LimeSurvey
Designing a beautiful open source survey engine

1. WHO ARE WE?

MITRE

non-profit
federally-funded
R&D
engineering-centric
doing good for citizens

1,100,000,000	revenue in 2007
5500	staff
998	projects
73	locations across earth
50	years old
3	centers
1	Open Services department

Open Services

fast and out of control
open source
design-centric
rapid prototyping
enterprise engineering
doing good for planet earth

	department stats		skills
28	staff	16	java
21	engineers	11	ruby on rails
17	projects	8	research
6	designers	7	interface design
6	published papers	6	systems eng
1	open design group	3	cell-top

2. WHAT ARE WE DOING THAT'S WORTH TALKING ABOUT?

Probably nothing but

Smarter decisions based on beautiful evidence

and Open Source.

(our secret sauce)

ENweb   LimeSurvey

ENweb

ESC-funded
engineering metrics
process and risk tracking
dashboards + aggregation
wiki library

ENweb

reluctant users
loved *in theory* by enthusiastic leadership
actively developed

won Air Force KM award in Apr 2005

2,500	worldwide users
500	hits/day
400	program dashboards
30	wiki edits/day
3	years since birth
1	language
1.5	current version

In 2007:
Buzz building around ENweb

"I want ENweb... behind my firewall."

Dashboards and Wikis and Metrics, oh my.

Air Force: AFMC, ESC, SMC

Navy: SPAWAR

FFRDC: MITRE, Aerospace

ENweb not ready for prime time.

Evolving prototype
Spaghetti code and design
Requires significant effort to update
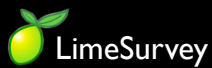or create surveys

3. OPEN SOURCE BUSINESS MODEL

THE CULTURE OF ABUNDANCE

match.com

from scratch   Web Survey Toolbox   WUFOO
Making forms easy + fast + fun.

LimeSurvey

open source survey engine
vibrant community
actively developed

won Les Trophees du Libre in Nov 2007

>1,000,000	worldwide users
150,000	total downloads
300	downloads/day
181	SF rank
36	languages
4	years since birth
$1_{5.3}$	current version

Nov 07	Limesurvey.org
460,000	page hits
25,000	unique visitors
>100	Google: survey
10	Google: open source survey
6	Google page rank

Global PL	Carsten Schmitz
40	Translators
17	Code contributors in 2007
5	mainstay developers
2	FT MITRE staff on dev + design
1	Prospective business partner
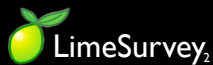
LimeSurvey$_2$

Data + Metrics Collection
Robust Reporting
Survey Creation + Maintenance
Packaged Service

LimeSurvey$_2$

Advanced conditionals
Looping
Continuous Surveys, History
UI Framework:
  • Plugin Question Types
  • Plugin Language
Beautiful user interface

Slide 1:

Stretch goal:

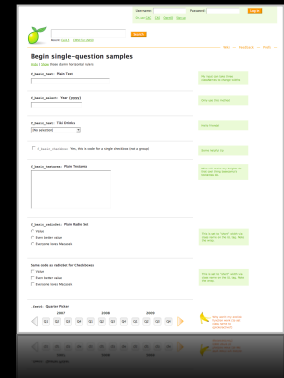1-click install for any user (including ISPs)

For example:
GoDaddy has LS2 installed; integrated in their application suite

Slide 2:

Data Metrics + Collection

Intuitive, web-based surveys

Inline help, links to guidance, error handling

Question Library:
design.limesurvey.org

Slide 3:

Robust Reporting

Slice and dice data for the best view *for you*

Slide 4:

Robust Reporting Over Time

CLICK FOR FULL SCHEDULE

Slide 5:

Slide 6:

Survey Creation and Maintenance

Create and administer surveys

No developer skills required

Survey Creation User Interface

Evolve, view, and edit surveys over time

Packaged Service

Deploy on your own servers

Decouple organizational details

Branding and personalization

Open Source framework

Releases

LimeSurvey 2 pre-alpha
Thursday December 20, 2007

LimeSurvey 2 alpha
Thursday February 28, 2008

LimeSurvey 2 beta
Thursday May 29, 2008

Tasks

January 2008
• Question Templating (Smarty)
• User Administration, Group management, Survey
  Assignment
• Basic Reporting
• UI for survey taking
= Take a damn survey

February/March 2008
• Solid Data Model
• Authentication: CAS, PKI
• Create a Survey (UI + basic prototype)
• Solid UI
• Support LimeSurvey core question set

LS2 Alpha: 28.Feb.2008

April 2008
• Advanced Reporting
• Polished UI
• Anonymous Surveys

May 2008
• DB Partitioning
• Languages
• Email/Alerts
• Authentication: additional methods
• Create a Survey: advanced techniques

LS2 Beta: 29.May.2008

June 2008
• Email Surveys
• Mini-survey plugins (for individuals
  websites/blogs - "hot or not")
• Voting/Polling
• Advanced Question Library Types

ENweb/LimeSurvey team

Michael Macasek	75%
Brian O'Neill	15%
Juhan Sonin	60%
Robert Thew	100%

Carsten Schmitz will join in January 2008.

4. SO WHAT?

Impact

Branch coordinators for 1m+ user
open source app

Lead MITRE and our customers into a
new business practice

Design a beautiful service...
something I would actually use and
want people to know about

Harvard-MITRE

FY08 mutual goal: OS survey engine

We're local

Social Science + Engineering + Design

Design Review: 3.Jan.08
Code Review: 10.Jan.08
Harvard/MITRE Tasks

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