What site needs to run the new create site module?

Posted by TonyGee - 2012/02/14 00:30

Hi Edwin,

Thanks for finalising the new Create Site module.

Just a quick question; does the create site module need to be run from the frontend of the master site or can it be run from a parent site or even a slave site?

Just to be clear:

Master Site
- Parent Site 1
- - Slave Site 1
- - Slave Site 2

Thanks and regards.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?

Posted by edwin2win - 2012/02/16 09:57

Like for the component, the module can be used in any website where you have JMS installed to process the website creation from the front-end.

The module submit the request to the component.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?

Posted by TonyGee - 2012/02/20 05:17

Hi Edwin,

Thanks for your response.

Question 1: Is there an issue if I have JMS installed on multiple 'Parent Slave' sites and I run the installer from these Parent Slave sites?

So for example my Master will have 2 Parent Slaves with JMS installed and these parents will have their own slave sites:

Master (JMS Installed)
- Parent 1 (JMS Installed)
-- Slave 1

-- Slave 2
- Parent 2 (JMS Installed
-- Slave 3
-- Slave 4

Question 2: When I update or upgrade extensions do I first do this in the Master and then in the Parent Slave or does it all flow through from the Master (I understand in some cases I need to install directly into the slave if the tables are not present in JMS)?

Question 3: Are the symbolic links linked from the Master to the Parent Slave to the Slave or from the Master to the Slave directly? (regardless of where I run the JMS extension from)

Question 4: When I look at the JMS component on my Parent site under the Check Patches there is a warning for the configuration.php file: Not OK - The routing wrapper is not present in this MASTER configuration file. Actions: Add 16 lines containing the routing wrapper to the slave site.

Is it safe to run the JMS Patch on the Parent Slave site?

Thanks and regards.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/02/20 17:20

If your question is how to install the "Multisites Create Site Module" in a slave site, you can just define it with the JMS tool menu as it does not contain any table.

Q3) See the result of the website created.
Normally, the link is always to the master.

Q4) Normal that a slave site report a warning message because this is not a master website. Normally JMS should never be administrated from a slave site.
We have disabled the "install" button to avoid trying install patches in a slave site.
So you can NOT install the patches in a slave site.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by TonyGee - 2012/03/22 07:28

Hi Edwin,

I'm now in the final stages of setting up the front-end new site creation module.

JMS has been installed in the master website and I have created a slave site for the front-end public viewing.

The new site creation module will appear on the public front-end website and will be utilised by

anonymous public users (i.e. the user has not logged in).

To get the module to work with an anonymous user you have suggested that I create a hidden menu item pointing to the JMS component and then set the item ID in the new site creation module to this menu item. This has worked without any issues because I have been testing everything in the master website.

Can you please confirm how I should setup the module in the slave website? Should I create a JMS Shared Menu Item and use this item ID in the module? Will the module work when I uninstall JMS from the slave site?

I've tried a few configuration options however I'm getting some strange behaviour so your advice is greatly appreciated.

Thanks and regards.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/03/22 10:36

If you provide the "Creation Site Module" in the slave site, the "Set Item ID" make reference to the slave site menu item id.

In this case, the JMS Multi Sites component must be installed in the slave site to allow using the component to create the slave site from another slave site.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by TonyGee - 2012/04/13 03:06

What are the implications if the JMS component is installed in a slave site?

Are there any security concerns or other issues I should be aware of?

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/04/14 13:08

The access of JMS from a slave site require to be a Super Admin.
It is recommended to avoid managing the slave site definition from the slave site.

The only case where JMS multisite can be installed in a slave site is when you want to be able creating slave sites from the front-end of a slave site. In this case, the component is required to provide the functionality to create the slave site.

The access to JMS slave site definition should not be provided to a "lamda" customer as it could read the definition of all the slave sites and potentially get access to sensitive information such as DB name, prefix, user, password.

On the master, Also avoid installing extension like "joomla extplorer", ninja explorer, ... that give access to the files and folders.
When they are not present in the master, they can not be installed in a slave site.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by TonyGee - 2012/04/15 12:14

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Hi Edwin,

You said:

The access to JMS slave site definition should not be provided to a "lamda" customer as it could read the definition of all the slave sites and potentially get access to sensitive information such as DB name, prefix, user, password.

Can you please explain a bit more about what you mean? What do you mean when you say 'the slave site definition'?

How could the user get access to the DB name, prefix, user and password?

Is there any additional customisations we could make to improve the security?

Thanks and regards.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/04/18 14:39

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The management of the Slave Site definition should only be reserved to the Super Admin of the server or of the Master webiste.
Not to any administrator or customers.

From my point of view it is abnormaly that anybody manage the slave site definition from any website.
If you are using Joomla 2.5, do not provide the Super Admin to your customers.
Create a limited administrator to reduce the permission.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by TonyGee - 2012/04/18 19:01

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Hi Edwin,

I would never give my customers super admin logins.

Are you referring to the security issue with allowing anonymous users to create a slave from the front end?

If we were to automatically generate a registered user account on new slave creation then would the user only have access to the slave definition that he created?

Would this solve the security issues completely?

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/04/20 14:00

In the front-end, create a slave site that is attached to a registered user effectivelly add in security as there is a control that the person that access the slave site definition is either the Super Admin or the user himself.
Otherwise the access is forbidden.

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by TonyGee - 2012/04/20 14:18

Thanks for that explanation. Please can you let me know where the setting exists to authorize the specific slave to the slave creator user as you have described?

Or does this automatically happen if the user is just a registered user?

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Re: What site needs to run the new create site module?
Posted by edwin2win - 2012/04/20 15:19

In the back-end, this is the "owner" fiel (latest column in the list of site) or the "site owner" field in the detail description.

This field is automatically assigned to the front-end website and correspond to the "logged user".
So when a user is not logged (anonymous) this information does not exists.
The solution in this case is to create a specific plugin that is called by JMS when creating the slave site and that dynamically create a Joomla user that is assigned to the slave site. So that the slave site become "owned" by a specific joomla user like when the user is logged.

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