

# A Web-Based Collaborative Portal for Sharing Safeguards Knowledge

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## A Web-Based Collaborative Portal for Sharing Safeguards Knowledge



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## The CSSP and the IAEA

- The CSSP provides support to the IAEA for many activities, including:
  - Equipment Development
  - Training
  - Cost Free Experts
  - SGs Concept Development
  - Information Technology



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## Introduction

- This paper covers:
  - Definitions (blogs, wikis, portals, etc.)
  - Motivation
  - Why use a blog?
  - Security issues
  - Open-source versus commercial tools
  - Blogging problems and solutions
  - Summary and concluding remarks

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## Definitions ...

- Blogs
  - Originally called “web logs”
  - Articles (or posts) with comments
  - Chronological organization
- Wikis
  - Generally organized by topic
  - Like an editable web site
  - Pages evolve over time

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## Definitions ...

- Portal
  - A jumping-off point to various web-accessible assets
  - Can be tailored for (and by) each user
  - May have a primary focus, such as a Geographical Information System (GIS) portal
  - Very dynamic when compared to a traditional “home page”

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## Motivation

- Need to produce documentation, procedures, and training materials in collaboration with many authors
- Need to share information and knowledge among many geographically dispersed users

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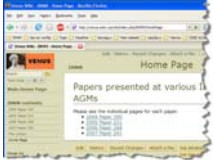


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## Our Positive Experience With an Open-Source Wiki

- Open-source wiki (PmWiki) in use since early 2004 for joint CSSP/IAEA projects
- Separate work area for each project
- Browser access
- Effective data transfer



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## Why Use a Blog?

- Excellent for inspection reports or newsletters
- Easy to integrate into a portal
- Immediate feedback for authors
- Commenting capability for readers
- Long-term central storage
- Keeps a record of the discussion surrounding posts
- RSS or email feeds for readers

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## Security Issues

- Establish end user protocols and procedures
- Use the blog features
  - Assign users and groups appropriate access
- Use web server authentication
  - User names and good passwords
  - Secure connections


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## Security for Road Warriors

- Just buy coffee at internet cafes
  - The danger of keyloggers
  - The danger of Wi-Fi "sniffers"
- Use a Virtual Private Network (VPN)
  - A VPN provides a secure tunnel back to the corporate LAN
- Use two-factor authentication
  - Something you know (password)
  - Something you possess (secure token)



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## Open-source vs Commercial Tools

- WordPress
  - Free and open-source
  - Easy to install and use
  - Good for small sites or proof-of-concept
- SharePoint Blogs
  - Free and commercial versions
  - Part of the SharePoint portal infrastructure
  - Integrates with Microsoft Office products
  - Fine-grained security

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## Blogging Problems

- SharePoint blog editor is feeble!
  - No built-in spell checker
  - No drag-and-drop
  - No "paste special" option (to remove unwanted formatting)
  - Editing form does not match the actual blog
- Must be online to make a posting
  - No connection = no posting
  - Connection interruption = lost data

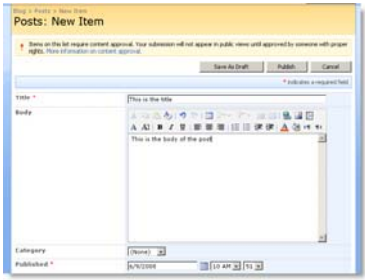
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## The SharePoint Blog Editor



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## Practical Blogging Solution

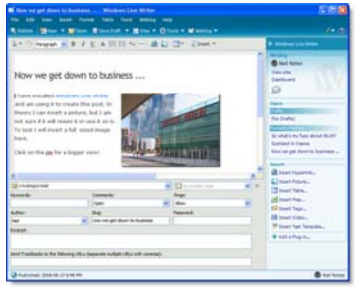
- **Windows Live Writer (WLW) solves all of these problems**
  - Built-in spell checker
  - Drag-and-drop
  - “Paste special” option
  - Editing form matches the actual blog
  - Offline posting with online publishing
  - Best news of all – it’s free and it works with many different blogs, including WordPress

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## Windows Live Writer Blog Editor



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## Summary

- The CSSP wiki success prompted us to explore other collaborative tools
- Commercial and open-source blogs can both have a role as a portal component
- Security concerns can be addressed
- SharePoint blogs with WLW show great promise


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## Concluding remarks

- The CSSP continues to support the IAEA in defining a web-based collaborative portal
- Pilot projects help to solidify requirements
- We look forward to integrating GIS solutions with the portal
- Start your own blog now!



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## Any Questions???




More details at <http://saturn.eton.ca/>

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