Enhancing Usability of Open Source Digital Repository Software

Introduction
Many organizations want to place their collections online but the installation and configuration processes of digital repositories are time-consuming and complicated. Usability of the installation and configuration process is not a point of interest.

Aim
Ease the installation process of DSpace and improve the system configuration during use. Release a system tool for wizard style installation and configuration.

Methodology

Usability Study
Study examined how average users proceed through the installation process of DSpace. Focus: Installation and configuration. Different user groups: administrators, librarians, end users.

Paper Prototyping & Interface Design
Users were asked for feedback on the interface design and workflow through a paper prototyping workshop. Participants had to evaluate the site using a usability checklist during the interface design.

Development of System Tool & Evaluation
System tool with a cross-platform installation and configuration procedure. Interventions evaluated and assessed by typical users of the tool.