Review of the internet hosting features for the IPTC

Document history				[Document URN: urn:iptc:workdoc:dir:0510:3]
Revision	Issue Date	Pages	Author (revised by)	Remark
1	2005-07-14	2	Michael Steidl	
2	2005-09-28		Michael Steidl	Minor changes after review period
3	2005-10-10		Michael Steidl	Minor changes

1   Goal

As of June 2005 the UK internet service provider "Positive Internet Ltd" runs a "Managed Server" for the IPTC and manages several domains in terms of DNS.

At the AGM 2005 the MAN Committee decided to review all the internet hosting features currently used by the IPTC to enable the Managing Director to solicit a quotation from different ISPs to bring down the current hosting expenditures.
As a commercial prerequisite the hosting vendor has to be financially stable, reputable, known to provide good customer support and likely to offer emerging hosting technologies as they become available.
The Management Committee set up a task force for this review consisting of:
Walter Baranger, Geoffrey Haynes, Stéphane Guérillot and Michael Steidl
This group should report back to the MAN Committee at the Autumn Meeting in October 2005.

1.1   General changes

* To merge the web servers into a single instance:
The past policy of the IPTC was to run a self-contained web server for each of the standards at the URL www.[std name].org.
New approach: to merge all web pages to the www.iptc.org server and to run the standard specific sections from a subdirectory like www.iptc.org/[std name]
Requirement: to have individual ftp access to these standard specific directories to allow a standard's working group access to it.
* To abandon standard specific email servers:
The email servers for the standard specific domains are up and running but were never used.

1.2   Procedure

- This document is circulated to the members of the review task force for comments.
- This document is circulated to all IPTC Cttee, WP and WG chairs for comments.
  Comments should …
  - reflect the requirements for features from the different persons/groups
  - refer to the appropriate row # !!
- Comments were due 9 September 2005. (To be sent to mdirector@iptc.org)
- This document is edited by the MD to reflect the comments.
- The revised document is reviewed by the task force and changed as required until 10 October.
- The MD solicits quotations from ISPs.
- The final document is presented to the MAN Cttee at the Autumn Meeting, next steps decided there.

2   Internet hosting features

The table below shows all **existing current** and **expected future** features for internet hosting for the IPTC. The features are grouped by functionality.

Legend to the table below:

now … feature currently available, values Y(es) or N(o), ? = undecided

future … feature to be available in future, values Y(es) or N(o) , ? = undecided

#	Feature description	now	fut ure	Note on future use
01	Providing a "Managed Server" = hardware + internet access + OS + some application software (see below). OS and provided application software is maintained by the provider.	Y	Y	NOT a root server!
02	Web-based user interface for managing the application software installed at the server and to restart the server.	Y	Y	
03	SSH-access to terminal sessions of the server	Y	Y	
11	Self-contained/virtual web server www.iptc.org (Apache 1.3.x)	Y	Y	
12	Self-contained/virtual web server www.nitf.org (Apache 1.3.x)	Y	N	Content to be merged into www.iptc.org/nitf + URL forwarding of www.nitf.org
13	Self-contained/virtual web server www.newsml.org (Apache 1.3.x)	Y	N	Content to be merged into www.iptc.org/newsml + URL forwarding of www.newsml.org
14	For running on-the-fly XML processing (XSLT) the www.newsml.org web server is combined with required Cocoon & Jakarta Tomcat modules. (Used for rendering the NewsML 1 show case "on the fly")	Y	N	
15	Self-contained/virtual web server www.sportsml.org (Apache 1.3.x)	Y	N	Content to be merged into www.iptc.org/sportsml + URL forwarding of www.sportsml.org
16	Self-contained secure web server (https) (https://secure.iptc.org)	Y	Y	
17	All web server support as scripting languages: Perl, PHP (4.3.x or higher)			
18	Being allowed to install script-based applications (without support by the ISP)	Y	Y	
19	Support of links at the file system level			
21	Self-contained email server for iptc.org	Y	Y	
22	Self-contained email server for nitf.org	Y	N	
23	Self-contained email server for newsml.org	Y	N	
24	Self-contained email server for sportsml.org	Y	N	
25	A system for email-lists (optional: email-list archive with web interface)	Y ??	Y Y	
26	email-server security: server authentication for sending emails required	N	Y	
27	email-server security: sending from a certain IP address (range) required	Y	N	
28	All email servers: spam filter included	Y	Y	
29	All email servers with a web interface for accessing the mailboxes	Y	Y	
31	MySQL database server (3.23 or higher) with more than 10 databases	Y	Y	
32	Direct access to the database server via internet	Y	Y	IP restrictions may apply
41	(s)ftp/ssh access to the file system of the www.iptc.org web server	Y	Y	
42	(s)ftp/ssh access to the file system of the www.nitf.org web server	Y	Y	access to www.iptc.org/nitf
43	(s)ftp/ssh access to the file system of the www.newsml.org web srv	Y	Y	access to www.iptc.org/newsml
44	(s)ftp/ssh access to the file system of the www.sportsml.org web srv	Y	Y	access to www.iptc.org/sportsml

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