The age of the interactive web

USERS RULE

n the beginning, the web only went one way. Someone behind the server "got the content ready," and it appeared to the user as a sculpted, read-only display. Then came HTML forms and CGI scripting, tools that brought the client into the game, but the opportunities for input were carefully orchestrated through the labor-intensive efforts of high-priced web developers. Users wanted more, and over the next round of Internet re-invention, a new web emerged. With this month's cover story, we invite you to the world of the Wiki and Blog.

The tools featured in this issue bring a new level of cooperation and collaboration to the web. And best of all, you don't need a PhD to implement these powerful tools. We'll show you how an everyday Linux user can set up and manage a collaborative website using the applications the experts are using.

You'll learn about:

• Mediawiki – the tool behind the famous collaborative encyclopedia Wikipedia. Mediawiki is a tool for organizing web-based collaboration communities. Users can enter notes, additions, and revisions to web documents. Mediawiki provides version control, access control, and other useful features for easy and effective cooperation.

 TWiki – Like Mediawiki, TWiki is a leading open source Wiki. You'll learn how to install and configure the TWiki collaboration platform. We'll also take you on a tour of the TWiki user interface, with a special emphasis on the challenges of a Wiki in the enterprise We'll show you how to use the best features of TWiki in your own collaborative environment.

• **Drupal** – a tool for building dynamic websites. We'll show you how to use Drupal to create community sites, weblogs, and custom web applications.

Whether you're a web professional, a community volunteer, or an everyday Linux user, you'll find something to remember in this month's Wiki and Blog cover story.

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