Partners module for ImpressCMS

Purpose

The Partners module allows you to showcase your organisation's partners and create a page to highlight your joint activities.

Features

The index page shows a summary list of your partners and their logos. Each partner also has its own dedicated page, which you can use to highlight your joint activities, promote their products or display their contact details. Partners can be toggled online or offline.

The modules ships with a 'Random partners' block, which you can use to highlight partners elsewhere on your site. It can be configured to display partner logos or a compact list of titles, and to randomise their order (or not). The size of logos can be set in the module preferences, with separate controls for the index page, single view and block. You can change the sizes on the fly and images will be rebuilt from the original. You can also override dynamic logo resizing, should you wish to resize your logos manually.

Optional tag support can be added by installing the Sprockets module (distributed separately). This enables you to filter both the index page and block contents according to the tags you have assigned to your partners.

Requirements

Partners requires ImpressCMS V1.3 or higher. It will not work with V1.2.

Optional tag support

I recommend that you also install the optional Sprockets module, as this enables tagging functionality, which allows you to sort and filter your partners.

Installation

Follow the normal procedure for installing an ImpressCMS module:

1. Copy the 'partners' folder to the /modules directory.
2. Go to administration => modules and press the install icon for the Partners module.

The module is now ready for use. However, you may wish to consider installing the optional Sprockets module as well, as this activates additional functionality within the Partners module.

Configuration (preferences)

Help text is provided for every configuration option in the Partner module preferences. Those worthy of note are:

1. Display index as a list of summaries: If you select 'no', partners will be listed as a simple table of partner titles instead.
2. Logo position: If you enable logo display (a separate item), you can choose to have them displayed on the left or side of the page.
3. Logo display width (index page / single view / block): Partners will automatically resize and cache logos to the dimensions you specify here. If you change the values, the images will be automatically be rebuilt from the original. This makes it easy to change your page layout on the fly. However, the logo you supply should be a bit larger than the maximum size you expect to display it at, in order to avoid pixellation due to upscaling.
4. Freestyle logo dimensions: When enabled, the Partners module will **not** resize logos dynamically, and logos will be displayed as they were uploaded. This function is provided in case you wish to exercise manual control over logo dimensions by resizing them yourself before upload (you may need to do this if your logos vary widely in shape). Otherwise it is best to leave this disabled.
5. Maximum height/width/file size of logo files: Uploaded logos cannot exceed these dimensions.

Using the partners module

The Partners module is quite simple:

1. Partners are added by filling in the submission form in the Partners module administration page (select 'add partner'). Only two fields are mandatory, the title and description. However, I recommend that you fill in as many fields as possible. Particular fields to note are:
   a. The 'Logo' field accepts .png, .gif and .jpg file types. Images will automatically be resized and cached by the module, according to the values set in the module preferences. There are limits on the dimensions and file size of uploaded images (configurable in the module preferences).
   b. The 'Description' and 'Extended text' fields are **independent**. The description is displayed on the index page of the module; the extended text is displayed on the single page view for that partner. Recommended use is to put a one-paragraph summary of your partner in the description, and the full partner details in the extended text. However, if you do not enter an extended text then the description field will be displayed instead.
   c. The 'Tags' field is visible **only** if you have installed the optional Sprockets module. You can assign partners to multiple tags. On the user side of the module, a tag select box will become visible which can be used to filter the page display.
2. In the Partners module administration page you can toggle partners online or offline, by clicking on the icons. Partners that are marked offline are no longer available on the user side and do not appear in search results.

3. The 'Random partners' block allows you to display a configurable number of recent partners. You can choose to randomise the order if you wish, and if Sprockets is installed you can also filter the block contents by tag. Edit block configuration in administration => blocks and click the 'edit' icon for the Random partners block.

Support

Please direct all support questions to the ImpressCMS Module Support Forum, where everyone can help you and others can benefit from solutions. Enquiries for customisation and further development can be sent to simon@isengard.biz.

Support forum:

http://community.impresscms.org/modules/newbb/viewforum.php?forum=9

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