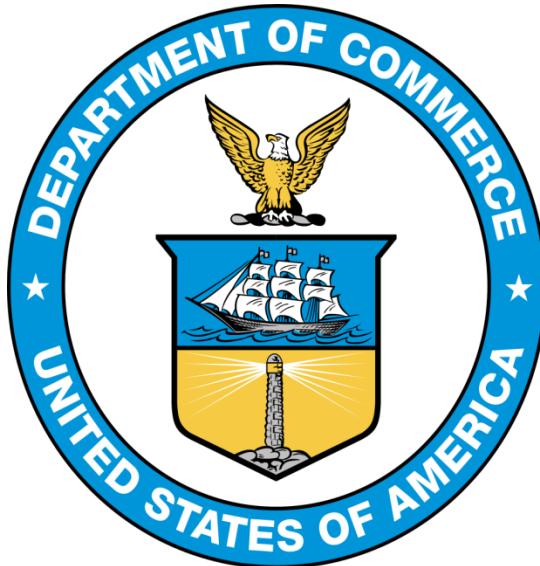


Whitepaper on SharePoint & Drupal



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SBA Certified 8(a) and HUB Zone Small Business. GSA IT Schedule 70 and Microsoft Partner.



SHAREPOINT MOBILE
GRAPH APIs BIG DATA
NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING
OFFICE APPS CLOUD

Microsoft Partner
Gold Application Development

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1. SharePoint in the Enterprise

SharePoint is an Enterprise level platform. Right out of the box, SharePoint can be configured to provide intranet portals, document & file management, workflows, collaboration, social networks, extranets, websites, enterprise search, and business intelligence. All of these SharePoint “modules”, as we call them, are guaranteed to play well together. Clearly, SharePoint has its strengths as an overall product. Some areas where SharePoint is quite strong is in Internal document management; workflows; Business intelligence and reporting Taxonomy; and managed metadata for searching highly scalable solution across internal enterprise environments.

Drupal is a combination Web CMS + Community platform that over time has come to focus on public-facing scenarios (though some use it for digital workplaces). SharePoint is an omnibus information management and portal platform that is used 99% for internal scenarios. Drupal modules, on the other hand, developed by third-party developers, may have to be reworked so that their code is compatible with each new update of the Drupal core. Drupal has done a decent job of creating a core/module architecture that has allowed for rapid innovation, but also much confusion as well. SharePoint does a better job of playing well with other applications, or rather, other vendors are highly incented to create connector web parts. Drupal tries to be quite self-contained.

Below are some of the highlights of SharePoint:

2. Integration with other services

In this case SharePoint definitely has the advantage of how well it integrates with the other Microsoft services. If as a company, you are invested in Microsoft and its other services, SharePoint is a natural choice. First, because you would already have Windows developers and system administrators and second, because the tight coupling SharePoint offers with other MS services is golden.

- Office/Client integration (Connect to Outlook, Open directly in Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.,)
- Metadata leveraging (tagging, managed metadata, customizing metadata fields, actually using the metadata, etc.,)
- Data IN (import spreadsheet as a list, site templates, oData, etc.,)
- Data OUT (client integration, custom alerts, export, RSS, etc.,)

Though Drupal can be configured to interact with other MS services, it is much easier in a non-Windows scenario.

While there is some overlap in web/content management functionality between the two frameworks, there are also some notable differences. SharePoint, for example, provides a rich platform that supports a much broader set of scenarios than Drupal.

3. SharePoint Lists and Document Libraries

The SharePoint list, and all its integration points, are a huge difference between SharePoint and Drupal. SharePoint can enable your users much quicker than Drupal can. Of course, since it's so

feature packed, it's a much bigger animal with higher requirements (technically and cognitively), but it's well worth it.

4. Functionality

SharePoint is a Business Collaboration Platform that provides a wealth of functionality above and beyond basic CMS capabilities. The SharePoint value proposition is to have a unified, integrated platform from which you can build all kinds of web solutions from blogs, wikis and team sites to Intranet and Internet portals. Beyond core web/content management functionality, SharePoint provides social computing, line-of-business integration, enterprise search, business intelligence and end user empowerment through the browser and Office client. In many of these workload areas, SharePoint is positioned as a leader by analyst communities demonstrating that SharePoint provides not only a broad set of capabilities but a significant amount of depth. Of course, there's a very vibrant partner and developer ecosystem that provides extensions.

SharePoint also has the additional benefit of providing governance and compliance capabilities. This is as important as end user functionality in some cases because it allows organizations to effectively govern, track and audit the environment as needed.

Drupal, on the other hand, is an open source Content Management System (CMS) that is extensible. It is aimed at web/community solutions. It has a developer ecosystem that develops modules that can be added.

5. Simplicity / Return on Investment

SharePoint offers simplicity from an experience perspective for developers, IT admins and end-users along with the power to handle complex scenarios. It also provides greater return on IT investments as cost savings can be greater with license and maintenance fees of other redundant tools.

For developers, SharePoint is simple to setup for development with *out-of-the-box support for development in Visual Studio* and support for *Windows 8/10* for development; you don't have to install Windows Server 2008 for development. If you are an ASP.NET developer, you'll find developing in SharePoint very familiar and easy to set up.

From an end user perspective, SharePoint 2010 provides a very rich and natural user experience through the browser, Office client and mobile devices. The ribbon interface allows users to easily interact, customize and find what they are looking for. As for the Office experience, beyond integration with the core Office applications, users can enjoy an experience similar to Windows with SharePoint content; files and folders appear just like Windows files and folders. The mobile experience could be one of the best user experience hits with SharePoint 2010/2013. SharePoint provides rich out-of-the-box experience as well as an extensibility story for smart phones and not-so-smart phones.

Lastly, on the IT admin side of the house, SharePoint has really streamlined many of the admin tasks to make the lives of IT admins easier. SharePoint provides a spectrum of features to easily manage one

server or a multi-server farm. And of course, for customers not looking to host SharePoint themselves, SharePoint is offered as Online service.

Drupal is also known to offer simplicity. While this works great for some scenarios, it doesn't have the feature set to deal with more complex requirements such as line-of-business integration, complex workflows or even IT tools to manage entire web server farms.

Net/net: SharePoint offers simplicity; choice (Developer, End-User & IT); and the power to run large scale environments.

6. Interoperability

SharePoint is very open and is highly interoperable:

- It has a very large API surface area (managed APIs and web services) allowing developers to develop rich solutions on top of it. SharePoint Server was built on top of SharePoint Foundation using the exposed and documented APIs.
- SharePoint supports industry standards such as REST, XHTML, browser standards, WCAG 2.0 AA and has made a commitment to support CMIS.
- SharePoint supports integration with other LOB systems and Databases through Business Connectivity Services and custom code.
- While SharePoint requires SQL Server, customers/partners have the option to store BLOB content in other places with our support for SQL Server RBS.
- There are 100s of open source projects on CodePlex. There are 400+ SharePoint ISV partners developing solutions.
- There is a comprehensive set of documentation and learning content.

Drupal is open source software & is also known to be interoperable. However, it's also important to point out that Drupal does have some requirements when it comes to system requirements.

Net/net: SharePoint is very strong when it comes to interoperability.

7. Technology Differences

It's also important to call out technology differences between SharePoint and Drupal that can impact your decision.

- SharePoint supports ASP.NET; Drupal supports PHP
- SharePoint only runs on Windows (supports interoperability with other platform, but requires Windows to run on); Drupal supports multiple operating systems

8. APP Platform with SharePoint

SharePoint as an App platform provides a Hi-trust model for creating a new app. There are multiple types of App development options available in SharePoint. Below are the highlights.

TYPE OF APPS

Declarative, Configuration Apps

- Simple to build, one-off solutions.
- Generally a combination of SharePoint site building, InfoPath form development, and workflow design.
- These are no-code solutions for quick automation of business processes.
- Quick turnaround, can be deployed easily.
- Can be difficult to support changes.
- Labor intensive to replicate for other groups.

SharePoint Hosted Apps

- Lightweight apps, no server-side code.
- Can be used to quickly add capability to a site.
- Web Parts
- Lists & Libraries
- Full Screen Experience
- Installed from the SharePoint App Store in the tenancy.
- Can be easily reused throughout the SharePoint tenancy.
- Limited in scale and scope, but can be very effective.

Azure Hosted Apps

- Server-side code capable apps hosted in Azure and consumed from Office 365 (SharePoint, OneDrive, Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)
- Can be exposed as pertaining to the security policies of the enterprise
- SharePoint Apps
- SharePoint Workflows
- Office Apps
- Office 365 Tenancy Apps
- Most complex type of app, but also the most capable and scalable

Office Apps

- Bring your apps to Office.
- Azure hosted apps that can run from the Office client and interact with the Office content.
- Users can add apps to their documents from an Office App Store in Office 2013.
- Can be standalone productivity apps or companion apps to an Azure Hosted App.

Azure Infrastructure Capabilities – IAAS, PAAS, Azure Blob Storage, HD Insight, Data Factories, Machine Learning, Express Route

- Azure Government offers both IAAS and PAAS capabilities over and above supporting the infrastructure for Apps.
- Possible use cases
 - Virtual Servers when needed
 - Repository for structured or unstructured data (both internal and external) for use within various business intelligence tools.
 - Data collection and transformation on large scales.
 - Similar benefits to hosting Apps in Azure
 - Easy to manage, scale, and support

9. Who have we helped with SharePoint so far

<i>Agency / Reference</i>	<i>Past Performance</i>	<i>Line of Business</i>	<i>Business Benefits</i>
IRS Mr. Torrin Cummings Senior Manager, SharePoint <i>Torrin.T.Cummings@irs.gov</i>	SharePoint Governance, Management to service 150,000 internal users.	Financial and Tax Services, Compliance, Reporting, Collaboration, Productivity	Content Management System, Incident Reporting System, Collaboration, Productivity, Workflow, etc
SEC Mr. Philip Koski Dy. Managing Executive, Enforcement Division <i>koskip@sec.gov</i>	SharePoint Implementation, Architecture and design of Business Apps Development to service 6,000 internal users.	Business and Consumer Services, Compliance, Reporting, Workflows, Applications	SharePoint 2010 document management and App Development environment.
FDIC Ms. Cristal Perpignan Chief, Enterprise Document Management, Division of IT <i>CPerpignan@FDIC.gov</i>	SharePoint Implementation and Governance, Architecture and design of Business Apps Development	Financial Services, Compliance, Reporting, Workflows, Applications	SharePoint 2013 document management and App Development environment.
FEC Mr. Esteve Mede, Chief Information Security Officer <i>emede@fec.gov</i>	SharePoint based tool to manage Asset Inventory	Infrastructure, Asset Inventory, Data Centres	Asset Management, Real Time Inventory
CDC Polly Fiorini IT Specialist <i>Pof1@cdc.gov</i>	SharePoint Implementation and Governance, Architecture and design of Business Apps Development	Document and Records Management, Custom Workflow application	SharePoint 2013 document management and App Development environment.