
Xoops (R)évolution - XOOPS

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Posted on: : 2006/3/8 19:50:00

Last week-end, the french Xoops community representatives have meet for one of a decisive meeting. The AFUX (Association Francophone des Utilisateurs de Xoops - Xoops Users French speaking Association) has invited Skalpa to make the point about XOOPS developments.

The project is far from being dead, and the code is existing... we have seen it... and it's a revolution!

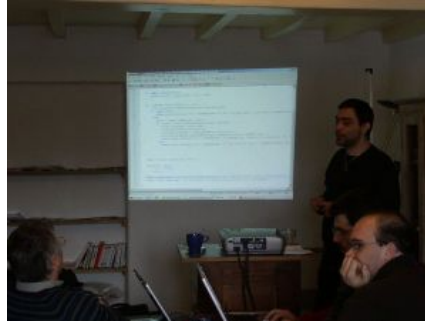
Ladies and gentlement, let me introduce you what would be the next major version of XOOPS.

4 o'clock am. My radio clock start up, but I'm already awake. Just the time to pass by a shower, jump in my clothes and grab my luggages (a portable pc and some clothes) and I get in my car. Direction, Metz (in France), where I'm going to get the TGV. Direction Lyon. This week, once again, I'll meet my Xoops-Franc(ophon)e teammates.

The AFUX (Association Francophone des Utilisateur de Xoops - Xoops Users French speaking Association) has booked a house near Clearmont-Ferrand. We have invited Skalpa Keo to make the point on the situation regarding the Core development progress. This meeting has been organised one month ago, as nothing had been planned for the FOSDEM 2006. Only the frxoops.org team members were invited, mainly for obvious organisation and logistic reasons. Everyone spontaneously responded present, except for Marco who was in Russia for his work. He did everything he could to be there, but he isn't able to clone himself yet - I'm sure he would have done so if he could...

At 11.40am, Kris is waiting for me at train station. Rendez-vous to Alain01's apartment, where Fooups (Xoops-France documentation manager) is already there... waiting for us. It's good to see now familiar faces (we all already had meet at the Dijon RMLL 6 month earlier). Alain's wife has cooked a very delicious meal (3 plates services, please...) and at 2.45pm we all jump in Kris' car, direction Clermont-Ferrand, 150km away.

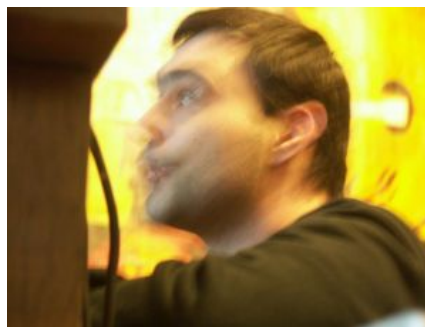
5pm. Thanks to Kris GPS (with Pamela's voice *gosh*) we arrive to the place. A very sympatic and rustic french farm, install to host tourists. Checking to through the windows, to see if we are at the right place, I see a 3 meters table covered with portable pc's, wired to a central data server. On the white room wall, the retroprojector is displaying lines of PHP code... Well, no doubt, we are at the right place. Inside, I'm very happy to find Philou, Hervé and Chrisitan, the famous core team of Xoops-France and module developers. There are two new faces as well, Pemen (Pierre-Eric - author of the LDAP part) and Xvitry (Xavier, frxoops module beta tester, forum supporter and module translater).



[The improvised conference room.](#)

5.30pm. We are now all expecting the latest members to come : Thecat (Claude - module developer), Winsion (Paul - webdesigner and forum supporter) and, of course, Skalpa. The AFUX chooses this place because this was geographically central. People were coming from all over the hexagone, being the only belgian of the group.

Hervé receives a message from Marco. Xoops.org is closed. Another hacker attack.



[Skalpa in action...](#)

After a short introduction, and a warm drink, we start the session. Skalpa opens fire. On the white wall we have a projection of his work on process. As far as we can see, the project is heading very well. Skalpa's exposure is a little bit more clear as it had been last year (at the XOOPSdem).



[Eyes wide open...](#)



[...concentrated.](#)

Not only he can expose in french (his native language), he also has something to show. Actually, we can see lines of Phpcodes, alternating with a development site. Exposing his project, a virtual revolution in matter of development platform.



[Christian is now able to understand Skalpa: it's not in english!](#)



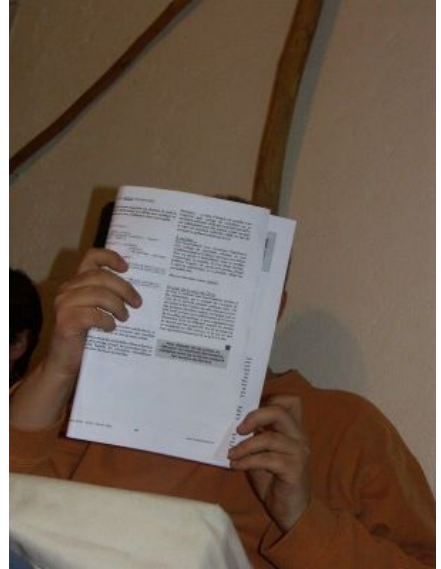
[Thecat amazed by the new classes functionalities !](#)

Questions are arising. What about compatibility with existing modules? What about themes? What about standards? What about users expectations regarding their favourite CMS fonctionnalités (user profiles, block management, theme modification, SEO - url rewriting, meta generation, etc.)? Every point has a reply from the core developer. He stresses the importance of giving developers and designers a proper environment for a community implication.



[Solo71 : and what about multimenu?](#)

[Winsion enjoy the announce
of a theme wysiwyg editor!](#)



[Hervé diving in the doc...](#)

Some modules are already running on the demonstration site. I can see Marcan's SmartSection for instance. Some points are debated. Suggestions arises: a default wysiwyg theme editor, which would probably attract more theme designer. A new cache organisation, updated at each change.