Plone Symposium 2008
June 4th — New Orleans
Alan Runyan & Alexander Limi

- Welcome!
- How many of you have been here before
- How many have never been to a Plone event?
- This is a smaller, more intimate event than our usual ones, a great chance to make sure you get to talk to everyone!

Stats

- Plone downloaded over 1 million times
- 49 (!) new contributors last year
- 60 people checked in code to Plone over last 12 months (257 total)
- Increasing year-over-year activity
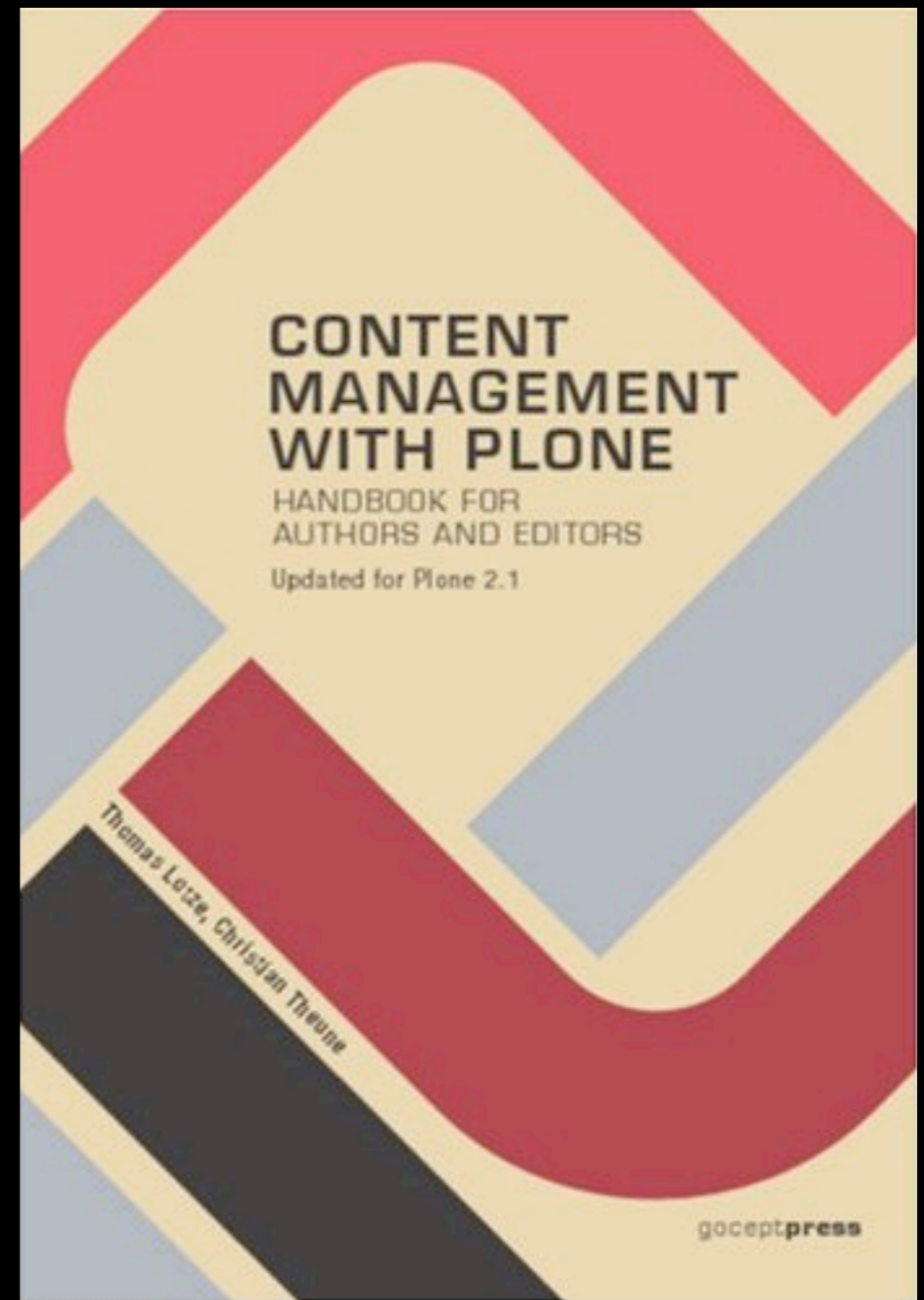- Plone is among the largest open source teams in the world (top 2%!)

- Plone is still the only open source product with an end-user manual in printed form
- Now updated for 3.1 – http://www.plonebook.info
- Free under CC license!
- Also available as hardcopy through Amazon
- Lots of work going into documentation reorg on plone.org

plone.org

- Foundation funded hardware in place
- Upgrade to 3.1 underway
- The reason it takes a while is because we're converting the Products area to use BLOB storage, have egg support, etc — the basic 2.5->3.x upgrade worked pretty much immediately.

NASA launched a Plone–based web site recently, wanted to mention it since it's a great site — both the content and design is high quality.

Foundation

- Relaunching plone.net with a sponsorship plan (in Jon's back pocket, launches any day now ;)
- Dealt with a couple of trademark and IP cases
- Raised money via tax-deductible contributions
- Fiscal agent for Plone Conference 2008
- Conference presences (LinuxWorld)
- Organized the Strategic Planning Summit at the Googleplex!

Evangelism

- LinuxWorld presence
- Arrange more Plone events! World Plone Day in November 2008, arrange one in your city!
- Evangelism is: leading by action! Just do it! (list)
- Step outside your comfort zone, spread the word — present at a conference, write an overview-style article for a magazine (ex: Jon Stahl on NGOs + OSS article), present at other user groups

Plone Conference

- Oct 8–10, 2008
- Washington, DC
- Call for talk proposals is out!
- Be there!

Community

- Maturing, the community are really becoming professionals
- Consolidation of projects
- Started removing things instead of just adding
- Entire stack is now much more well-understood
- We have the right technology, we have the right people
- Clearer paths have emerged for integration approaches
- PloneGov and the new PloneEdu effort

- **Summer of Code (just started!)**

- **Highly Open Participation**

- **Theme effort**

  - **Improve availability of high-quality Plone themes**

  - **Veda Williams + team**

  - **15+ awesome themes so far**

- **GloWorm (WebLion)**

Other efforts worth mentioning

Planning Summit

- Focus on approachability for integrators that are new to Plone
- Focus areas tracked in our bug tracker
- Follow-up session with more focus on sprinting / writing code after the Symposium (Friday)

Roadmap

Let's talk about the upcoming direction for Plone in 3.x and beyond

Lots of research and development work:
– Overall theme: performance and improved developer productivity
– RDB/SQL integration
– ZODB BLOB support
– Faster startup! (7s vs. 20s on trunk)
– Replication/storage alternatives: zeoraid + RelStorage
– Indexing (genetic soup, 3+ projects converged and became collective.indexing)
– Form building
– Theming mechanisms (Deliverance, XSLT, Spitfire)
– Performance testing and identifying bottlenecks
– Lots of exciting stuff over the last year got to critical mass
– Will see these things land in Plone (and outside) in near future
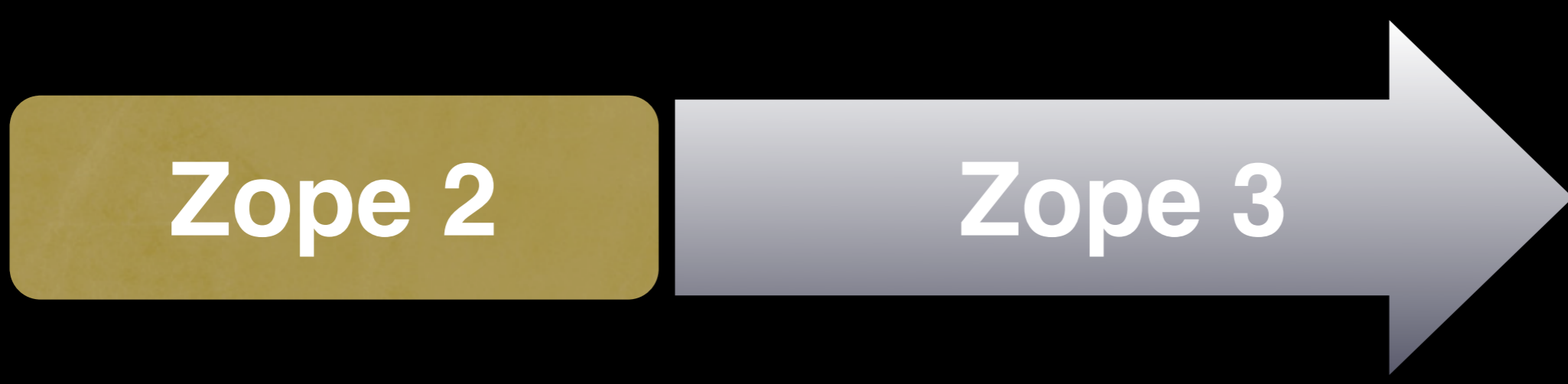
– Reusing much more of Python-level stuff instead of reinventing it in Zope — because of Zope 3. The hypothesis has come true!
– WSGI — allows us to play nicer with other Python frameworks (Django, TurboGears) (mod_wsgi integration sponsored by Google)

Eggs & Buildout
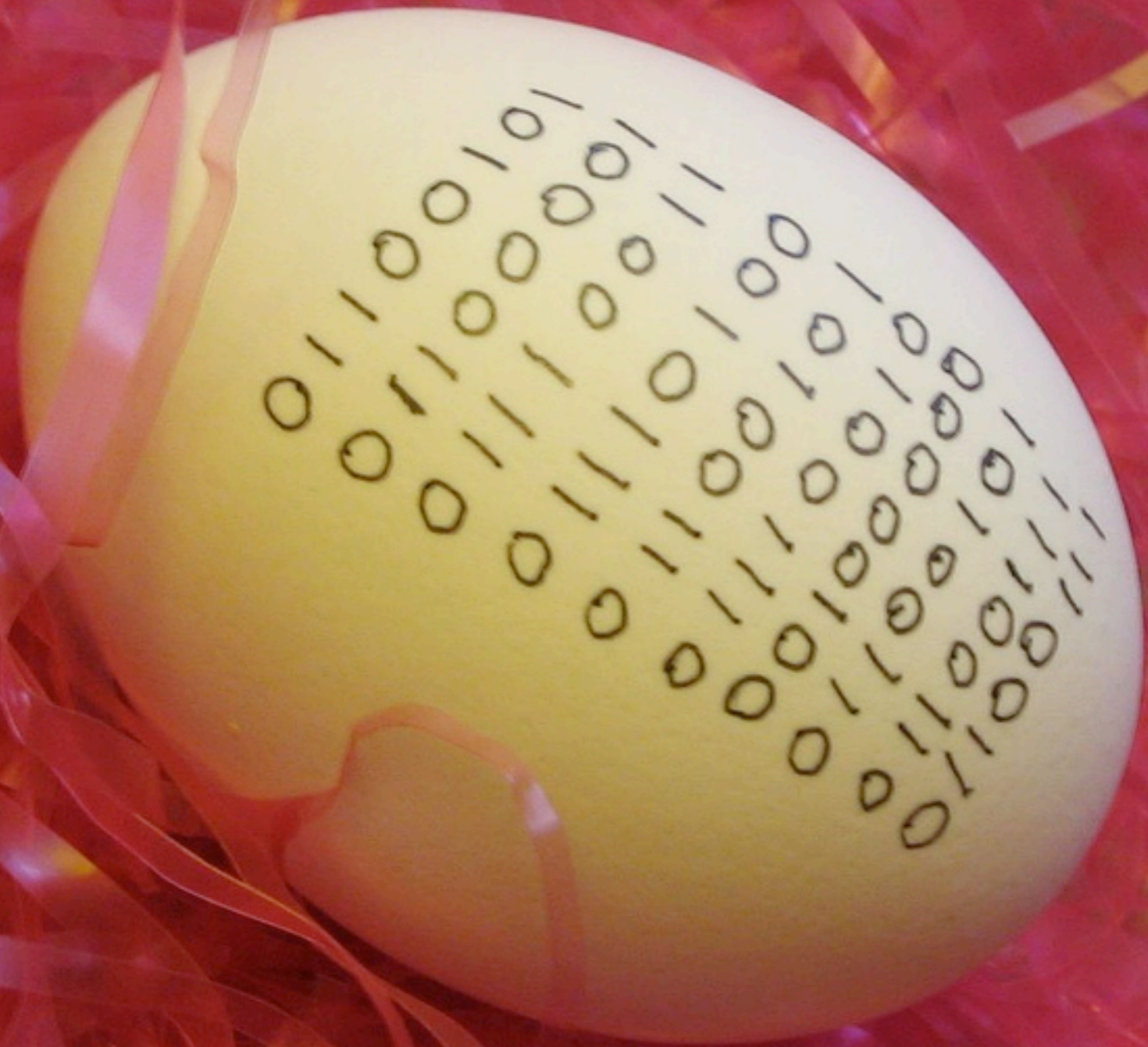
- Why are we so excited about these technologies?
- Standard (Python) way of doing it
- Makes it easier to manage setups and configurations
- Downloading eggs online, compatibility/dependency handling
- Pulls in dependencies automatically
- Sets us up for much better add-on product handling
- Future: "You can safely upgrade" indicator

3.x

– Plone 3.x is current stable branch
– Releases are small, focused, 100% compatible with 3.0
– Add no new major features
– In 3.1: Improved Kupu, KSS, Portlets
– Every 6–9 months: New minor release
– Every month: Maintenance release
– In parallel, we're working on Plone trunk (what will become Plone 4)
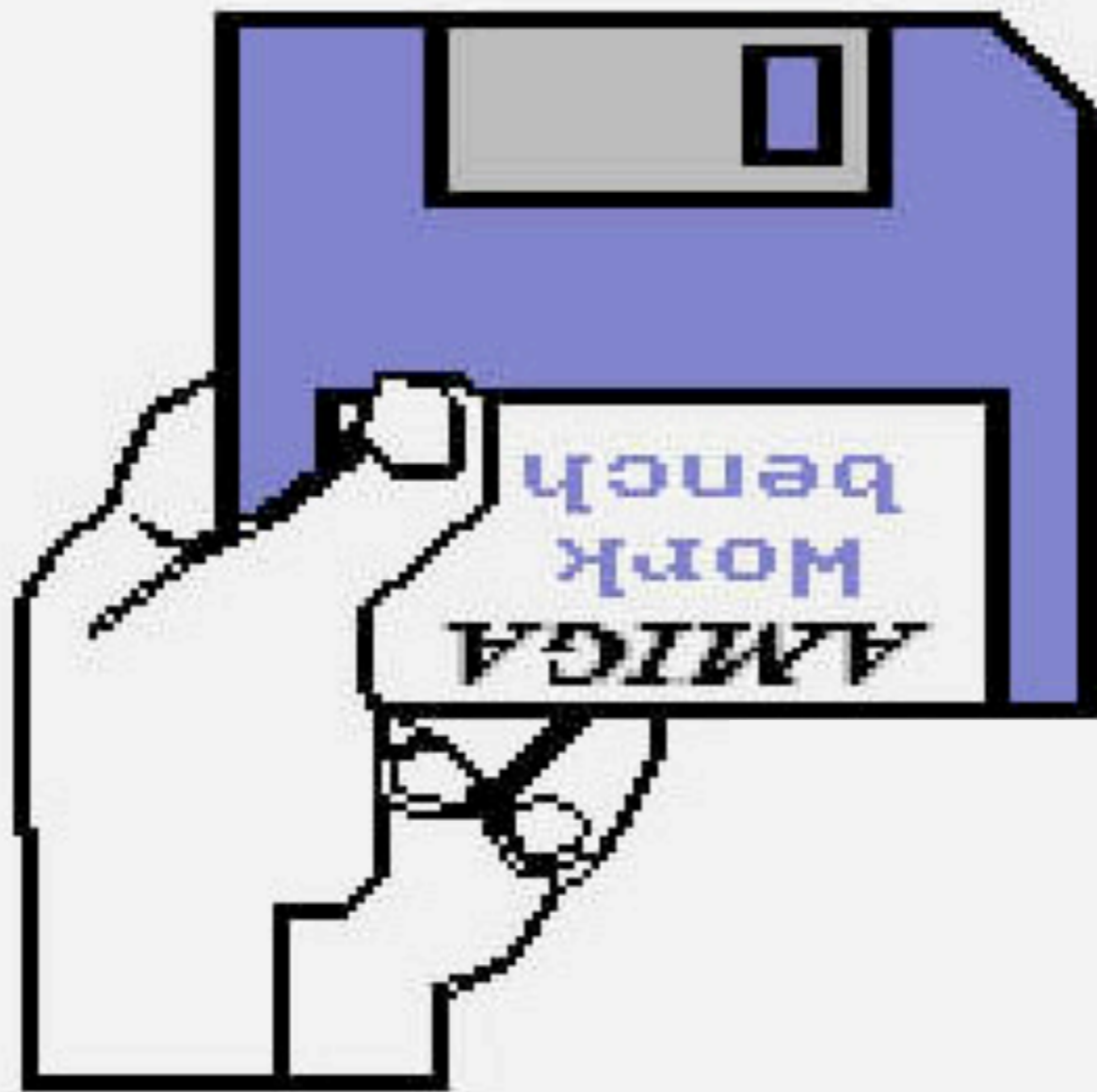
Plone Reboot

- aka. what will likely become 4.0
- We will do some research and experiments both on UI and performance
- Revisit decisions that were made in the beginning of the project (1.0, 2.0) that stuck around
- Break some backwards compatibility
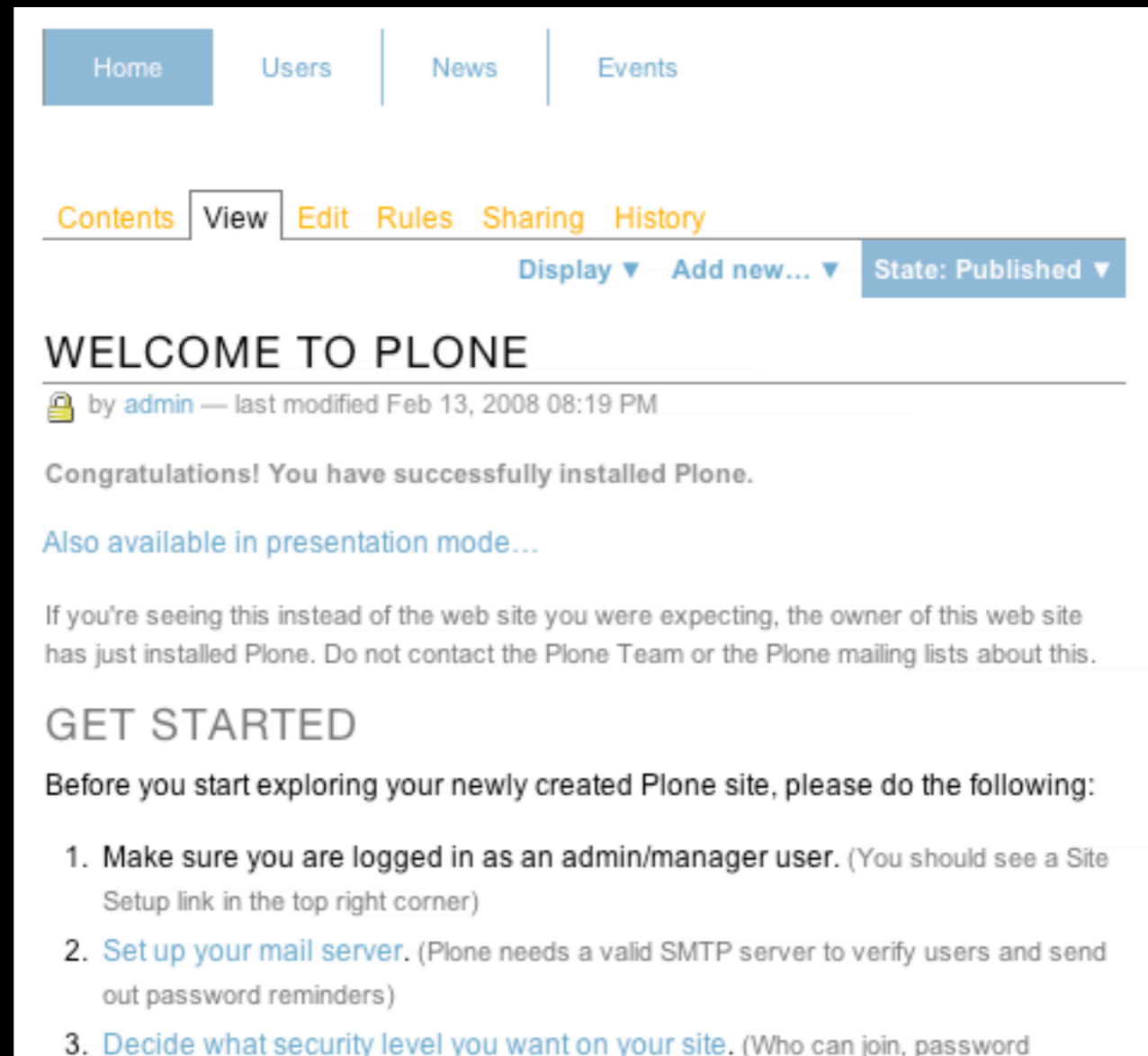- Once we reach decision on what to include, announce release target for 4.0

"Reboot" Goals

Simplify User Experience

Make it go faster!

The overall themes of the Reboot are easy to understand.

Demo: Simplified UI

Q&A:
– 15 minutes
– What's your main concern about Plone right now (performance? usability? developer/
integrator friendliness? documentation?)

- Google for sponsoring Alex
- Enfold for sponsoring Alan
- cdm from Flickr for most of the images
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