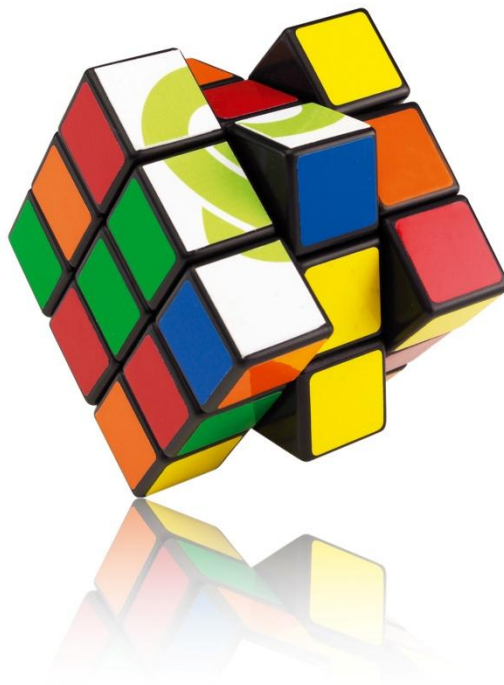


Installation and user guide

SharePoint Comment Type

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Version: 2.1




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1. Introduction

The comment type is a solution which allows users to comment an item or a document in your SharePoint environment. The comment type can be used with any list or document library.

All users which have the necessary permissions (reading permissions or higher) can comment the element.

The comment type supports MOSS 2007/WSS 3.0. The feature of custom pictures on comment entries is just available on MOSS 2007, because WSS 3.0 does not support personal sites. This product is not compatible with previous comment type whose version is 1.4 or earlier. See Section 3 to migrate existing comments.

2. Product Overview

2.1. Configure the comment type

After installing the comment type, a new SharePoint field type is available for using. The comment type can be added to a list, document library or wiki page by adding a new column.

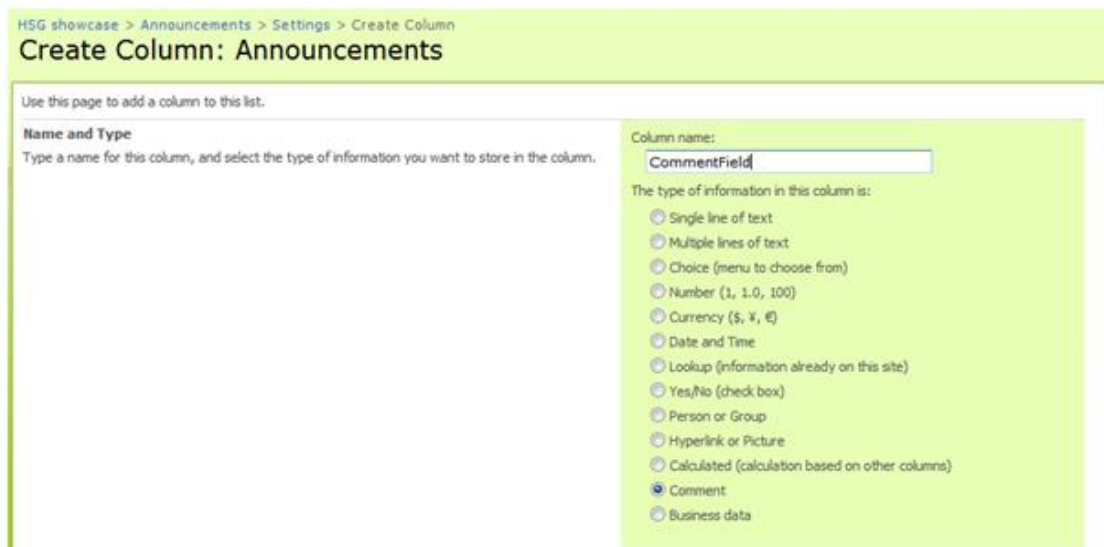


Figure 1: Adding the field type to a list

It provides several options on the column settings.

Additional Column Settings

Specify detailed options for the type of information you selected.

Description:

Require that this column contains information:
 Yes No

MOSS default layout

Subscribe Notification

Show popup windows for new Comments

Allow new Comment in Preview

Allow anonymous comments

Picture for the Modern Layout
 Default Picture
 Personal Picture
 No Picture

Preview
 Number of comments
 Comment entries

The order to display comments
 Ascending order
 Descending order

Picture width of thumbnail

Nr. of comments in preview (0: display all)

Alternative for "Comment"

Alternative for "Comments"


Add to default view

Figure 2: Column Settings

In dependency of the layout property the comment appears either in MOSS default layout or in a custom layout. This custom layout is based on a CSS file (`..\12\TEMPLATE\LAYOUTS\hsg\HSGComment\css`), which can be easily changed by the user. The pictures used by the CSS are located in the following path (`..\12\TEMPLATE\IMAGES\hsg\HSGComment`).

The option "Subscribe Notification" describes the option for register an alert on comments. Users can subscribe for notifications on comments for a list items. Then the users get an email if a new comment was added.

The option "Show popup windows for new Comments" is used to specify if a popup should be opened if a new comment should be added. Otherwise there is a text box under the comments to add a new comment.

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With the option “Allow new Comment in Preview” it specifies if in preview mode a new comment can be added.

“Allow anonymous comments” specifies if user should be able to add comments anonymous.

There is a Preview option, whether *Number of comments* or *Comment entries* are shown. The second option is intended to be used when comment type is integrated with other list web parts like Announcement. Go to the column settings and choose this option.

It is also possible to choose the order to display comments, whether the ascending order or the descending order. If you choose *Ascending order* in the column settings, the oldest comment is shown at the top of the list and newer comments follow. Choosing *Descending order*, it displays comments in the opposite way.

The picture width of the thumbnail for comment entries can be customized and the maximal number of comment in preview can be specified. If there are more comments for the item a “Show more” button is displayed to see all comments.

For specific use of comment column the word “comment” can be customized. For example if the comment column will be used as “Questionlist” the word comment can be replaced with the word “Question” and the plural form “Questions”.

2.2. Using the comment type

Adding a comment is only possible in display mode of an element.

Initially there are no comments for an element. Clicking the “New comment” link opens a textbox where a comment can be entered. After clicking the “OK” Button the new comment is shown in the element view.

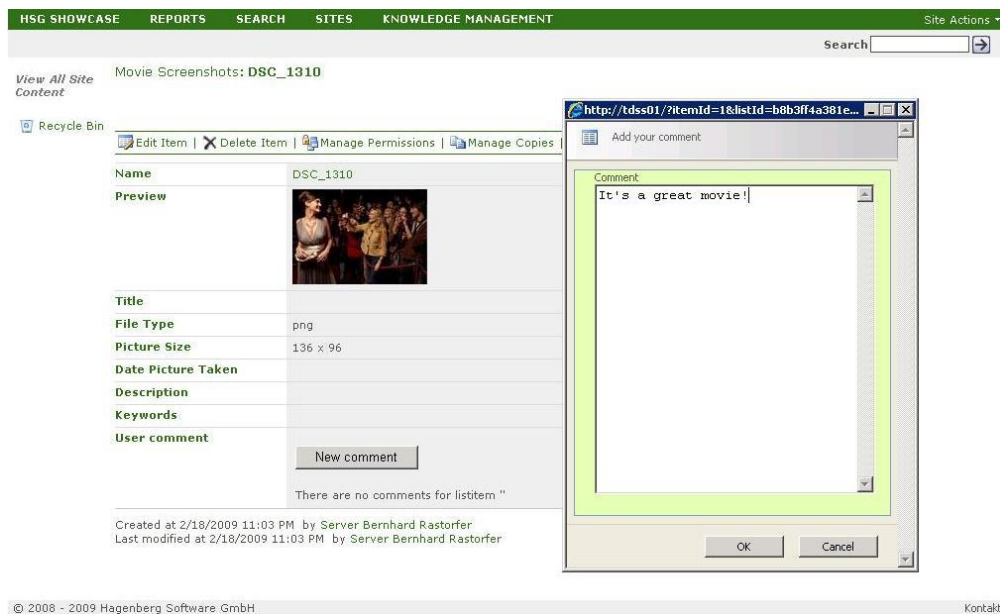


Figure 3: Adding a new comment



Figure 4: The different layouts of a comment (default layout and custom layout)

If the custom layout is enabled, it is possible to choose the option for the picture displayed on comment entries. If *Default Picture* is chosen, the default icon is shown.

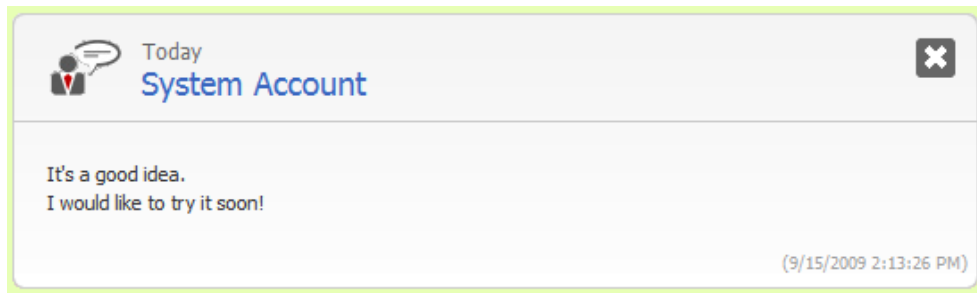


Figure 5: Comment with the default picture

If *Personal Picture* is chosen, the picture of the user who has commented is shown. The personal picture is taken from the personal site of the user. This feature is not available in WSS 3.0.



Figure 6: Comment with user's picture

If *No Picture* is chosen, the comment is shown without a picture.

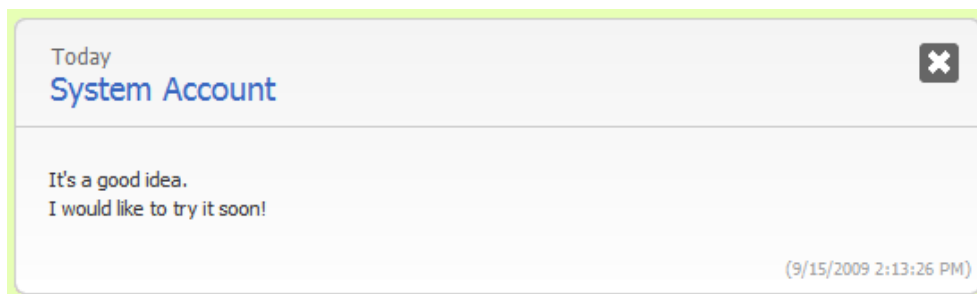


Figure 7: Comment without any picture

If anonymous comments are allowed and the user adds a comment anonymously it displays the comment author anonymous.



Figure 8: Anonymous Comments

It requires MOSS 2007 and preparing “My Site” on MOSS (Figure 8) to make use of personal pictures. The default picture is shown if the picture is not chosen or the personal page does not exist.



Figure 9: Example for „My Site“ on MOSS

By clicking the user name or the picture on the comment entry, you can go to My Site of the user if it has been prepared.

In editing mode it is not possible to add new comments, but existing comments are shown.

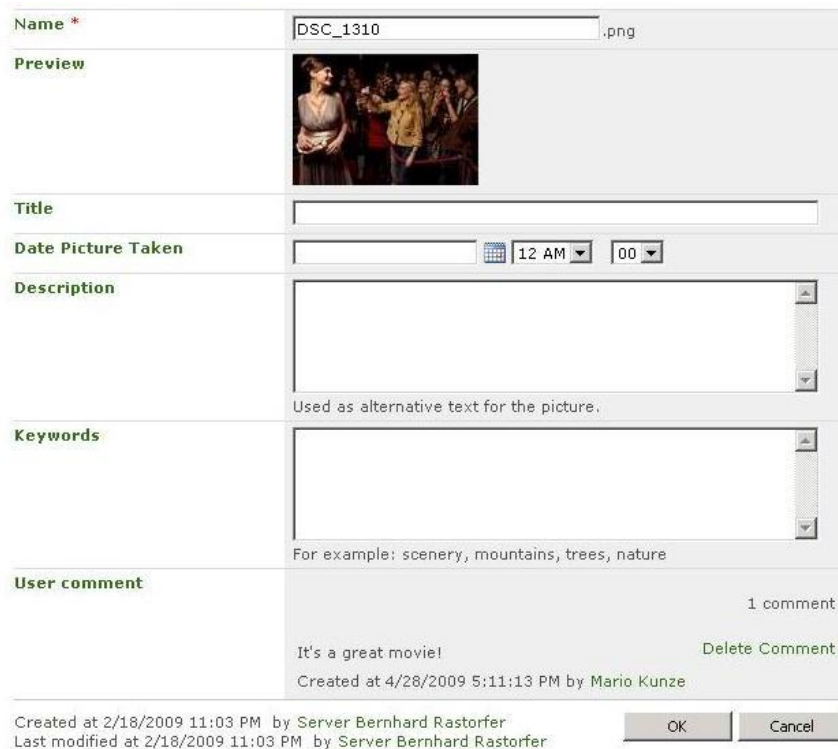


Figure 10: Comments in edit mode

2.3. Using comments within List Webparts

The SharePoint comment type field type supports commenting in List Webparts. Therefore, a list, which contains the comment type column, has to be created before.

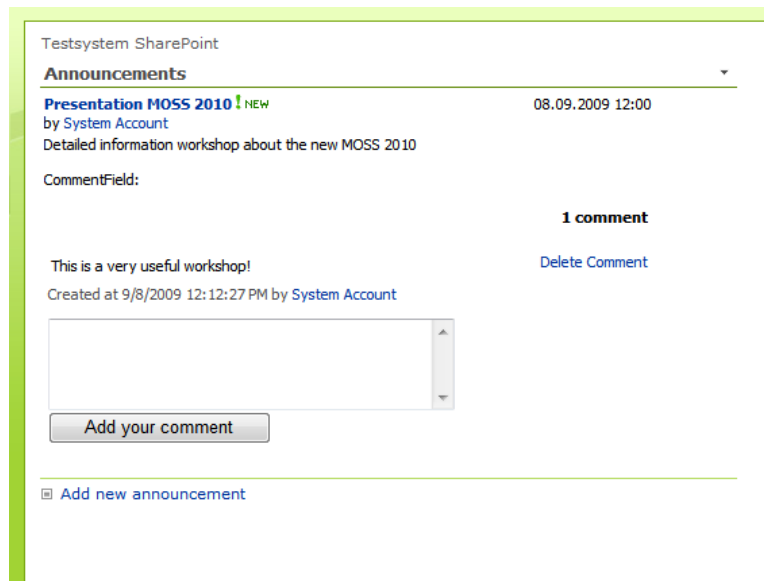


Figure 11: Comments in Webpart

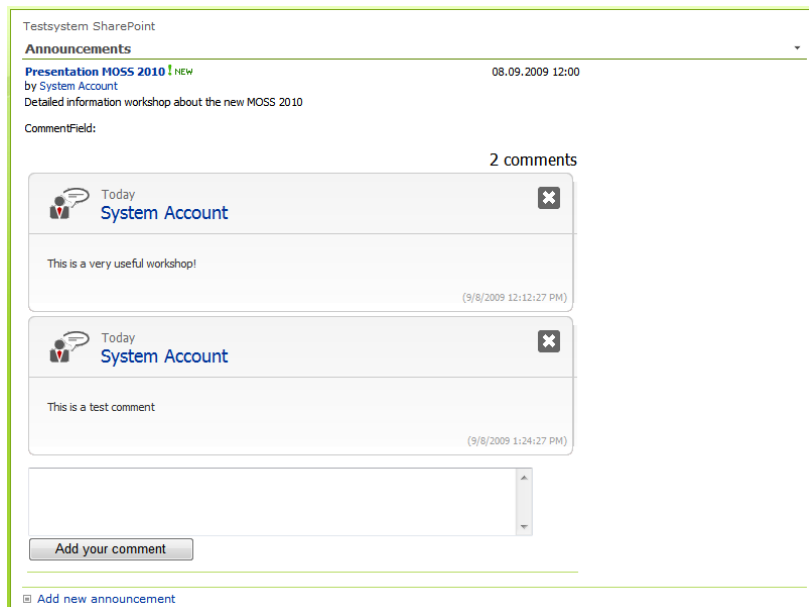


Figure 12: Comments in Webpart with modern layout

There is a Preview option in the column settings, whether *Number of comments* or *Comment entries*. The second option is intended to be used when comment type is integrated in other list web parts like Announcement. Go to the column settings and choose this option.

After creating the list, the column can be displayed on the List WebPart page. By default the comment type column isn't displayed in the web part view. In order to display it on Announcement List WebPart for instance, it is necessary to add the comment type column to the current view of the List WebPart.

Opening the editor part of Announcement List WebPart, you find a link to edit the view, *Edit the current view*.

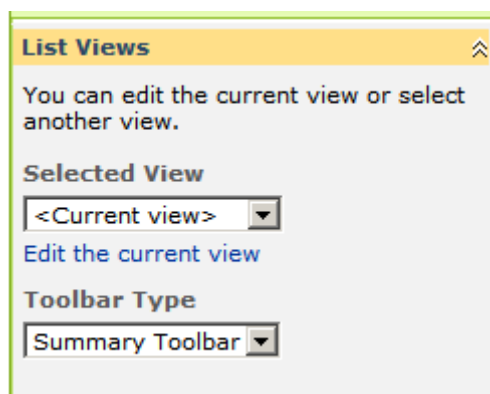


Figure 13: Editor part of the List WebPart

By checking the comment type column, Announcement List WebPart renders the comment type column in the list web part.

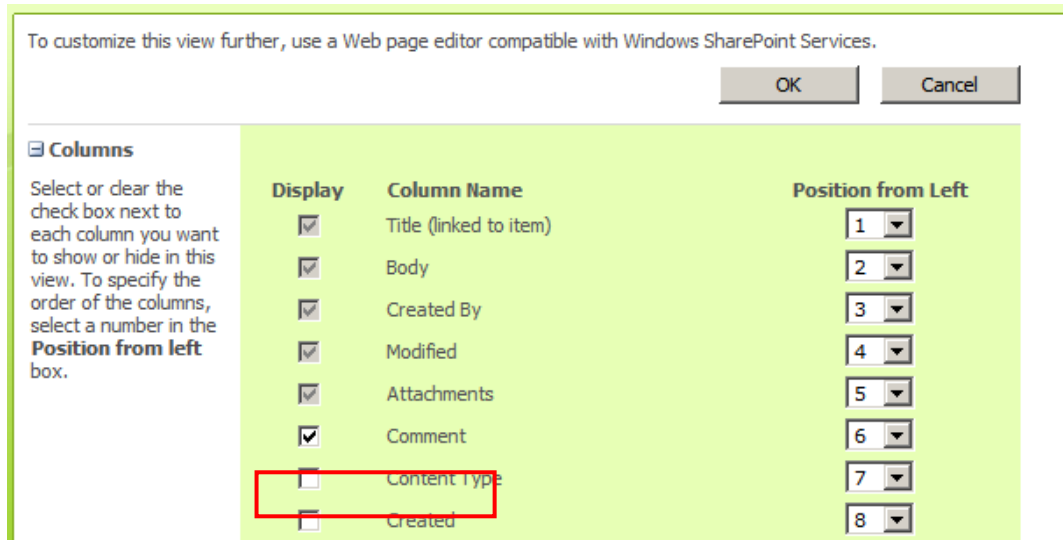


Figure 14: Adding the comment type column to the view

2.4. Email notifications for comments

If the comment column allows „Subscribe Notification“ (see Figure 2) the users can subscribe comment notifications. The subscribed users get an email if a new comment is added.

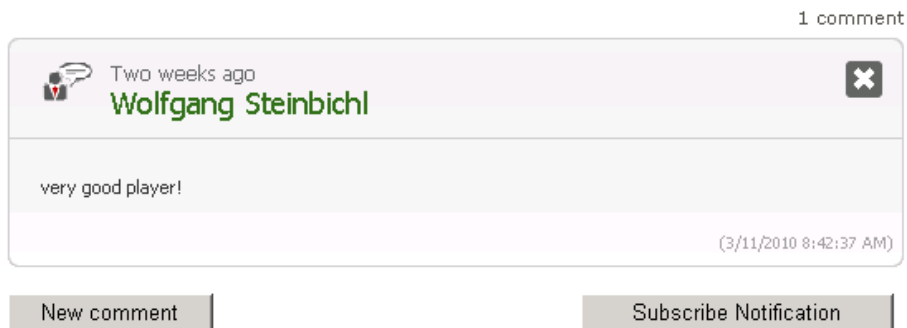


Figure 15: User can subscribe comment notification



Figure 16: User subscribed comment notification



Figure 17: Notification email for new comment

3. Migration from version 1.4 or earlier

Comment type version 2.0 does not have a compatibility with previous comment type whose version is 1.4 or earlier. This section describes how to migrate existing comments to the latest version.

1. Install the latest comment type
2. Add a new comment type column with the name "CommentNew" to a list with an old comment type column. For Lists of Type HSG News Basic and HSG News Enhanced it's necessary to name the new comment column "CommentNew", otherwise there is a problem in the News WebPart and the DetailView!



Figure 18: Adding a new comment column

3. Add some comments to the new comment type column.
4. Find an item corresponding to the added comments in the list, and copy the value of column "HSGColumnGuid."

It looks like "1e952c34-4eab-464b-a9cd-0411e1544e1a"

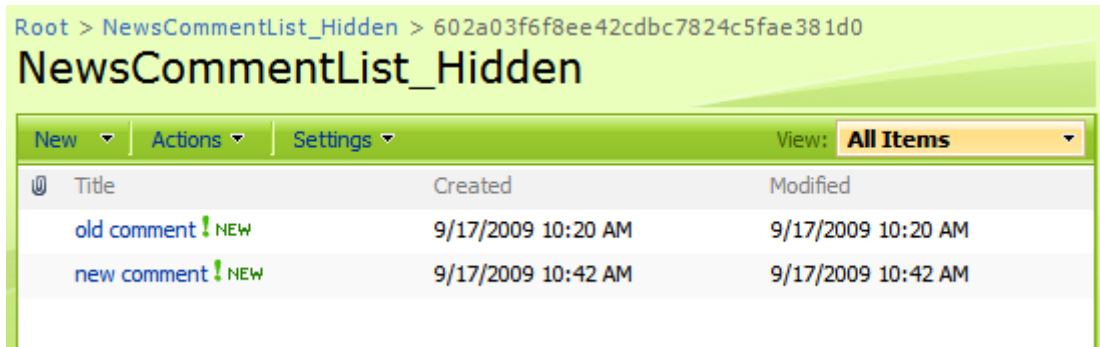


Figure 19: Added comments

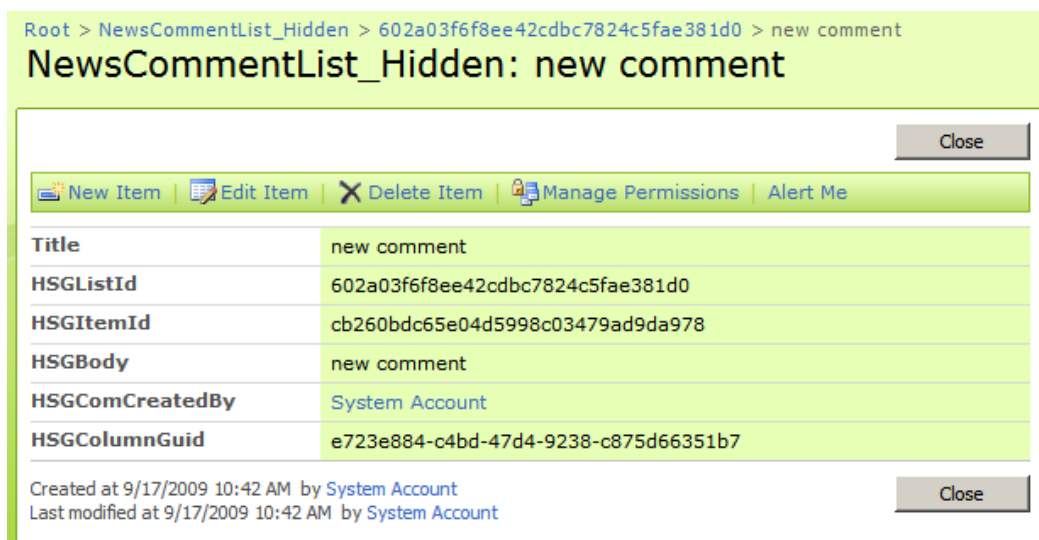


Figure 20: Copying a value of HSGColumnGuid in the new comment item

5. Update every value of "HSGColumnGuid" of old comment items corresponding to comment entries in the old column. Just paste the copied value.

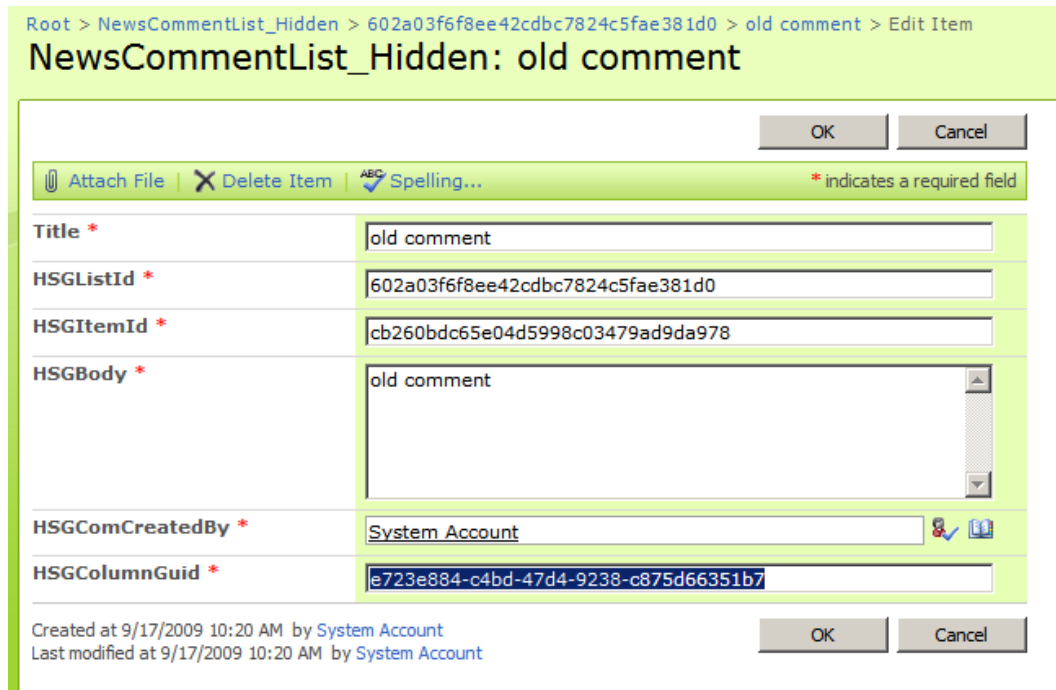


Figure 21: Updating the value in an old comment item

6. Delete the old comment type column.
7. Rename the new comment type column. Delete the comments added in 3.
8. Repeat 2 to 7 for all lists with an old comment type column.

4. Installation Guide

4.1. Server requirements


A functional server with either Microsoft Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 or Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 is required.

4.2. Installation


The standard install path to WSS 3.0 or MOSS 2007 is *C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\web server extensions\12* an all necessary program components are installed there.

1. Login to the front-end server of your SharePoint farm as local administrator.
2. Extract the files from the zip folder.
3. Double click the setup.bat file to run the setup. If you do not want to create a log file during the installation you can also double click the msi file to run the setup.

ATTENTION: User must be local administrator and farm administrator!

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4. The IIS reset is automatically done by the setup process.
5. If an error occurs during the installation, please read the FAQ's in section 6.
6. You are ready to use the SharePoint comment type.

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5. Component Activation

In order to register and activate your components start the HSG Activation Wizard.




Figure 22: Activator

Copy the displayed activation key to your clipboard and send it to licensing@hagenberg-software.at or simply click on the displayed link. You will receive an activation file, which can be imported using the Activator.

6. FAQ – Errors and configuration settings

- 1) The following error occurs when starting the product setup:
 - a) **“This installation requires WSS 3.0 or MOSS 2007.”**
WSS 3.0 or MOSS 2007 could not be found on your target system. Please install one of these products and retry the installation.
 - b) **“You need to be a farm administrator to install SharePoint Comment Type.”**
You are not a farm administrator of the current WSS 3.0/MOSS 2007. Please be sure, that you have the sufficient rights and retry the installation.
 - c) **“You need to be an administrator to install SharePoint Comment Type.”**
You are not an administrator of the target system. Please be sure, that you have the sufficient rights and retry the installation.
 - d) **“This installation requires HSG Web.config Modifier for Ajax 3.5.”**
HSG Web.config Modifier for Ajax 3.5 is not installed on your target system. Please install the product and retry the installation. The setup can be downloaded from <http://www.hagenber-software.at>.

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e) **“This installation requires HSG Web.config Modifier for Telerik.”**
 HSG Web.config Modifier for Telerik is not installed on your target system. Please install the product and retry the installation. The setup can be downloaded from <http://www.hagenber-software.at>.

f) **“A later version of SharePoint Comment Type is already installed. Setup will now exit.”**

The version of the setup you want to install is older than your current installed version of What’s new Webpart. Please download an actual version of the product from the Hagenberg Software SharePoint product homepage (<http://www.hagenberg-software.at>).

g) **“Deployment wasn’t successfully! Please try it manually from the startmenu.”**

There was an error during the SharePoint solution installation. The solution deployment can be executed manually with the deployment link in the start menu. Go to Start->Programs->Hagenberg Software->SharePoint <Product> -> and click on the HSG <Product> Deployment link. A batch file is executed, which deployed the solution on the SharePoint.

2) You receive the following error during installation process:


a) **Deployment wasn’t successfully! Please try it manually from the startmenu.**

The error occurs if the SharePoint runs on a distributed environment (Backend- and Frontend-Server). Please retry the deployment process manually from the Windows startmenu (All Programs → Hagenberg Software → SharePoint Comment Type → HSG Comment Type - Deployment).

3) You find the following error in the installation log-file:

a) **"Object reference not set to an instance of an object"**


This error seems to occur if the user which is installing the solution has insufficient rights (e.g. is not SharePoint farm admin). Please retry the deployment process manually from the Windows startmenu (All Programs → Hagenberg Software → SharePoint Comment Type → HSG Comment Type - Deployment).

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- 4) You find the following error / warning in the installation log-file:
- a) **"SharePointSolution.wsp" does not exist in the solution store**

The warning occurs if the desired SharePoint solution is installed for the first time. The installer tries to uninstall a previous version of this product, but for the first installation there is no previous version.

The warning may occur during uninstalling the SharePoint solution. This happens if the solution was retracted / deleted manually from the SharePoint before.

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7. Contact

7.1. Company Headquarters

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Mariahilfer Straße 47/5
A-1060 Wien

7.3. E-Mail Addresses

Technical Support: support@hagenberg-software.at

Questions concerning the licensing process: licensing@hagenberg-software.at

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