

DB Integration

A new extension for the integration of external databases in TYPO3

Who am I?



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Software engineer at
Webformat srl, an Italian
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- I also developed the
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extension
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DB Integration (key: wfqbe)

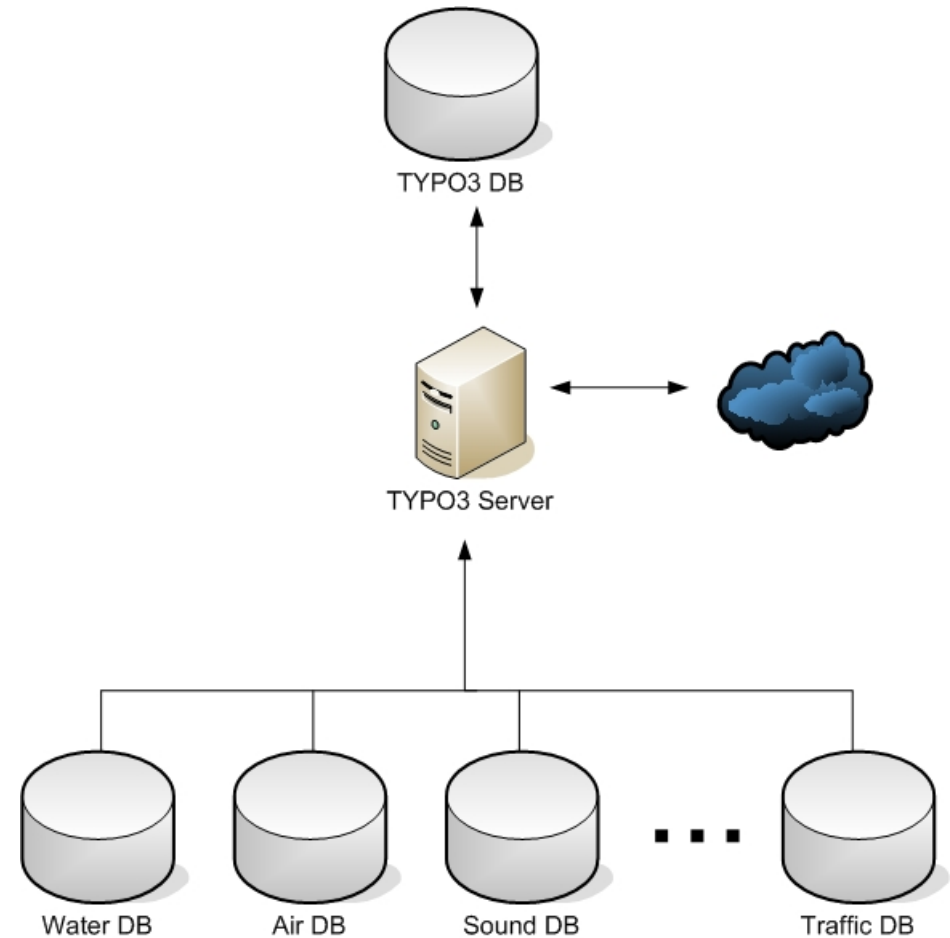
- This is a new TYPO3 extension
- It provides you the possibility to show on your TYPO3 sites the records stored in external DBs
- Without the need of writing any PHP line
- You only need to know your DB structure, a little knowledge of SQL, HTML and TypoScript
- <http://www.typo3.org/extensions/wfqbe/0.9.4>

The main target of wfqbe

- The main target of the extension is to use external databases without the need of writing new extensions
- It's based on ADODB to access a lot of DBMS
- Features:
 - Query-by-Example wizard to retrieve data
 - Form generation wizards for:
 - Search forms
 - Insert forms
 - Edit forms (not ready yet)

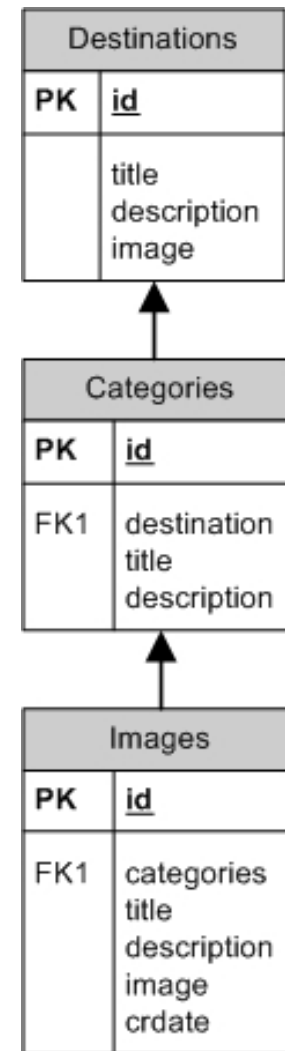
Why this extension?

- We developed this extension for a large project for which we had to manage many different DBs
- The customer needs to add and modify his DBs by his own
- It wasn't possible to write a single extension for every single DB



A little example

- Let's see how it works!
- A very simple database of images
- <http://localhost/labs2>



How do we use it?

- We are using this extension for two purposes:
 - Integrate external databases (e.g. we are using wfqbe to integrate an external DB with 47 tables to provide insert forms and search functionalities)
 - Manage TYPO3 tables without the need of writing new extensions (e.g. to show a list of the fe_users based on the fe_group of the logged-in user)

TODO - 1/3

- I'm actually working to improve the insert functionality with:
 - Search wizards (to search for the record needed instead of using a drop-down menu)
 - Add wizards (to add a new record in a table while inserting a record in a different table)
 - Password fields
 - RTE integration in textarea fields
 - Calendar wizard
 - TS integration to manage inserted data before the insert query (e.g. to modify a data format)

TODO - 2/3

- I think it would be necessary:
 - Editing functionalities
 - Localization of the labels
 - RealUrl integration
 - A graph extension integration
 - AJAX support in the BE

TODO - 3/3

- There are two big features that I think it would be very useful to add:
 - Provide the same features of the FE in the BE to move records administration in the BE rather than in the FE
 - Use the QBE wizard to provide a common data-source for other extensions (e.g. for graph generation extensions, for the survey extension to write the results in external DBs, for shop systems to retrieve products from external DBs and to insert orders in external DBs too, and so on...)

Contact me

- If you want to help me coding, if you write some documentation, if you have questions, ideas, suggestions or critics :-), if you want to sponsor the development and for every thing you need, please contact me:
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Q&A

- Thank you for your patience
- And now, any question?