ABSTRACT

Customising an Open Source Application for Use as a School Website Generator

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Presently, many tools for building websites exist. However, few of these are specialized for creating a specific type of website such as for a secondary school. This report presents EDGES (Easy Dynamic Generation of Educational Sites), an open source program that automatically creates a modifiable structure for a secondary school website leaving the user to focus on content. The power of EDGES lies in its unique ability to accept multiple input documents in various file formats and seamlessly publish all of them to the website with a consistent look.

The report describes how the source code of EDGES was modified in order to improve the functionality and appearance of the program. Some of these modifications were determined by identifying and studying all the existing websites of secondary schools in Trinidad and Tobago. The report also presents two alternative solutions to EDGES by means of a free hosted website (Google Sites) and a content management system (Joomla!). A test website was built with each of these tools in order to identify their strengths and weaknesses in comparison to EDGES. Finally, the report describes how the new version of the software was tested by creating a website for two secondary schools.

Keywords: Eduard Mouget; EDGES; Burrokeet; E-learning.