

Joomla! 4 Updates and Tips

Northern Virginia Joomla Users Group

April 2022

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Agenda

- ❑ Joomla! 4 Updates
- ❑ Update path to Joomla! 4
- ❑ Upcoming JUG Meetings
- ❑ Topics for Future – Discussion

Latest Joomla! Updates



- ❑ Joomla 4.1.2 – March 30, 2022
 - Security Release
 - You can launch a Free Joomla 4 website for testing at launch.joomla.org
 - Accessibility improvements
 - Better support for code highlighting in TinyMCE
 - Child templates
 - Task Scheduler (Web Chron)
 - Accessibility Checker for authors
- ❑ Joomla 3.10.8 released – March 30, 2022
 - Security release
- ❑ Still coming
 - Enhancement of Media Manager Web Service

What's Next



- ❑ Joomla 4.2 – August, 2022 - Possibilities
 - Add custom fields to Category List menu item
 - Redesign mail templates
 - Improve Global Configuration options
 - Improve cookie management
 - Roland Dolmuder / Franciska Perisa are leads
- ❑ Need testers for Pizza Bugs & Fun
 - Volunteer Engagement Team
 - Contact-vet@community.joomla.org

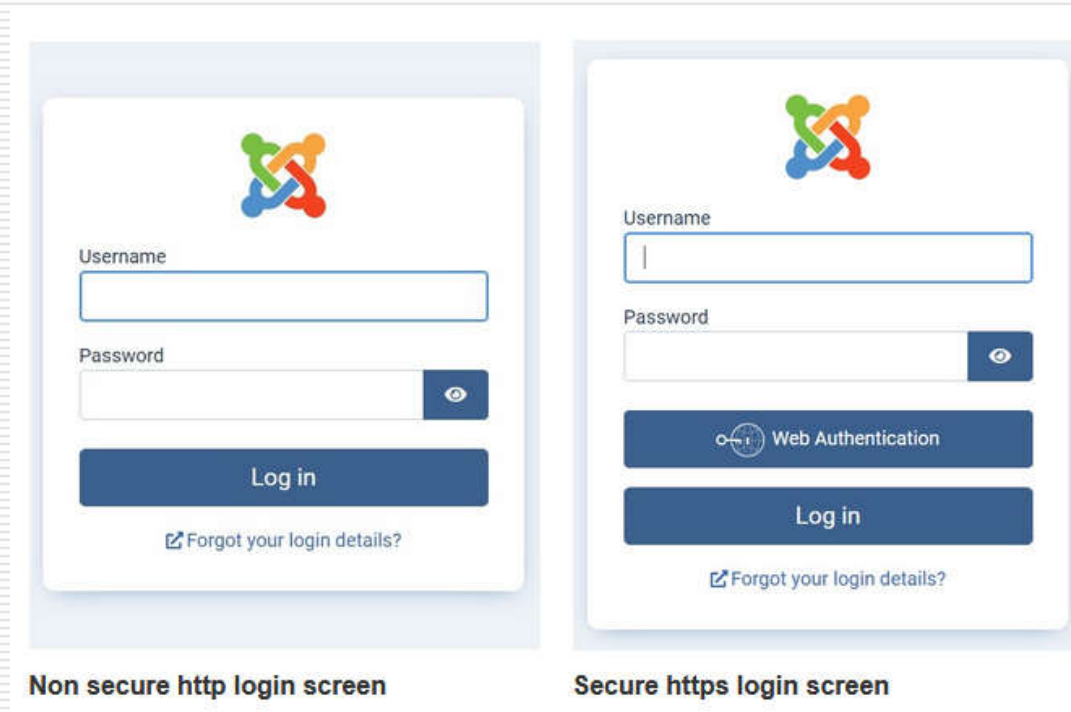
From the Joomla Community Magazine

- Joomla Performance Tuning, Nicholas K. Dionysopoulos
 - I: Part I
 - II: Basic Settings
 - III: Static Media Optimization
 - IV: Site Building Calisthenics & Template Customization
 - OpenGraph and Twitter Cards (Social Magick or Phoca Open Graph)
 - Prefetch and external resource preloading, font swapping, favicons, avoiding Google Analytics, Dark Mode (myDarkMagic)
 - V: Content Quality & SEO
 - VERY HELPFUL
 - Part 4 of a 5-part series
- Accessibility Add-ons in Joomla 4.1 – Viviana Menzel – March edition
 - Including in-built joa11y accessibility checker

From the Joomla Community Magazine

□ Joomla 4.1 WebAuthn Passwordless Login

- You can hand over a couple of FIDO2 keys with a new website rather than passwords
- Removes phishing, keylogging, and reduces brute force attacks!



Joomla's TUF Project Wins CloudFest Hackathon (March)

□ Challenge: Integrating Secure Updates

- Could you imagine updating thousands of websites with a hacked version?
- The Joomla team won the hackathon as best team
- The team created a proof of concept implementation for the Joomla core to securely retrieve update information from a new TUF-based repo and verify signatures during the update.
- Elisa Foltyn shared results, not only beneficial to Joomla but also open and shared to any open source CMS

JoomlaDayUSA 2022

Friday, April 22
from 8:15am EDT (12:15 UTC)
to 4:00pm EDT (20:00 UTC)

- Welcome - 8:15am (EDT)
- Watchful panel
8:30am - 12:00pm (EDT)
- Introduction to Joomla
9:00am (EDT) - 4:00pm (EDT)
for all who registered for the class
- Bugs & Fun @Home
9:00am (EDT) - 4:00pm (EDT)
everyone is welcome!
- Panels / Expo Hall with sponsors
8:30am - 4:00pm (EDT)

Saturday, April 23
from 8:30am EDT (12:30 UTC)
to 4:45pm EDT (20:45 UTC)

- Welcome - Opening keynote - 8:30am (EDT)
- Morning workshops
9am - 10am (EDT)
10:15am - 11:15am (EDT)
11:30am - 12:30pm (EDT)
- Break / Networking / Expo Hall
12:30pm - 1:45pm (EDT)
- Afternoon workshops
1:45pm - 2:45pm (EDT)
3pm - 4pm (EDT)
- Closing keynote - 4:15pm (EDT)
- Social event at Kumospace - 5:00pm (EDT)

Sunday, April 24
from 9:00 AM EDT (13:00 UTC)
to 11:00 AM EDT (15:00 UTC)

- Workshops, Joomla team panel
9am - 11am (EDT)
- Networking
- Panels / Expo Hall with sponsors
9:00am - 11:00am (EDT)

Platform and Registration

- Registered via jdayusa.com initially, then switched to tickets on Zoom Events
 - Test sessions with speakers
 - Zoom events “Lobby” doesn’t work well with Chromebooks or Linux
 - Can’t make certain changes if event is published, but can’t sell tickets if event is not published... so made test events and published real event later
 - Not everyone got their emails so workarounds
- Intro to Joomla 4 Class
- Bugs & Fun – squashed about 16 bugs
- Networking using Zoom breakout rooms and Kumospace events

Top Attended Sessions (not inc. start here, keynote, networking)

- ❑ Bugs & Fun (Friday) – 32 participants
- ❑ Watchful Expo Hall (Friday)
- ❑ #1b - How to Filter Joomla using Custom Fields – Sakis Terzis
- ❑ #4b - 20 Actionable Tips for non-Designers – Eoin Oliver
- ❑ #3a - How to Make Joomla 4 Easier for your Customers – Peter Martin
- ❑ #2b - YooTheme Pro – Elisa Foltyn
- ❑ #5c - Do the Right Thing – Brian Teeman on Accessibility
- ❑ #4d – How to Leverage Cloudflare – Vic Drover
- ❑ #S1 – The Power of Modules – Maartin Blokdijk
- ❑ #1c – Smart Search Customization – Mark Dechevere
- ❑ #3c – Migrating from Joomla 3 to Joomla 4 – Tim Davis
- ❑ #S2 – Let’s Talk Code – Benjamin Trenkle
- ❑ #S3 – Joomla Team Panel
- ❑ #1a – Teaching Joomla – Chris Paschen
- ❑ #3b – Joomla Child Templates – Robbie Adair
- ❑ #5d – Building High Level E-Commerce Modules – Adam Melcher
- ❑ And more...

Expo Hall = Sponsor Booths

- Watchful (Vic Drover) ran a full schedule of events on Friday

Booth Session (20 min each)			
Guest	Title	Date	Time
Ryan Demmer	JCE hidden secrets and upcoming features	Friday, April 22	8:50 AM EDT
Yannick Gaultier	Sitemaps: myths and realities	Friday, April 22	9:10 AM EDT
Jennifer Mariott	How to choose the right extension & templates for scaling your agency	Friday, April 22	9:30 AM EDT
BREAK 9:50 AM - 10:30 AM			
Mike Demo	How to switch from employee to full-time freelance	Friday, April 22	10:30 AM EDT
Tessa Mero	How contributing to the Joomla Project helped grow my career	Friday, April 22	10:50 AM EDT
Steve Burge	How to build a newsletter and Facebook group to support your Joomla business	Friday, April 22	11:10 AM EDT
Robbie Adair	Migrating from Joomla 3 to Joomla 4	Friday, April 22	11:30 AM EDT
Eoin Oliver	5 tips on website design	Friday, April 22	11:50 AM EDT

Mike Demo's Tips on how to switch from employee to freelance

- Build your business by offering cheap starter websites – e.g., \$500
 - Go for volume (build 1-2 per day) and get retainers for recurring revenue
 - The Freelancer's Union for health insurance
 - Wingspan.app for billing
 - Go to business events / BNIs / Chamber of Commerce events
 - Use blocks / pagebuilders
 - Get a deposit – never work for free
 - Keep it simple
- Codeable pays \$120/hour

Steve Burge on Newsletters / Facebook to Build Your Business

- Moved from using Forum to Facebook Group – Joomlashack group
 - Facebook Groups work well, Glip is hard, Discord audience is limited, Slack is hard for people
 - Up to 900 people in it now, will be over 1000 soon
 - 50 to 60 post regularly
 - Moderates group heavily, avoiding negative posts
- Find one interesting article every day
- Wrap them up into Newsletter and send out once a month
 - Reaches people who don't go to Facebook
- Note: Joomla is also using Facebook
- Discussion comments: For younger crowd, Discord is it, also TikTok, and Instagram gets a different audience from Twitter...

Robbie Adair on Migration from Joomla 3 to Joomla 4

- ❑ Time for refresh of sites, sell it that way
- ❑ Upgrade on staging site and test everything
- ❑ Joomla 4 is faster and more secure
 - Hacks are up 4-5 times from when you built the site originally
- ❑ Vic: Remember the 3 S's:
 - SEO Features baked into Joomla 4
 - Speed improvements
 - Enhanced Security
- ❑ Look at your analytics
 - Could be 70% mobile now
 - A top ranking factor for SEO

Eoin Oliver on Website Design

- Establish Goals for the Home Page
 - Make customer PRIORITIZE
 - Brand / mission / reviews / contact us / etc.
 - Wireframe the idea (NO colors or actual content)
 - E.g., put Contact Us on top?
 - Simplify the idea
 - Meet the goals
 - Don't fill every spot with clutter

Robbie Adair on Fabrik

- Community meeting at the end of the month
 - Her group is too small and Fabrik is too big to convert to Joomla 4
 - Fabrik is free, not currently monetized (ROI)
 - Many clients but not willing to invest; many have custom code
 - Some people stepping up to take it over
 - August 2023 may be too soon to have it ready; hoping for a Joomla 3 extension
- Comment:
 - PHP is not going backwards, either!

Sakis Terzis – How to Filter Joomla Content using Custom Fields

- ❑ Jfilters - Demo
 - <https://demo.blue-coder.com/films>
- ❑ Very flexible filtering / customizable / SEO friendly
- ❑ Filters:
 - Custom Fields
 - Categories
 - Tags
- ❑ Uses the Joomla Smart Search layout
 - You can show images in search results
 - See his blog posts and another presentation on how to override that layout
- ❑ Free version and pro version

Marc DeChevre – Smart Search Customizations

- ❑ You've got to see this recording
- ❑ Customize Smart Search Results to show:
 - Intro image for each article
 - Custom fields
 - Alternate layout
 - Display of results as Cards rather than an unordered list
- ❑ Mentioned "Joomla 4 Responsive Images" plugin that creates duplicates of images in multiple sizes and formats to make your websites faster

Elisa Foltyn – YooTheme Pro

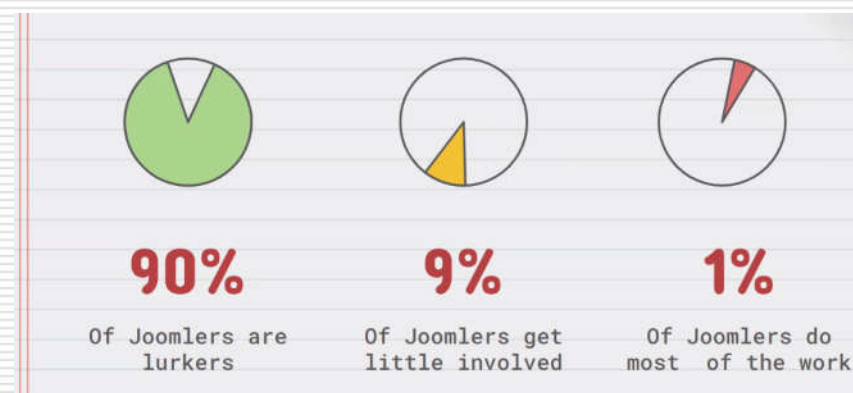
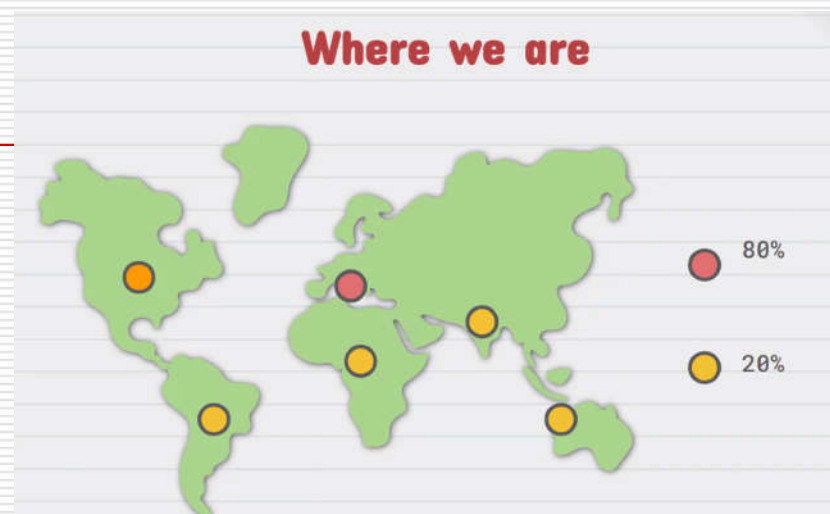
- ❑ Built restaurant website in the 1-hour session using YouTheme Pro
 - OMG, this looks great
 - Very flexible
 - Multiple templates as starting points for customization
 - Can save out sections for use on other sites
- ❑ Dynamic sources
 - E.g., Joomla articles
 - Google Sheet for users to upload changes to (food) menu items including prices!
- ❑ Also integrates with Zoo, Zoolanders extensions, etc.

Robbie Adair – Child Templates in Joomla 4

- Child templates work with Cassiopeia, certain templates (more in future)
 - Changes to template structure
 - Images in Media folder rather than Template folder
 - Improved security of Media folder
 - Override checker in Joomla Core
 - Child templates unaffected by template updates
 - Can use user.css in base Cassiopeia template OR in child templates

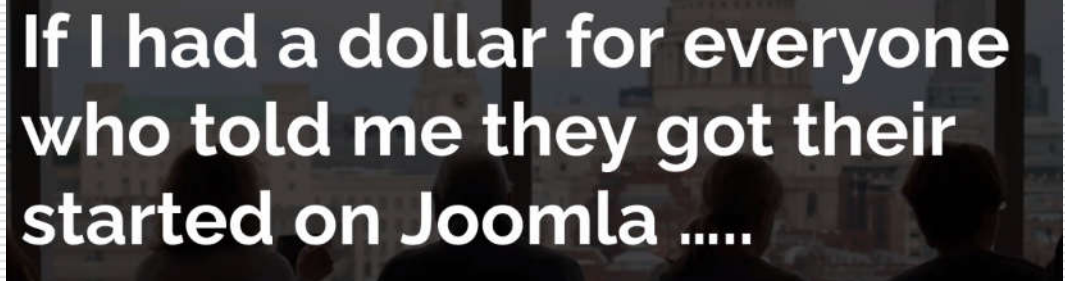
Nicola Galgano – Listen from the Ground Up

- Nicola is VP of Open Source Matters
- Invited people to follow the Volunteer Portal – he would like help
- Attendees suggested:
 - Sign up for Joomla Magazine & send it out
 - Newsletter with events
 - Mentor system for volunteers
 - Incorporating upcoming Joomla Events in the backend of Joomla sites
 - Capturing emails of Joomla users / Opt in



Steve Burge – the Joomla(Shack) Story

- ❑ In 2007, Joomla took a stand that defined the GPL license guidelines for the commercial web
- ❑ Joomla companies established business models on the GPL
 - Joomla's devs were the first to sell templates under the GPL
 - Templates were huge business – 10,000+
 - Evolution to extensions, clubs
 - Inspired the Wordpress companies
- ❑ Joomla's open platform provided an entry into the tech world for thousands of users
- ❑ We should be proud of Joomla's innovations – need a positive message
- ❑ Joomla 4 is a GOOD PRODUCT!
- ❑ Not too many open source projects are still strong over 17 years!



If I had a dollar for everyone who told me they got their started on Joomla

Brian Teeman on Accessibility

- Tidbits – I only saw part of his presentation
- For mobile content
 - Contrast is important
 - Try your website standing on public transport, bumped and shaken, using one hand
 - That's how close links should be to one another
- Joomla Accessibility Checker
- Sa11y – Accessibility quality assurance checker
 - Run it as a browser bookmark
- Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool (WAVE)
<https://wave.webaim.org/>

Power of Modules – Maartin Blokdijs (2 hour session)(1)

- Publish a module:
 - Using modules option under Content in Joomla 4
 - Using the editor button in TinyMCE / JCE in your article!
- Joomla 4 – Cassiopeia demo
 - Within Cassiopeia in lieu of a template!
 - <https://www.kickstartcassiopeia.com/>
- JN Interface Builder – in beta
 - In lieu of Fabrik?
 - Custom form / custom fields / flexible presentation
- How to create a module
 - With Chart.js library
 - Showed file structure, code, and demo

Power of Modules (2)

- ❑ First, module to chart given data
- ❑ Then, connect to database

Let's create a charts module!


File structure of a module

```
MOD_JDAYUSA_CHARTS
- helper.php
- mod_jdayusa_charts.php
- mod_jdayusa_charts.xml
- index.html
```



TMPL

```
- default.php
- index.html
```

the index.html files are not mandatory, they simply disable viewing folders in browsers on other servers.



JModules



Maarten Blokdiik

Power of Modules (3)

The image is a screenshot of a video recording. On the left, a code editor displays the XML configuration for a Joomla! module. The code includes fields for 'Bar type', 'Chart Title', 'Width chart', and 'Height chart', along with a 'Data' fieldset. On the right, the Joomla! administrator interface is shown, displaying the 'Chart settings' tab for the 'jdayusa_charts' module. The settings include a dropdown for 'Bar type' (set to 'Horizontal Bar'), text inputs for 'Chart Title' ('A new chart'), 'Width chart' (400), and 'Height chart' (200), and a color picker for 'Set line color' (set to 'rgb(149, 70, 191, 0.9)'). A small inset video of a man with glasses is visible in the bottom-left corner of the screenshot.

```
<field name="jn_c
label="Bar type"
<option value
<option value
<option value
<option value
</field>
<field name="jn_c
label="Chart Tit
<field name="jn_c
label="Width cha
<field name="jn_c
label="Height cha
<field name="jn_c
default="" label=
this the lines ar
</fieldset>
<fieldset name="Data
<field name="
class="advanc
layout="joom
buttons="add
```

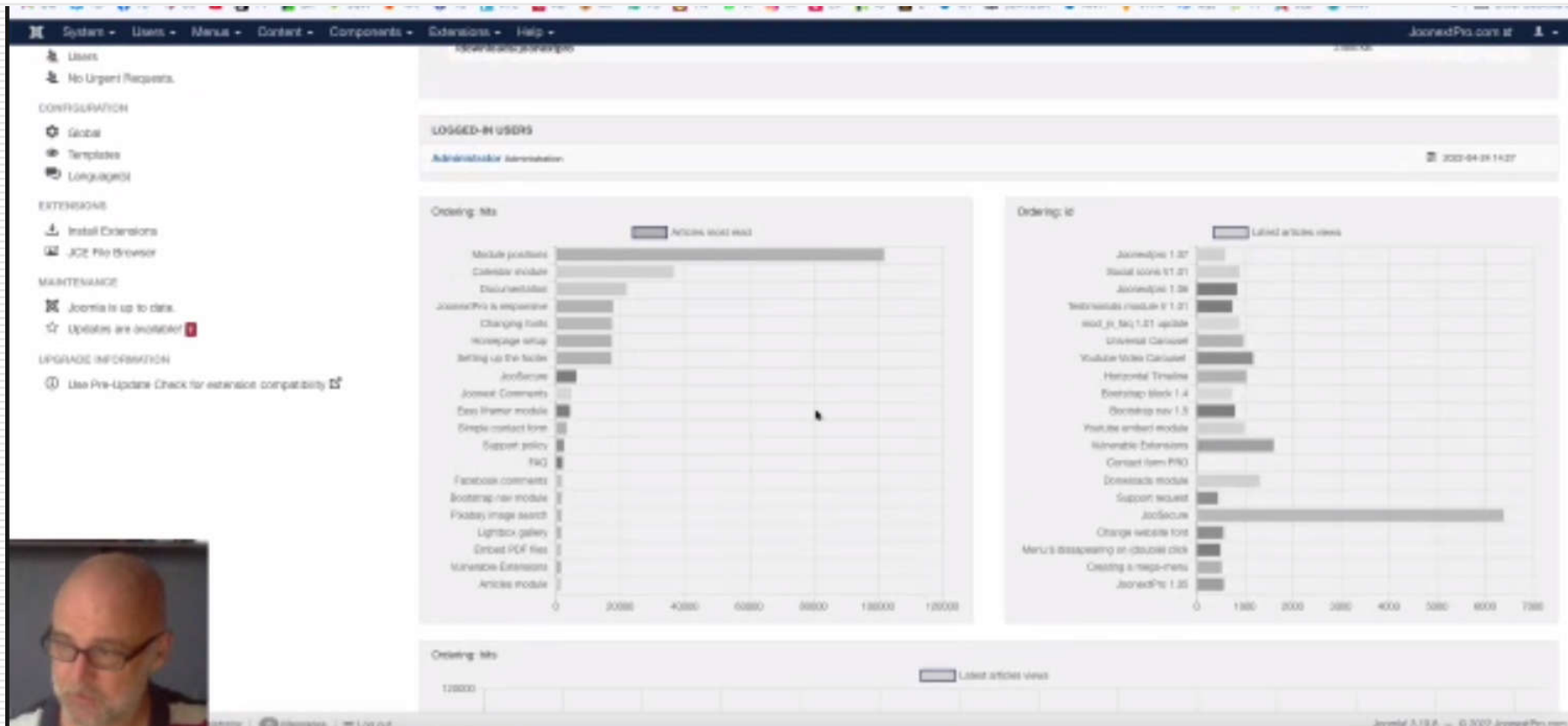
Power of Modules (4) – Connect to Database

```
44 echo $order_field;
45
46 // Connect to database
47 $db = JFactory::getDbo();
48 $query = $db->getQuery(true);
49 $query->select($db->qu
50 $query->from($db->quot
51 $query->order(''. $orde
52 $query->setLimit(''. $j
53 $db->setQuery($query);
54 $results = $db->loadOb
55
56 if ($jn_charts_data_co
57 "#990808", "#7f0808", "#
58 } //red
57 if ($jn_charts_data_co
58 "#80b20b", "#08990a", "#
59 if ($jn_charts_data_co
60 "#4c61ff", "#6678ff", "#
61 if ($jn_charts_data_co
62 "#000000", "#000000", "#
```

The screenshot shows the Joomla! administrator interface for configuring the 'mod_jna_enterprise_charts' module. The title is 'Latest articles hits'. The configuration is divided into several sections: 'Module' (empty), 'Chart settings' (empty), 'Database table and fields' (highlighted in teal), 'Advanced' (empty), and 'Permissions' (empty). The 'Database table and fields' section contains the following fields: 'Table name' (value: '...content'), 'Notes' (value: 'Hits'), 'Labels' (value: 'title'), 'Additional ordering' (value: 'id'), 'Records per size' (value: '10'), 'Order type' (value: 'Descending'), and 'Order field' (value: 'Additional ordering').

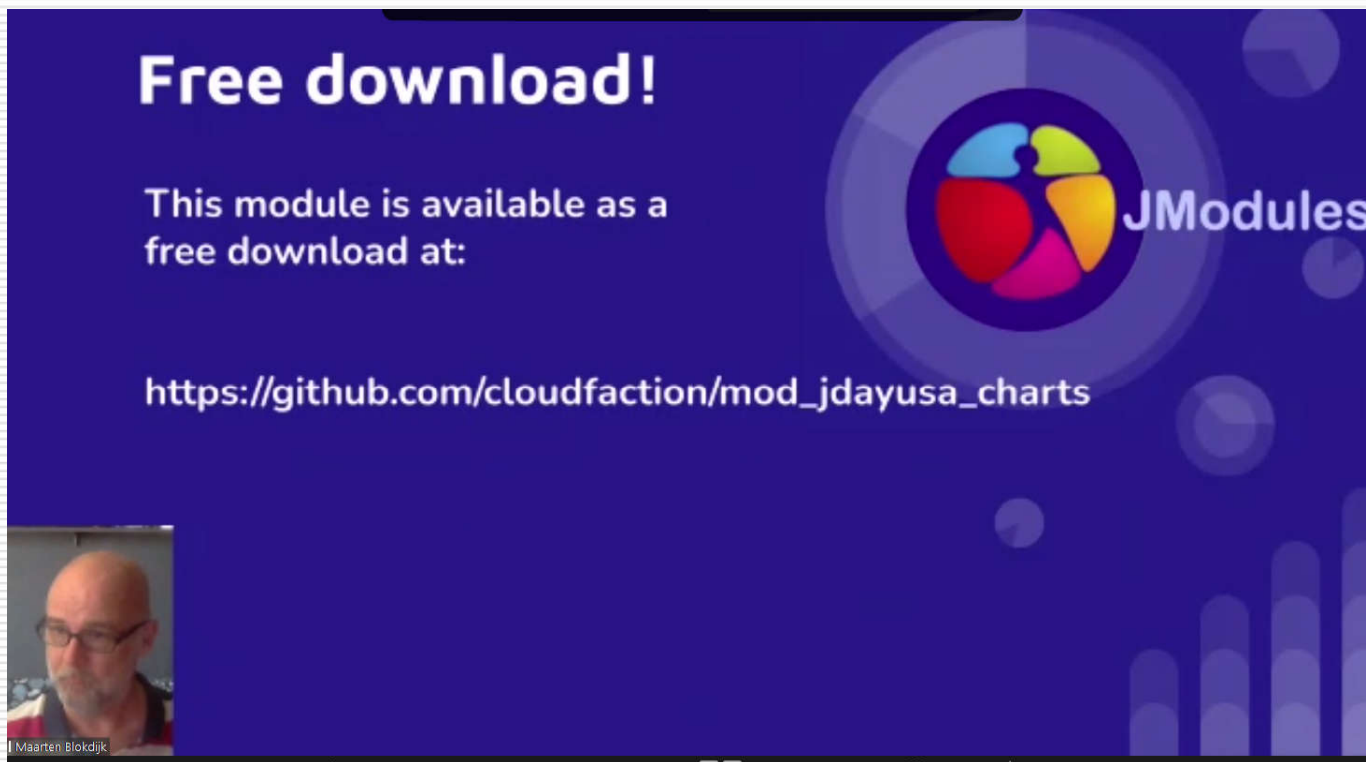
Power of Modules (5)

□ In the backend



Power of Modules (6)

□ Free download



The screenshot shows a presentation slide with a dark blue background. On the left, the text reads: "Free download!" in large white font, followed by "This module is available as a free download at:" in smaller white font, and the URL "https://github.com/cloudfaction/mod_jdayusa_charts" in white font. On the right, there is a circular logo for "JModules" featuring a stylized human figure with arms raised, composed of four colored segments (red, yellow, green, blue). The word "JModules" is written in white to the right of the logo. In the bottom-left corner, there is a small video feed of a man with glasses and a beard, identified as "Maarten Blokdiik".

Stewart Rogers – Closing Keynote

- ❑ The role of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- ❑ AI is here – on phones, etc.
- ❑ In 5 to 10 years, Quantum Computing
 - Content creation / write articles for you
 - AI will pick the right images, logos
 - Websites will be built automatically
 - Google has the jump on voice to text
 - Apply your skills to what is coming next
 - Is AI SEO better than human beings?
 - Can we recognize deep fakes?
- ❑ Quantum computing holds deep promise for us, and for hackers

EVENTS...

Joomla Events

- ❑ JoomlaDays France – Brussels
 - <https://www.joomladay.fr/>
 - May 20, 2022 – mostly in French, mostly in person!
- ❑ JoomlaDayUSA –
 - <https://jdayusa.com/>
 - Friday, April 22, 2022 - Sunday, April 24, 2022
 - Videos available in a few weeks to people who registered
- ❑ Joomla NXT –
 - <https://techjoomla.com/joomla-nxt>
 - March 30, 2022 – Maarten Blokdijk on Cassiopeia
 - ❑ 4:00 AM our time, but video will be available
 - February 16, 2022 – Customizing Joomla 4's Smart Search Result Page (video available)

Chicago JUG, London JUG

- ❑ Chicago JUG
 - <https://joomlachicagonorth.com>
- ❑ London JUG
 - Next meeting: Tuesday, 17th May
 - ❑ <https://www.joomlalondon.co.uk/attend-a-jugl-meeting>
 - Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 2pm our time
 - ❑ Scala = better hosting platform
 - ❑ Accessing the Web as a Blind person
 - ❑ February 15, 2022, Tuesday, 1900 to 2100 == 2pm our time
 - <https://www.meetup.com/Joomla-User-Group-London/events/>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/c/JoomlalondonUk/videos>
 - January was on YooTheme Pro and Workflows, Excellent, not on YouTube yet

Scalahosting

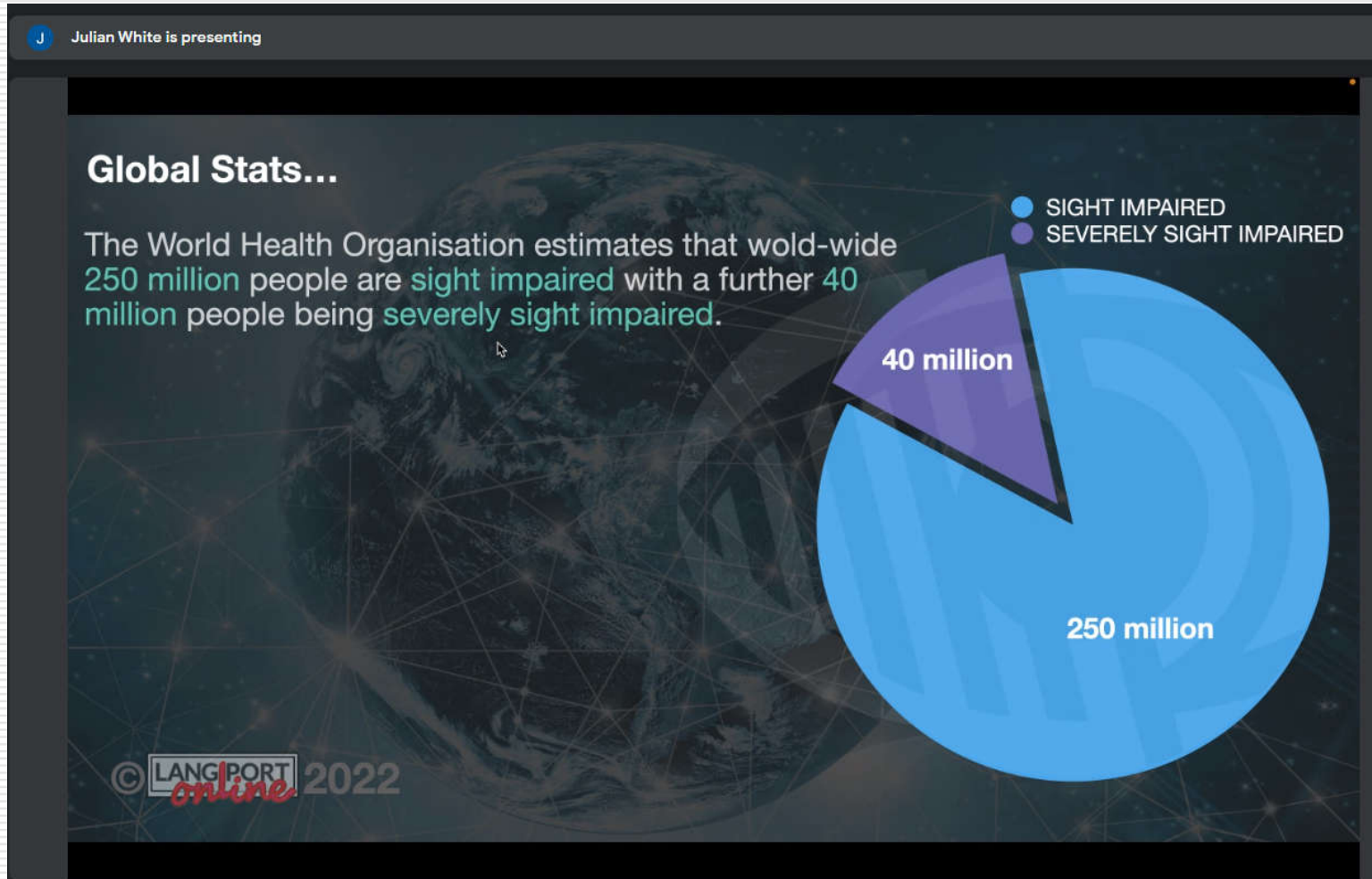
The screenshot shows the Scalahosting website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Scalahosting logo, menu items for Hosting, Technology, Affiliates, and About Us, and buttons for LOG IN and CHAT. A green banner below the navigation bar reads: "New: Integrate SPanel with AWS and Digital Ocean hardware and gain access to 10 new data centers! →". The main content area features a large heading "The next step in hosting evolution" in green, followed by the text "Power your website with a fully managed, cloud-based VPS at the price of a traditional shared hosting plan!". A green button labeled "Plans & Pricing" is positioned to the left of a handwritten note that says "Starting at just \$4.95 a month". To the right, a video player shows a man identified as Brian Teeman, Co-Founder of Joomla!, with a play button overlay. Above the video, it says "See why Joomla Co-Founder Brian Teeman moved all his websites to ScalaHosting.". Below the main content, there is a section titled "Top-Rated Cloud & Website Hosting Provider on Trustpilot" with an "Excellent" rating and "TrustScore 5 | 584 reviews on Trustpilot". This is followed by four award logos: "Best VPS Host 2022" from Forbes, "Exclusive Partner" from Joomla!, "Top cPanel alternative" from techradar, and "Best email hosting 2022" from ZDNet. At the bottom, there is a section for "Fully Managed VPS Hosting Plans" and a cookie consent notice. A chat bubble in the bottom right corner says "We're available Chat with a human" and has a "Got it!" button.

Install, Manage Joomla

- Test with clone
- Creates clone site
- Removing clone removes database and user
- Clustering solution


The screenshot displays the SPanel Joomla Manager interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the SPanel logo and the text 'scalaservers' and 'Return To Admin'. Below the header, a navigation bar shows 'Home' and 'Joomla Manager'. The main content area is divided into two sections. The top section, titled 'INSTALL NEW JOOMLA SITE', contains a form with the following fields: 'Domain/Path' (set to 'scalaservers.com'), 'Folder name', 'Username' (with a sub-label 'Login username'), 'Password' (with a sub-label 'Enter a Password', a 'Copy' button, and a 'Generate' button), 'Repeat Password' (with a sub-label 'Enter the Password again'), and 'Email address' (with a sub-label 'Email address'). An 'Install Joomla' button is located at the bottom of this form. The bottom section, titled 'EXISTING JOOMLA INSTALLATIONS', features a search bar and a table with one entry: 'INSTALL URL' with the value 'scalaservers.com/newsite' and an 'Actions' button.

Accessibility Data



Screen reader demo / challenges

J Julian White is presenting



What is a Screen Reader?

A Screen Reader is **assistive technology** that **announces verbally** the contents of a web page, application or smart phone app. There are a number of different Screen Readers available including **Dolphin SuperNova**, **Microsoft Narrator** and Apple's **VoiceOver**.

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DISCUSSIONS

Joomla! Tidbits...

March 2022 Tidbit:

- ❑ Important message for Joomla users hosting on Siteground. The siteground caching service will stop working if you upgrade to Joomla 4. . See attached the full story from the support ticket tinyurl.com/yaglc9oz
- Per tweet 3/21/2022 from Simon Kloostra, referencing the full story from the support ticket tinyurl.com/yaglc9oz :

March 2022 Tidbit:



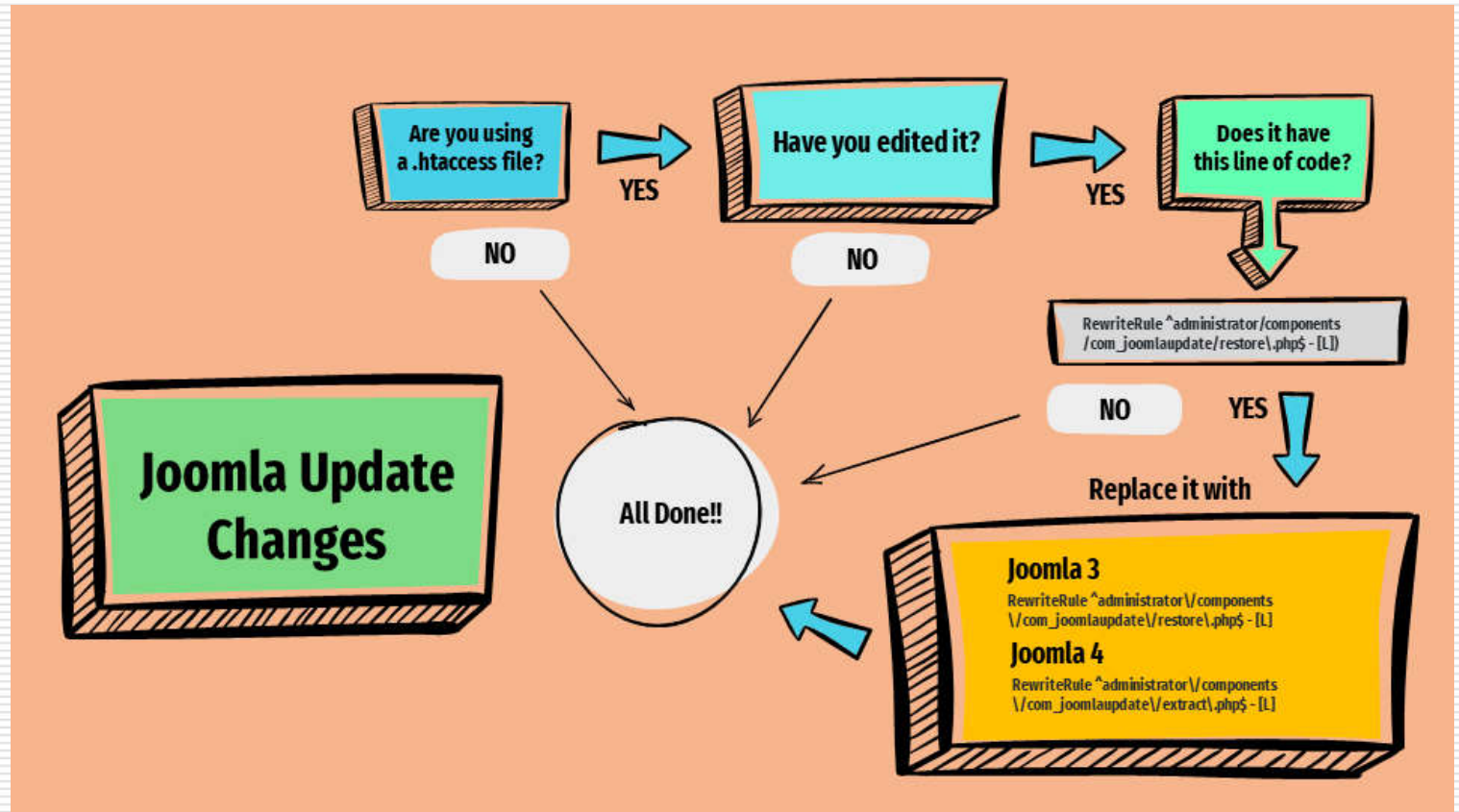
Elisa Sophia Foltyn @elisasophia

4 days ago

I move your site to Joomla with Yootheme Pro -
Apply with your website to get your Website done
during my 1 hour live session at JoomlaDay USA.
Drop me a mail with the desired website to
joomla+joomladayusa@coolcat-creations.com
and maybe you are the lucky one. #joomla
#jdayusa

February 2022 Tidbit:

- ❑ Changes to .htaccess
- ❑ For anyone using Jdocs hardened version or other reasons
- ❑ If you don't make these changes, your updates after Joomla 4.0.4 will be blocked



<https://www.joomla.org/announcements/release-news/5850-changes-to-update-process-that-you-need-to-be-aware-of.html>

September Tidbit – Joomla Version Missing

- ❑ Discovered I had a site not displaying the Joomla version in the footer area of the backend
- ❑ Mod_version was not in administrator modules list
- ❑ Found old article explaining it for Joomla 2.5.x
 - https://www.bradkelley.com/2012/05/joomla-2-5-x-versions-module-mod_version-not-showing-up-in-administrator-modules-list/
- ❑ Solution was to add it into the database:
 - ```
INSERT INTO `jos_modules` (`title`, `note`, `content`, `ordering`, `position`, `checked_out`, `checked_out_time`, `publish_up`, `publish_down`, `published`, `module`, `access`, `showtitle`, `params`, `client_id`, `language`) VALUES ('Joomla Version', '', '', 1, 'footer', 0, '0000-00-00 00:00:00', '0000-00-00 00:00:00', '0000-00-00 00:00:00', 1, 'mod_version', 3, 1, '{"format": "short", "product": "1", "layout": "_:default", "moduleclass_sfx": "", "cache": "0"}', 1, '*');
```
  - But needed a few adjustments for my database, quotes, etc., and get it into the right module location.
- ❑ Got it working. No idea why it was missing, or for how long.