

DANIELE PROCIDA

DOCUMENTATION-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

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DIVIO

django

django **CMS**

DOCUMENTATION- DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

DOCUMENTATION-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ like test-driven development, puts should before is
- ▶ establishes a shared, easily-accessible, higher-level overview of the work
- ▶ provides a shared, easily-accessible metric of success
- ▶ encourages contribution and engagement of non-programmers
- ▶ binds programming effort into a coherent narrative

DOCUMENTATION-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

**LESSONS FROM THE DJANGO
PROJECT**

**DJANGO'S
DOCUMENTATION IS
EXEMPLARY**

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT IT?

- ▶ It's structured properly (tutorials, how-to, reference, topics).
- ▶ Within that structure, it's clear and consistent.
- ▶ It covers just about everything.
- ▶ It's held to the highest standards.
- ▶ It exemplifies important values (clarity, courtesy, friendliness)
- ▶ Documentation in Django is a process, not just a product.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THIS MAKE?

- ▶ It makes Django easier to learn and adopt.
- ▶ It makes people better Django programmers.
- ▶ It lowers the support burden.
- ▶ It makes the development of Django itself easier and faster.

**DJANGO'S GOOD
DOCUMENTATION IS GOOD
FOR DJANGO**

**SOFTWARE IS NOT THE
ONLY THING THAT
DEVELOPS**

**WHAT DOES DOCUMENTATION MEAN
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
COMMUNITIES AND
PROGRAMMERS?**

DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY

DJANGO'S DOCUMENTATION

- ▶ represents its attitudes
- ▶ is an implicit contract with its community
- ▶ is a commitment to standards of communication and information
- ▶ is treated as an activity, not just as content

RTFM

Unsympathetic programmers

let me  that for you

function is a first-class object in Python

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

Was that so hard?

**INFORMATION AND
DOCUMENTATION AS
PRODUCT AND CONTENT**

**INFORMATION AND
DOCUMENTATION AS
PROCESS AND ACTIVITY**

INFORMATION AS COMMUNICATIVE TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN AGENTS

- ▶ clarity
- ▶ intelligibility
- ▶ relevance
- ▶ comprehension
- ▶ attention to the needs and abilities of the other party
- ▶ affirmation of mutual understanding

**GOOD DOCUMENTATION
SHOWS RESPECT**

**DJANGO'S
DOCUMENTATION INFORMS
ITS COMMUNITY**

DEVELOPING PROGRAMMERS

DOCUMENTATION

- ▶ represents an easy way in for new contributors
- ▶ is almost always welcome
- ▶ raises its author's of understanding to new levels

**DJANGO'S DOCUMENTATION
STRUCTURE GUIDES NEW
CONTRIBUTIONS**

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO DJANGO'S
DOCUMENTATION ARE TAKEN
SERIOUSLY AND HELD TO THE
HIGHEST STANDARDS**

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO
DJANGO'S DOCUMENTATION
ARE VALUED**

**DOCUMENTING CODE IS
THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY
TO UNDERSTAND IT**

**DJANGO'S DOCUMENTATION
ADVANCES THOSE WHO
CONTRIBUTE TO IT**

**DJANGO DOES
DOCUMENTATION-DRIVEN
DEVELOPMENT**

**WHAT CAN YOUR
PROJECT DO?**

PRACTICAL STEPS

- ▶ **Structure** your documentation correctly (tutorials, how-to, reference, topics).
- ▶ Make your documentation policies as **rigorous** as your code policies.
- ▶ **Document** your documentation.
- ▶ **Value** your documentation contributors.
- ▶ Value the **activity** of documentation and information.

PRACTICAL STEPS

- ▶ Attend a **Write the Docs** conference or workshop - writethedocs.org.
- ▶ Make being a **Documentation manager** part of someone's role.
- ▶ **Spend money and time** on documentation.

The logo for 'Write the Docs' is presented in a white rectangular box with a dark border. At the top of the box, there are two horizontal lines. Below these lines, the words 'WRITE THE' are written in a bold, black, serif font. Underneath that, the word 'DOCS' is written in a much larger, bold, black, serif font. At the bottom of the box, there are two more horizontal lines, mirroring the top ones.

**WRITE THE
DOCS**

**DOCUMENTATION IS
BECOMING A MOVEMENT**

THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?

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- ▶ daniele.procida@divio.com
- ▶ EvildMP on IRC, GitHub, Twitter etc
- ▶ Visit the django CMS booth

django **CMS**

