
The Hitchhiker's Guide to Dixite Solutions

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About Dixite

[Dixite](#) was founded in 1999 by three seasoned IT consultants: Rudy Demo, Arnauld Van Muyswinkel and Javad Heshmati. Dixite provides a rich set of IT *services* and innovative *open source solutions*.

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Document Scope and Structure

The scope of this document is to describe Dixite solutions.

Chapter *Proven Methodology* (§1.1) describes our methodology, approaches and base architecture applied to our solutions.

Chapter *Solutions* (§2) lists and describes Dixite solutions.

Chapter *Partners* (§3) lists our partners.

Document Conventions

When you read this document, certain words are represented in different fonts, typefaces, sizes, and weights. This highlighting is systematic; different words are represented in the same style to indicate their inclusion in a specific category. The types of words that are represented this way include the following:

Element	Style
External link	<i>Dixite Website</i> ↪ www.dixite.com Or Dixite Website
Reference	the canonical name (§section number) is used to refer to sections.
Important	<i>emphasized</i>

CHAPTER 1

Methodology, Approach and Base Architecture

1.1 Proven Methodology

All of our solutions follow the Software Production Process using Open Source Software (SPPOSS) methodology, developed and used by Dixite consultants. SPPOSS is an open-source based methodology designed to help our clients gain all the benefits of our solutions. Please refer to www.dixite.com/docs/sposs to find out more about SPPOSS.

1.2 Flexible Approaches

This section describes our main approaches for designing and implementing our solutions. Depending on the case at hand, we either *integrate* pre-implemented components or *implement* and *customize* new components.

1.2.1 System Integration Approach

Our systems integration approach and capabilities covers the life cycle of a solution, from requirements analysis, specification through development, integration, installation and end-user training. Using this approach, we try to accelerate the system delivery by integrating pre-existing products and deliver a cost-effective yet a *quality* solution.

1.2.2 Custom Solution Approach

We can help you simplify and streamline even the most complicated business process with a customized solutions. Our customized solutions will be matched to your budget and asset allocation. We recognize the importance of leveraging your existing processes and available resources to avoid costly delays.

1.3 Platform Architecture

Typically, our solutions are based upon one of our open-source stacks:

- *LAMP* (§1.3.1)
- *JAM* (§1.3.1)

1.3.1 Open Source Stacks

LAMP

LAMP is our Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP) based open source stack used to implement the platform architecture of our solutions.

LAMP in a Nutshell

Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP (LAMP) is a stack of open-source software that includes the *GNU/Linux* operating system, *Apache Web server*, *MySQL* database and scripting languages PHP, Perl or Python.

Please refer to the *LAMP* ↗ www.dixite.com/docs/lamp document to learn more about LAMP.

JAM

JAM is our Java & Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE) based open source stack used to implement the platform architecture of our solutions.

JAM in a Nutshell

Java, JBoss, Apache, MySQL (JAM) is an open-source stack that includes *Java* & *JBoss*, *Apache* web server, its servlet container, and *MySQL* database. It offers an architecture that is best suited for an enterprise distributed environment. Please refer to the *JAM* ↗ www.dixite.com/docs/jam document to learn more about JAM.

1.3.2 Platform Architecture General Features

Our open-source stacks provide our solutions with the following:

Scalability

Often, scalability is a key requirement for enterprise solutions such as Content Management System (CMS) and Portals. Proposed solutions need to be capable of handling high volumes of content as well as of fulfilling high performance requirements. Scalability requirements therefore apply to all components of the architecture including *data stores* and *application servers* that leverage the content. Both of our Platform Architectures: LAMP and JAM, can easily scale and handle the high volume of users typically seen in web enabled applications.

Security

Security is one of the growing concern of organizations. When developing an enterprise application, it is often required that the enterprise sensitive content to be protected against unauthorized access both from inside and outside the organization. The enterprise application therefore needs to provide robust security while providing easy to apply control for users' access privileges. Our platforms auditing capabilities include capabilities to track and audit every activity and user interaction.

Open Standards

Open standards such as The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) promotes compatibility, reliability, and extensibility that provide organizations with maximum return on investment. Dixite platforms architecture adherence to open standards enables easy integration with existing enterprise systems, authoring applications, and development tools.

CHAPTER 2

Solutions

Dixite solutions address numerous business challenges in various sectors. Developing and deploying a fully-tested solution requires a combination of technical expertise and strong project management. Based upon our *Platform Architecture* (§1.3), we have been implementing solutions for many years, and have developed a *Proven Methodology* (§1.1) and *Flexible Approaches* (§1.2) that reduce risk, accelerate delivery, and ensure a *quality* solution. Table ?? provides a quick reference to Dixite solutions along with the business challenges that they address.

Solution	Challenge
Solution	Challenge
<i>Content Management System</i> (§2.1)	Gain effective management of content across your organization
<i>Web Portal</i> (§2.2)	Keep you staff and clients up-to-date
<i>Identity Management</i> (§2.3)	Provide personalized access to sensitive information across the Web

Table 2.1: *Challenges and Solutions*

2.1 Content Management System

To assist organizations and enterprises in efficiently administering their web content, Dixite offers a robust yet flexible CMS solution.

2.1.1 Business Challenge

CMS have long been recognized as the most effective way to organize and manage enterprises contents and assets. We can help you implement an efficient CMS so that your enterprises can maintain and render content into any format and deliver it via multiple channels such as documents, Web sites, and wireless devices.

2.1.2 The Solution

Based upon our *Platform Architecture* (§1.3), we provide a cost-effective solution to your web content management challenges. Our solution is strengthened by our partner product: *eZ Publish* (§3.1.2) that addresses sophisticated technical requirements. Our CMS solution offers:

- *Scalability* (§1.3.2)
- *Security* (§1.3.2)
- *Open Standards* (§1.3.2)
- *Search* (§2.1.2)
- *Ease Of Use* (§2.1.2)

Search

Content is valuable and central to organizations, without an efficient search capability, no one can know what information is available within the organization. Dixite CMS solution search capabilities makes it easy to find content across your organization.

Ease Of Use

Applications with complex user interfaces do not get used. We pay particular attention to making user friendly administration's interfaces. In addition, our CMS solution enables end users to intuitively understand the user interface and start using them right away.

2.1.3 Business Value and Benefits

Our CMS solution benefits your organization by:

- Facilitating the work of non-technical contributors through easy-to-use web interface for content creation, management, and publishing

- Reusing and managing content of several types including documents, Extensible Markup Language (XML), and HyperText Markup Language (HTML) pages.
- Enabling effective content searching by automating content tagging and categorization
- Creating a better user experience for customers, partners, and employees by incorporating rich content Web sites or portals

2.1.4 Selected References

Refer to the Client Section ¹ of our web site to learn more about our references.

- *Archange* ↗ www.reseou-archange.com
- *CERDT* ↗ www.cerdt.be

¹Client Section ↗ www.dixite.com/clients

2.2 Web Portal

No matter how integrated and automated your business becomes, your success and competitive advantage will always be measured by the actions and decisions of your staff and clients. Our *portal solution* let your staff and clients access the information and tools they need to do their jobs and make well-informed decisions.

2.2.1 Business Challenge

To make better decisions and become more productive, enterprise's employees, customers, and partners need portal business solutions that allows them to access the appropriate information they need when they need it. Companies require portal solutions that deliver personalized and secure views of internal and external resources such as content, services, applications and business processes.

2.2.2 The Solution

Along with leading portal vendors such as Sun Microsystems and JBoss, Dixite delivers portal solution to meet your business requirements. Depending on your requirements, the portal solution is built upon *JAM* (§1.3.1) or *LAMP* (§1.3.1). At base, our portal solution offers:

- *Scalability* (§1.3.2)
- *Security* (§1.3.2)
- *Open Standards* (§1.3.2)

2.2.3 Business Value and Benefits

Our Web Portal solution benefits your organization by:

- Reducing costs for clients, partners, and staff services
- Satisfying the needs of clients, partners, and staff
- Providing Open Standards based using W3C standards and recommendations as well as leading specifications such as J2EE

2.2.4 Selected References

Refer to the Client Section ² of our web site to learn more about our references.

- *European Investor* ↗ www.euroland.com
- *CERDT* ↗ www.cerdt.be

²Client Section ↗ www.dixite.com/clients

2.3 Identity Management

Delivering information and services through a *Web Portal* (§2.2) provides a better relationships with clients, partners and suppliers but it requires a secure identity management solution.

2.3.1 Business Challenge

Often organizations need to provide access to sensitive resources to their staff, partners, suppliers and clients. In addition, web services and applications require unique identities in order to perform transactions both inside and outside of organizations. You need to manage *who*, or what application, has *access* to what *resources* of your organization and how it is being used. In short, you need a *secure identity management*.

2.3.2 The Solution

Our *secure identity management* solution can assist you to manage identities across your organization. Dixite Identity management is built upon our *Platform Architecture* (§1.3) and utilizes Open Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) in order to implement an effective access control. Among other things, it offers:

- *Security* (§1.3.2)
- *Scalability* (§1.3.2)
- *Open Standards* (§1.3.2)

2.3.3 Business Value and Benefits

Our Identity Management solution benefits your organization by:

- centralizing the management of different types of users, across multiple environments and applications, streamlining business processes
- managing authentication across your *Web Portal* (§2.2), and web services
- Providing a single sign-on system across your organization
- Providing an easy to use administration interface

2.3.4 Selected References

Refer to the Client Section ³ of our web site to learn more about our references.

- *UPC Norway* ↗ www.upc.no
- *The European Commission* ↗ europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries

³Client Section ↗ www.dixite.com/clients

CHAPTER 3

Partners

This section lists Dixite partners and partnership programs in which Dixite is involved.

3.1 Technology Partners

Technology partners provide platforms, databases, operating systems, and hosting services to support and/or extend Dixite solutions.

3.1.1 Sun Microsystems

As described in the *Platform Architecture* (§1.3), our *JAM* (§1.3.1) stack is based on Java and J2EE. To better support clients on this stack, Dixite has become a registered member of the iForce program. Sun iForce program provides a rich array of products, programs, solutions to deliver targeted, customer-driven vertical and horizontal solutions. This helps Dixite to better serve its clients.

Learn more about our partnership

PARTNER WEBSITE: www.sun.com

PROGRAM URL: www.sun.com/executives/iforce/aboutus.html

DIXITE PARTNER URL: www.dixite.com/partners/sun

3.1.2 eZ Publish

In 2004, Dixite became the first advanced solution partner of eZ Systems to provide eZ CMS solution in Belgium. This partnership helps us to extend our *Content Management System* (§2.1) solution with sophisticated features of the eZ Publish.

Learn more about our partnership

PARTNER WEBSITE: www.ez.no

PROGRAM URL: ez.no/partner/program

DIXITE PARTNER URL: www.dixite.com/partners/ez

3.2 Consulting Partners

Consulting partners are consultants who master a particular technology or standards and can help Dixite clients achieve their goals.

3.2.1 MarkupWare

As the name indicates, MarkupWare is an organization dedicated to markup based languages and standards, in particular W3C standards. MarkupWare consultants work with Dixite engineers to provide Dixite clients with the best markup based solutions such XML and HTML.

Learn more about our partnership

PARTNER WEBSITE: www.markupware.com

DIXITE PARTNER URL: www.dixite.com/partners/markupware

Document Information

This document was typeset by the author using \LaTeX ¹.

Revision

Revision	Date	Modified Sections
0.1	24-07-2005	Initial Revision
0.2	31-08-2005	Improved quality and revised Partners section.

Table 3.1: *Document Revision History*

Related Documents

Title	URL	Description
SPPOSS	www.dixite.com/docs/spposs	Software Production Process Using Open Source Software
LAMP Stack	www.dixite.com/docs/lamp	An Open-source Architecture for <i>Web</i> Based Applications
JAM Stack	www.dixite.com/docs/jam	An Open-source Architecture for <i>Enterprise</i> Applications
Dixite Services	www.dixite.com/docs/services	The Hitchhiker's Guide to Dixite Services

Table 3.2: *Related Documents*

Copyright

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¹ \LaTeX ↪ www.latex-project.org

Glossary

ESTIME Explore, Sketch, Tipography, Imagery, Make-up, Execute is the Dixite methodology for website development and publishing. *URL* ↗ www.dixite.com/docs/estime

XML Extensible Markup Language Extensible Markup Language (XML) is a simple, very flexible text format derived from SGML (ISO 8879). Originally designed to meet the challenges of large-scale electronic publishing, XML is also playing an increasingly important role in the exchange of a wide variety of data on the Web and elsewhere. *URL* ↗ www.w3.org/XML

HTML HyperText Markup Language XHTML 2 is a general-purpose markup language designed for representing documents for a wide range of purposes across the World Wide Web. To this end it does not attempt to be all things to all people, supplying every possible markup idiom, but to supply a generally useful set of elements. *URL* ↗ www.w3.org/MarkUp

GNU GNU's Not UNIX *URL* ↗ www.gnu.org

FSF Free Software Foundation *URL* ↗ www.fsf.org

ASF Apache Software Foundation *URL* ↗ www.apache.org

W3C The World Wide Web Consortium develops interoperable technologies (specifications, guidelines, software, and tools) to lead the Web to its full potential.

CSS Cascading Style Sheets is a simple mechanism for adding style (e.g. fonts, colors, spacing) to Web documents. *http://www.w3.org/Style/CSS* ↗ www.w3.org/Style/CSS

RSS Really Simple Syndication is a lightweight XML format designed for sharing headlines and other Web content.

CMS Content Management System

LDAP Lightweight Directory Access Protocol

LAMP Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP

J2EE Java 2 Enterprise Edition

JAM Java, JBoss, Apache, MySQL

SPPOSS Software Production Process using Open Source Software is [Dixite](#) approach to software development. *URL* ↗ www.dixite.com/docs/spposs

CSS Cascading Style Sheets is a simple mechanism for adding style (e.g. fonts, colors, spacing) to Web documents. *URL* ↗ www.w3.org/Style/CSS

PHP Hypertext Preprocessor is a widely-used general-purpose scripting language that is especially suited for Web development and can be embedded into HTML. *URL* ↗ www.php.net