

## Bitpalast® Technology Bulletin

### Content Management Systems

A content management system (CMS) is a program that enables you to modify your website in a browser. A CMS can be useful in some cases, such as:

- ✓ if your content is complex, time-critical, or extensive (upwards of around 150 pages)
- ✓ if you want to manage the same content in different output formats
- ✓ if you maintain different websites as a service provider

Although Bitpalast® supports all content management systems, we recommend a web editor software such as Microsoft™ FrontPage™ to most of our clients. FrontPage™ is just as efficient for website maintenance, but it saves you investment and operating costs.

Competitors claim that a content management system makes website maintenance easier and quicker. In truth, however, maintenance costs are higher. A CMS costs more to buy, and to manage it you need a web server with a database, so you end up paying a higher service rental each month. Competitors argue that less expensive solutions such as Microsoft™ FrontPage™ contain hidden costs. The truth is that once you have made the one-off purchase, usually for less than the price of a CMS, such products do not give rise to any further costs. Competitors further argue that only a CMS provides authorization management that restricts the areas of a website that a particular member of staff can modify. Yet in most small and medium-sized companies, the truth is that only one or two staff maintain the site in any case, so authorization management is not actually required. But, if you do need it, it can also be realized using Microsoft™ FrontPage™.

A CMS makes you dependent on the manufacturer of your website, as they are usually the only ones who are able to alter its appearance. A tool such as Microsoft™ FrontPage™, on the other hand, guarantees that you can edit all parts of your site and exploit all the technical opportunities afforded by the Internet.

The following list contains common content management systems.

Product	Infos	Price (non-binding, as of 9/2004)
Advantage CMS	crownpeak.com	from US \$ 3,500.-/year
ADXStudio	adxstudio.com	from US \$ 2,670.-
Bitrix Site Manager	bitrixsoft.com	from US \$ 199.-
CMS200 1.6/eMPower	ektron.com	from US \$ 2,999.-
Content Plus	cmssolutions.com	typically US \$ 4199.-
Frontier	frontier.userland.com	from US \$ 899.-
Manila	userland.com	from US \$ 899.-
SiteWorksPro	siteworkspro.com	from US \$ 99.-
Smartwebs	bostonwebdesign.com	from US \$ 1,320.-/year
Webgenz CMS	webgenz.com	from US \$ 82.-
WebWord	cms.webword.biz	from US \$ 159.-
<b>Non-official competitor</b>		
Microsoft™ FrontPage™	bitpalast.com/webdesign/frontpage.html	approx. US \$ 235.-

Bitpalast®, 1156 Abbott Lane, U.S.A.-Sun Prairie, WI 53590  
Phone (608) 825-6303, service@bitpalast.com