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Drupal has become an industry standard in the web content management and web publishing field. It worked its way to become this prominent CMS ever since it was created, and evolved to become the favorite among the developers.

Drupal with its easy-to-use Core system and innumerable modules has something to offer everyone. Whether you're a professional development team or a small business owner, who doesn't know anything about CMS, Drupal can work for you.

Drupal has made companies of all sizes to consider it for their CMS needs. The reason behind this is that it's open source, which makes it really cost-effective, while its options for customization are peerless for flexibility.

In spite of its goodness, several myths have weaved around Drupal. While the progress of Drupal has helped clear up some of these myths, others have only become more prominent. The same open source nature that makes Drupal a cost-effective option, has also given the impression that it's an unstable and risky investment for companies looking for steadfast website development.

This article is aimed to dismiss the three most common myths regarding Drupal to clear its name, so that companies can consider it as their CMS choice.

Myth 1: Drupal Is Open Source and Thus Lacks Support

Many companies believe in the misconception that as Drupal is an open-source framework, once they adopt it as their CMS, they're on their own. Many think that the proprietary nature of solutions such as the Microsoft's SharePoint means more support. They think that apart from the software they're also getting an established, precious support system to help customization and troubleshooting whenever they need them.

Drupal on the other hand is believed to have none of this support. Some think that though it's got fans all over the world it's not going to help if something goes wrong during development. Again, if they've brought on a partner to aid in development, they'll be on their own if the engagement ends.

Reality Check

It's actually just the opposite. Drupal is dedicated to the idea of community, and this same community has dedicated resources for supporting every aspect of the development process. Several companies, many of which are conveniently linked on the Drupal website, have built their entire business models on supporting and managing Drupal development efforts. A lot of these companies are available 24/7 to help and support every facet of a process.

More importantly Drupal's fascinating, ever growing community of devotees, which provide numerous options for support are numerous. Innumerable online and local groups have formed around the framework that hold regular events and meet-ups to discuss everything related to Drupal. Also one can avail abundant online resources, including chat options, blogs, etc on the Drupal website under the heading "Planet Drupal".

So, the reality is that With Drupal, companies are getting much more than just software. They're getting all the support they could hope for (and probably more), in addition to one of the most

flexible and cost-effective CMS platforms on the market.

Myth 2: Drupal Is Not Secure

For larger companies security is a major concern. And here again Drupal is victimized by a myth around its security system. A company like Microsoft, for instance, is well-known for the efforts it puts to fix security breaches in its systems, with a dedicated team to monitor 24/7.

Some think that Drupal, as it's free can't be secure enough. Thus for a large organization concerned about the security of its corporate data, the prospect of choosing a system that lacks this kind of resource can seem very risky.

Real Story

Drupal's thriving community of groups, committees and resources are all dedicated to support and aid in the development process. It also has a community dedicated to identifying and plugging any security weaknesses in the framework, making it just as secure as some of the most popular proprietary solutions.

However, companies do need to do their homework when it comes to security and Drupal. And don't think that securing your Drupal initiative can be done on the cheap. Companies are required to look for partners who understand Drupal security and development thoroughly, and can help do what needs to be done to ensure a fully secured process.

Myth 3: Drupal Is Slow

Another myth regarding Drupal is about its performance. For many years, Drupal thought to be slow. Although steps have been taken to address this issue and fixed in the succeeding releases of the system, some still have the view that it can be too slow for companies to meet their business needs.

The Reality

This particular issue is less unfair than the myths around security and support systems. The reality is that Drupal can be slower than other CMS frameworks. However, note that it is slow, only if you're using it for purposes that don't play to its strengths. Like the best software platforms, Drupal was also built with specific purposes in mind, and when companies look to overextend these uses then only performance issues occur.

Generally speaking, Drupal is effective in situations where content delivery, analytics and individuals' interactions are key requirements. Examples can include: digital eMarketing branded and non-branded websites, blogs, educational portals, primary corporate websites, community portals and social applications.

So, when is Drupal not an ideal choice?

Again, generally speaking, Drupal can be an ineffective framework for purpose-built web applications, those in which critical and complex business rules are part of the solution. Situations where high level of customization is required and a very small number of Drupal features are used, will probably not justify the usage of Drupal.

It's not that Drupal framework can't be customized for those solutions, as it can really handle virtually everything. But this is sometimes where complaints about the platform's sluggishness are heard about.

Thus, when looking to develop more complex websites and applications, it is recommended would be to enroll a development partner who understands Drupal really well. Choose a development partner that has experience in overcoming the system's performance limitations to meet the

business goals. Working with an experienced partner will make sure that companies get the most value from their development efforts, and that it really has impact on their businesses.

Then again, using too many unnecessary modules can also slow down the system. Thus, no matter how irresistible all the modules seem to be; make sure that you enable only those that are really needed by your site.

Conclusion

These myths about Drupal have existed for too long, and it's important for companies to understand the truths about Drupal development, so they can make well-informed decisions about whether or not it's suitable for their businesses needs`.

However, after a you choose Drupal it's more important to look for a development company that fully understands Drupal strengths and weaknesses. Only then you will be able to unleash its true potentials to best meet your development needs.

Drupal with its advantages in terms of flexibility, customizability and cost savings is a really invincible. It is only after recognizing these capabilities that some of the leading companies in the world have chosen Drupal to reap its benefits and ensure success for their business.

Valuebound is a leading Drupal Development Company providing Enterprise Drupal web solutions. For more information on Drupal Development,Â contact usÂ atÂ info@valuebound.com

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