

# **EXPLORING THE USE OF BLOGS FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

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# INTRODUCTION

- **Creating a mechanism for effectively consolidated and controlled management of personal information is one of the biggest challenges of our time.**
- **Web 2.0 applications are used as an effective tool for information management.**
- **Web 2.0 is a term used to refer to a network of user generated content available on the web.**
- **Blogging has become one of the most popular web 2.0 applications used as Personal Information Management tool.**

# **PERSONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

**According to Jones & Teevan - Personal Information Management or PIM is both the practice and study of the activities people perform to acquire, organize, maintain, retrieve, use and control the distribution of information items such as documents, web pages, and e mail messages for everyday use to complete tasks (work-related and not) and to fulfill a person's various roles (as parent, employee, friend, member of a community, and professional etc.).**

# TYPES OF PERSONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- **Information a person keeps**
- **Information directed to a person**
- **Information experienced by a person**
- **Information about a person kept by others**

## **PROBLEMS OF PERSONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

- **Finding things**
- **Inadequate awareness of desired information handling competencies**
- **Inappropriate management of personal information**
- **Information fragmentation**
- **Mismanagement of personal information**
- **Information overload**
- **Lack of memory**

## **WEB 2.0**

- **The term Web 2.0 was coined by Dale Dougherty in 2004.**
- **Web 2.0 is transforming the web into a space that allows users to create and share information online- a space for collaboration, conversation and interaction- one that is highly dynamic, flexible and updatable.**

# WEB 2.0 TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES

- **Blogs**
- **Flicker**
- **Facebook**
- **MySpace**
- **Orkut**
- **LinkedIn**
- **Twitter**
- **Hi5**
- **Friendster**
- **RSS**
- **Video casting**
- **Social Bookmarking**
- **Podcasts**
- **Mashups**
- **Folksonomies**



**BLOG**





**Blogs are web documents (usually a unique website) created by software that allow materials to be published on a website in the same manner as log- or diary-entries are written in a journal. When a new entry is published, it appears at the top of the Web page, moving older entries down, and eventually off, the site's first page.**

## CHARACTERISTIC OF BLOGS

- **Blogging tools help bloggers to present their words without the hassle of writing HTML code or program.**
- **Blogs can be updated frequently.**
- **They are easy to maintain and accessible via a web browser.**
- **Weblogs can link to other weblogs and websites, enabling the linkage of ideas, and hence stimulating knowledge generation and sharing between bloggers.**

# ADVANTAGES OF BLOGS

- **Easy creation of new pages**
- **Filtering of content for various blog entries**
- **Easy to use, sharable, and automatically archived**
- **Ability to link and inter-link to form learning communities**
- **It can provide emotionally supportive forums for sharing opinion in the context of further everyday projects**

# BLOGS AS PIM TOOL

- **Blogs as archive**
- **Blogs can stimulate reading and motivate learning**
- **Blogs as an information dissemination tool**
- **Blogs as a medium for interactivity**
- **Blogs as publishing and updating tool**
- **Blogs as community builder**
- **Blogs provide hyperlinks to other resources**

## **BLOGS AS ARCHIVE**

- **A blog archive is that region or place where older articles (posts) are stored.**
- **Blogs could be viewed as a store house of information.**
- **It make older materials easily accessible to visitors.**

## **BLOGS CAN STIMULATE READING AND MOTIVATE LEARNING**

- **The use of blogs is a way to motivate learning.**
- **Bloggers have an opportunity to read things in which they are interested.**
- **They also create a relatively learner-centered environment that allows readers to learn at their own interest.**

## **BLOGS AS AN INFORMATION DISSEMINATION TOOL**

- **Blogger can provide information about any topic of interest.**
- **Bloggers get a chance to read other blogs, which helps them to improve their knowledge.**
- **Blogs not only keep the information updated, but also present the ideas of its contributors effectively.**

## **BLOGS AS A MEDIUM FOR INTERACTIVITY**

- **Interaction between bloggers and readers are usually triggered by the newest posting submitted by a blogger.**
- **Bloggers also contribute to the discussion area by writing comments on their postings.**
- **Blogs encourage interactivity between the writer and audience by allowing readers to post comments and questions about entries.**

## **BLOGS AS PUBLISHING AND UPDATING TOOL**

- **Blog is updated daily.**
- **The basic reason for creating a blog is to reflect on things what a user done.**
- **Blogs provide a powerful platform for publishing content and sharing it with the world.**

## **BLOG AS COMMUNITY BUILDER**

- **Blogging sites are open to the public and welcome viewers to make comments or post message.**
- **Learners are allowed to collaborate with others to establish particular topics of mutual interest.**
- **The discussion area resembles a small- scale discussion group.**

## **BLOGS PROVIDE HYPERLINKS TO OTHER RESOURCES**

- **Users can create resources by adding hyperlink within the blog.**
- **Users gain more knowledge through links to many sites if they choose to follow the hyperlinks.**
- **The inclusion of hyperlinks also allow for self directed exploration within the topic.**

# CONCLUSION

- **Blogs enable the development of small online communities that allow people to seek and share information about everyday issues.**
- **Blogs, especially personal blogs are not only a sharing tool for information and communication, but also a working tool to reflect the life of a person.**
- **Blogs are used as an effective tool for personal information management.**
- **The success of the weblogs depends on blogger's inspiration, motivation, dedication and ability. As Mandal suggested, it is going to be a powerful personal, communication and information sharing tool for the individuals and professionals in near future.**

