

Site Mettle Frequently Asked Questions

Why did you create this offering?

Digital Mettle, like other professional website design firms, is in the business of designing websites, not maintaining them after their "launch". Often, Digital Mettle has found that, given the option, our clients would rather maintain their websites themselves than pay "design" fees for what amounts to basic text editing. The unfortunate truth is, however, that when someone who is not a professional website designer is left to do direct HTML editing, they will eventually damage the visual design of a website. This degradation occurs gradually; an oversized image placed here, an incorrect "TABLE" tag inserted there. Site Mettle is specifically designed to combat this problem.

Why do you think this product is something that companies will want?

Digital Mettle has had repeated requests from our website design project clients for a "content update tool". In the past, each of these "tools" has been custom-designed specifically to the client's website. In every case, the basic customer requirements have been functionally similar to what are now Site Mettle features. This software, engineered independently of any one website, will fill the need for many future custom "content update tools".

Who do you see as users of your product?

Companies with small to medium-sized websites that have been professionally designed, have a professional webmaster, and have part-time content providers in various departments throughout the company.

What do you see as the savings this will bring the customers?

Site Mettle protects the company's investment in a professionally designed website by preserving the integrity of that design from accidental corruption by non-technical content providers.

Site Mettle also saves Information Technology resources by freeing the webmaster from the task of converting content into website-specific HTML. This is accomplished by pushing that task out to the more appropriate resources - the originators of the information.

What benefits does your product give that other products do not?

The ideal of most HTML editors and website management tools is to allow their users to realize anything they can imagine. Site Mettle's focus is on maintaining an existing style even if its users may not understand that style. Site Mettle's benefit is that it takes "creative control" out of the hands of people who aren't concerned with it.

Can this offering be shipped and installed without any effort on the part of Digital Mettle?

To realize its full value, Site Mettle must be customized to "understand" the design of the websites on which it is installed. This process can be performed by other professional website design firms.

Will there be ongoing enhancements to this product?

Yes. The original version of Site Mettle was only compatible with HTML-based websites and utilized only NT-based file security. The current version of Site Mettle has been enhanced with databases capabilities and several security options including internal or database user lists.

Other recent updates include support for structured data content (numeric only, text only, specific formatting, etc.). Upcoming enhancements include additional workflow options, a fully-featured administration tool and greater server compatibility.

How do you see this product fitting into current websites architectures?

Because Site Mettle edits HTML content that comes from many sources, it can interact and co-exist with any other HTML editor or website administration program.

How technically savvy will the end user need to be?

Other than basic internet familiarity, the end users will need no additional technical skills. The initial setup of Site Mettle on a website is a technical process, mostly to customize Site Mettle to "understand" the design constraints of the website. After Site Mettle is installed on the website, no ongoing maintenance is required until the website undergoes a redesign.

What are client requirements for your product?

Users of Site Mettle will need to use Internet Explorer 5.5 (or above) to edit their website.

What are server requirements for your product?

The current version of Site Mettle runs on a Windows 2000 web server with MSXML 4.0 installed.