Installation Guide

A-PLUS

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1.   Server and Database Installation

The Apache server and MySQL database have to be installed using the following links depending upon the operating system. These come as a single executable package, both the server and database get installed. Follow the appropriate instructions given in the installation wizard to setup the server and database.

Windows Version:

http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp-windows.html

Linux Version:

http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp-linux.html

Mac Version:

http://www.mamp.info/en/index.html

Then type "localhost" in your browser which will open the start page of the XAMPP/ LAMPP / MAMP.

Choose your language.

Click the "phpMyAdmin" link present in the side bar under the "Tools" heading of the page, which will open a page which provides the interface to create the database in mysql.

Create a new database (any name of your choice, example: usap-drupal) which will used for the installation of drupal.

Check the status of the servers and mysql services by clicking the XAMPP/ LAMPP / MAMP icon present in the system tray or in the desktop.

2.   Drupal Installation

Download the required stable version (Current stable version: Drupal - 6.13) of the drupal installation from the drupal site shown below.

http://drupal.org/

Go to the xampp installation folder in your respective machines (C:/xampp in Windows) and go to "htdocs" directory (xampp\htdocs\). Unzip the entire downloaded drupal files into this folder.

Now go to the directory xampp\htdocs\drupal-6.13\sites\default. Make a copy of the file default.settings.php with the name settings.php. When you are done, there should be two .php files in this directory – settings.php and default.settings.php.

Now type http://localhost/drupal-6.13 in the browser address bar, which takes to you to the drupal installation interface and follow the instructions given in the page. You should do the following:

It will be asking the database name where the drupal associated tables are to be installed for the working of drupal. Provide the database name which you created previously. If you have previously installed MySQL and provided a user name and password use that. If not, the default is username of "root" and there is no password. Using the default names opens up security vulnerabilities so do not open the machine that MySQL resides on to the web with this username and password.

Drupal will get installed and you are transferred to the drupal home page. This page will ask for the site name and the site e-mail address. The site name can be of your choosing but A-PLUS is recommended. This page also asks for username, e-mail address, and password. This user name/password can be of your choosing but it should be easy to remember. You will use this to log into Drupal subsequently if you log off at any time or if you use a different browser.

You may get an error message that the mail message was not sent. This means you do not have a mail server on your machine and can be ignored.

3. Database Creation

The installation of Drupal will have populated the data base you created above (eg. Usap-drupal). You now need to add the A-PLUS data to that data base. Type "localhost" in your browser which will open the start page of the XAMPP/ LAMPP / MAMP.

Click the "phpMyAdmin" link present in the side bar under the "Tools" heading of the page, which will open a page which provides the interface to access MySQL data bases. Open the database Drupal is using (e.g. usap-drupal).

Select the IMPORT option present in the middle of the top header of the page which will provide a interface to select the A-PLUS Database Script. Select the database file named "APLUS_Tool_DB_Script.sql". This file is included in the distribution. Click the Go button in the bottom of the interface, which will create the tables and insert the values needed by A-PLUS.

4. Installing A-PLUS Tool:

Go to the xampp installation folder in your machine and go to "all" directory (xampp\htdocs\drupal-6.13\sites\all). Create a new folder "modules" inside the "all" folder.

Copy two folders from the distribution (aplusevaluation, aplusrequirements) into the "modules" folder you have just created.

Now type http://localhost/drupal-6.13 in the browser address bar, which takes to you to the drupal home site in your machine.

Click the "administer" link present in the left side bar under the login module. Now click the "Modules" link present in the center of the page under the "Site Building" category.

The existing modules provided by drupal will be displayed. Browse down to the page to the "other" section which will generally contains the modules which you pasted in this folder (xampp\htdocs\drupal-6.10\sites\all\modules).

Activate the modules present in the "other" section by selecting the all the check boxes.

Click the "Save configuration" button at the bottom of the page to activate all modules of the A-PLUS tool.

Now click "Blocks" link under the site building section to view the existing blocks provided by drupal and our blocks (Navigation Pane and View Options).

Select "Right sidebar" from the drop down for the "APLUS Filter Options" block.

Now click the "Configure" button on the right side of the page opposite the drop down for the "APLUS Filter Options" block. This will take you to a page that lets you control visibility of the block. At the bottom of the page is a heading "show block on specific pages". Click the radio button that says ""Show only on the listed pages". The type aplusevalation in the box below labeled "pages".

Click the "Save blocks" button at the bottom of the page to activate the block of the A-PLUS tool.

Now the right side bar containing the "Filter Options" is attached to the evaluation page where it has meaning and not attached to other pages.

Select the "A-PLUS requirements" link present in the navigation page to get started with the A-PLUS tool.