

### **IMPORTANT!**

This is not a project for beginners. You must have extensive experience with Joomla component development. Also, you must be knowledgeable in video terminology, methodology and delivery. You should be familiar with embedding video players, and the different standard MIME types. You should be comfortable with FFmpeg, Mencoder, Flvtools2, LAME, etc.

You should also have had experience actually using YouTube, PHP Motion, Seyret video component, or other such software so that you have real working knowledge from a user/member point of view. The features and such that we suggest here are only a laundry list. We are soliciting professional development to ensure that a real expert can take our basic requirements and create a fully realized solution. There may be ideas, practices, implementations, features and such that we simply did not think of or didn't know existed. Please keep that in mind while your review these specs.

We want our solution to be based upon the latest full version of HWDVideoShare (<http://hwdmediashare.co.uk/>). This component, though still in alpha, has almost every feature we want. Basically, we need it debugged, and any desired features that are missing need to be added. This includes full support of High Definition format / Flash 9 and DivX (using the native DivX player).

### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

In short, we want a clean solution that does media well without the "bloat". We need a "best-of-breed" Joomla extension that has strong but user-friendly front-end capabilities backed by solid administrative features, designed with future maintenance and extensibility at its core. We do not want a solution that will have to be completely recoded, but instead upgraded and improved over time.

### **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

HwdVideoShare must:

- Interface with MyBlog (<http://www.azrul.com>)
- Work with Joomla 1.0.12, 1.0.13 and J!1.5 (legacy mode is OK)
- Render properly cross-browser – FireFox, Opera, and Internet Explorer 6 and 7 (on PC and Mac) are the big ones. Those four browsers cover at least 95% of Web users, and we are more than happy with that. We understand that media-rich sites, by their nature, are more cutting-edge and therefore we do not expect backwards compatibility with older browsers (i.e., IE 5).

Of course, quality programming standards as appropriate for PHP, MYSQL and other languages as used are expected. You may use AJAX, Javascript, etc., as needed, but please keep in mind cross-browser compability.

Please note that the above description only provides a general checklist. As the expert, you are expected to know the "best practices" of your profession.

## FEATURES

Ideally, these modifications to HwdVideoShare component, if implemented correctly, will result in a one-stop media solution for Joomla, supporting both video and pure audio files, with features appropriate for a social networking site. The feature list provided below will hopefully give you enough detail to formulate your solution. HwdVideoShare already has many if not most of these features.

- **Default thumbnails for non-video mime types.** In other words, for pure sound files, the member should be able to upload a thumbnail (because of course you cannot generate a thumbnail from a non-video file). If the member does not upload a thumbnail, then there should be a “default” thumbnail. Additionally, the default thumbnail can be overridden by the site administrator as he chooses (in other words, if the site admin doesn't like the default thumbnail, he can upload and use another default thumbnail).
- **Infinite category and subcategory creation capabilities.** For our purposes, categories are called “channels.” We should be able to create and nest channels technically without limit. Of course, in the real world, it would be very annoying to nest that deeply, but we want the flexibility this will give us.
- **Custom category cover images.** In most solutions (such as Seyret), when an administrator defines a media category, a generic image is automatically used. As an option, we would like for the site admin to be able to select or use custom icons if desired. Again, Gallery 2 has this feature.
- **“Social Taxonomy.”** In other words, videos should be “tagable.” We really do not care if you create a way from scratch, or if you can find a way to patch into already existing modules/components that do this (i.e., ). We just want the functionality.
- **Media Search capabilities.** Site visitors should be able to search for videos. Simple text searching will suffice. Media should be searchable by title, description, tagline (in other words, all text related to the media should be searchable using the words entered by a visitor).
- **Show Related Media.** Say a visitor is watching a video in the category (channel) called “drama.” The system should provide a list of other related choices, similar to “You may also be interested in these...”.
- **Video and Audio uploading.** Of course, our members should be able to upload video and audio files from the front end using an upload form, or some combination of form (for the text information) and FTP. This form will at a minimum allow the member to include a title, a “tag line”, and a description (longer text). We should be able to set the maximum text length for all text fields.
- **Tell a Friend.** We'd like a visitor to be able to send the link to the media to friends via email. There are already Joomla extensions that do this for articles.
- **Member publishing options.** Simply put, members should have the option to NOT publish a video until they are ready. Right now, from what we've seen and read, this does not work as it should in the Seyret component.

- **File size limits.** Usually, these limits are set by php.ini. As you know, php.ini can be overridden. Basically, jmediaplex should respect size limits, and warn a member if the media he's uploading violates those limits. Please note this feature is desired, not required.
- **Fireboard Discussion.** Our Fireboard installation will have a "Video Discussion" section. We'd like a way for members to click on "discuss this video" and be taken to the appropriate Fireboard forum.
- **GroupJive-enabled** – HWDvideoShare has built-in groups capabilities. However, it should also recognize groups created by GroupJive (<http://www.groupjive.org/>).
- **Media comments.** These should be enabled already within HwdVideoShare. Just make sure it works properly.
- **Blog it!** We'd like to have a simple way for members to blog about the videos they are watching, as this is a site for filmmakers and people serious about media. We are using the MyBlog extension, so if there is a simple way the member could click on a "blog me!" type link and it launch a new MyBlog entry, that'd be great. Please note this feature is more desirable than it is required.
- **Bug fixes.** Hwdvideoshare is currently an Alpha release. It has bugs. For example, a very strage "1" (as in the number one) appears at the top of my templates. Also, the configuration settings don't save properly. So, this component really needs to be gone over carefully and debugged. That means the component should not generate any PHP errors, including warnings.

**Bottom line – HwdVideoShare should work bug-free with the needed enhancements.**

Again, this specification is to provide you a general reference framework for the project. As the programmer, you have the freedom to pursue your best solution. If there are additional features or considerations you know of, please do not hesitate to use them based upon your expertise.

Please post any questions to the PMB as needed.