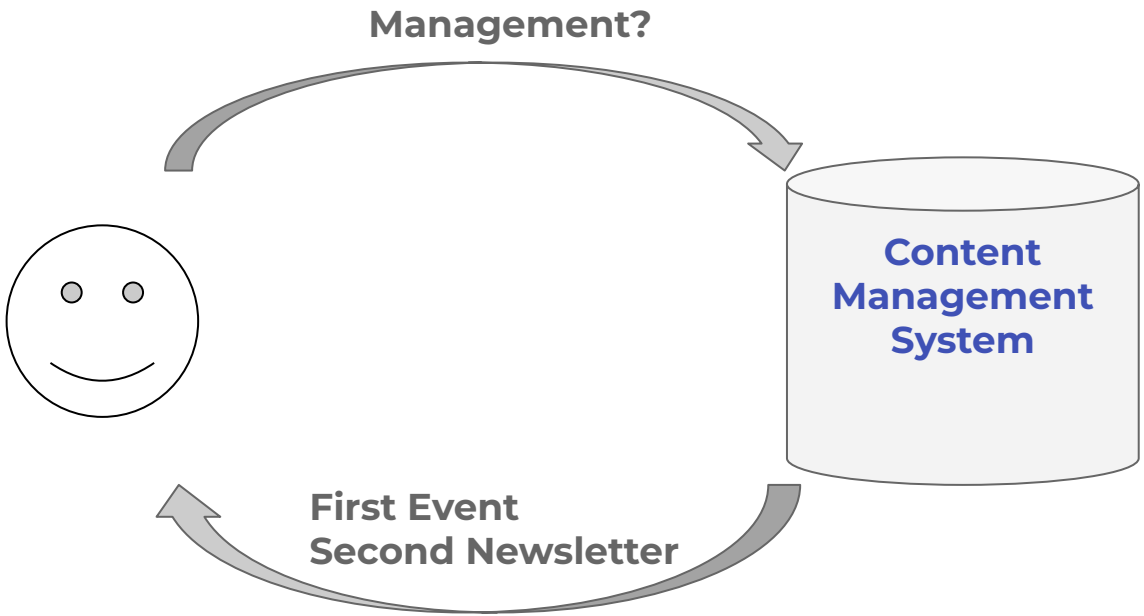
Tagging
Classifying and Organizing

- Taxonomies are lists of terms for classifying content.
- We can have multiple vocabularies of terms.
- This way, we can classify content of different type together

Tagging
Uses



Tagging
Uses



Coldfront Labs Inc.™

2.

What is Drupal?

Drupal™

Drupal is an free and open source content management framework.

Drupal is an extendable platform so it generally isn't generally deployed as an out-of-box solution, it's usually the base for larger applications.

Drupal is written completely in PHP.

Since Drupal 8, Drupal is a symfony app.

Drupal is generally backed by a MariaDB/MySQL database.

Coldfront Labs Inc.™

Drupal History

2000: Project started as electronic a bulletin board written by a university student.

2006: not-for-profit “Drupal VZW” was created to owns copyrights and manages project direction and resources.

2008: DrupalCon Inc. is formed to manage community events and conferences.

2011: DrupalCon Inc. becomes the Drupal Association and becomes the legal body supporting the Drupal project and opens an office in Portland.

About Drupal

- Focus on creating and configuring in the GUI
- Due to large number of features, this makes for an overwhelming experience to beginners
- Features are written generic, with specific functionality to be configured
- Modular design - Easy to extend without changing “core”
- Due to Drupal’s flexibility, it’s a great platform to quickly build web applications.

Modules

Drupal provides an API with modules providing specific features.

Core
Core modules are features that come with Drupal and are supported and maintained by the Drupal Core team

Contrib
Contributed (or contrib) are features developed and supported by Drupal community members, and are downloaded separately

Let’s take a look at Drupal

Let’s load up the “Standard” install.

Drupal 10
Finding your way around

Drupal's navigation is laid out in a tree, providing access to manage the various subsystems:

- Content
- Structure
- Appearance
- Extend
- Configuration
- People
- Reports
- Help

Coldfront Labs Inc.™

3.

Using Drupal for content management

Nodes

Nodes are Drupal's built-in data structure for storing site content.

Drupal calls nodes "contents" and node types "content types"

Nodes come with tons of built-in features.

- Recorded authoring information
- View pages
- Sticky
- Promoted to frontpage
- The node page
- Comments

Comments

Comments are Drupal's data structure for storing comments.

Comments can be threaded and relate to a specific node.

Comments also have a moderation system.

Taxonomies and Terms

Taxonomy vocabularies and terms are Drupal's built-in data structure for classifying other pieces of content.

Taxonomy terms come with pages that display all of the content tagged with that term.

Custom Blocks

Custom blocks are Drupal's data structure for storing site content used for site layout.

Blocks are placeable elements in Drupal's layout system.

Users

Users are Drupal's data structure for authentication, authorization, access control and tracking authoring information.

Users are how people interact with Drupal.

Media

Media entities are generally wrappers of metadata around files.

Examples:

Images have alt text.

Documents are published dates.

Videos have summaries and subtitles.

Files

Files are Drupal data structure for managing metadata about files managed by Drupal.

Files (entity) links entries in the database to files on the filesystem.

Menus

Menus and menu items are Drupal data structure for managing site menus and links.

Menus are essentially lists that provide navigation components to the site.

And many more!

Messages, Paragraphs, Profiles, oh my!

Fields
Storing Data

Content in Drupal is “fieldable”.

Fields store, render, and provide editing interfaces for bits of typed data (and needed metadata).

Fields have the following concepts:

- Type
- Cardinality
- Widgets
- Formatters

Fields
Type

Type controls the database schema and validation used to store the values for that field.

The type limits the data that can be stored in that field.

- Boolean
- Date
- Email
- Timestamp
- Comments
- Links
- Numbers
- Text (Plain / Formatted)
- Text Long (Plain / Formatted)
- Lists
- References

Fields
Cardinality

Field cardinality is the number of allowed values that fields can have.

Either a specific number or unlimited values.

Fields
Widget

The field widgets providing the editing interface.

Examples:

- Should an number be exposed as a text field or a slider?
- Should an options list be a select box, radio buttons or checkboxes?

Fields
Formatter

Field formatter control how field data is rendered.

Examples:

- The format dates are displayed in.
- Should a long piece of text be truncated or should it all.

Forms and Displays

Once you've built your content model, Drupal has two different ways of presenting it.

Forms
What you see when editing or creating content
(which field widgets are used)

Displays
What you see when the content is being rendered
(which field formatters are used)

THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at @spotzero &
dpascoed@coldfrontlabs.ca