



User Guide

Absolute News Manager .NET V5.1
News and Articles Management Software
Developed by XIGLA SOFTWARE
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER FEATURES	6
INSTALLING ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER	10
SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	10
SETTING UP THE DATABASE (MS SQL SERVER ONLY)	10
INSTALLING ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER ON YOUR WEB SITE	12
CREATING TEMPLATES FOR DISPLAYING YOUR CONTENT	17
HTML Templates	18
HTML Template Tags	18
ASP.NET Templates (ASP.NET Programmers Only)	22
Caching content on ASP.NET templates	28
Using the Absolute News Manager user control on your ASP.NET pages	28
ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER PLUGINS	29
THE "SEND ARTICLE BY E-MAIL" PLUG-IN	29
THE "PRINT THIS ARTICLE" PLUG-IN	30
THE "SEARCH ARTICLES" PLUG-IN	31
QUICK START GUIDE	33
ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER OPTIONS	38
LOGIN SCREEN	38
SEARCH SCREEN	38
COMPOSE NEW ARTICLE	41
Editing Multipage Articles	44
Images and Files Panel	45
Related Articles Panel	47
View Article	48
ZONES	49
Creating New Zones (Administrators Only)	54
Overriding the Default Zone Parameters	60
Zone Code Generator	68
Zone Overriding Samples	68
USERS	71
Registering New Users (administrators only)	72
PLUG-INS	74
Registering New Plug-Ins (administrators only)	75
OPTIONS (ADMINISTRATOR ONLY)	76
LOG OUT	80
ABSOLUTE IMAGE GALLERY INTEGRATION	81

IDEAS FOR YOUR ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER	82
TROUBLESHOOTING AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS _____	84
FOUND A BUG? LET US KNOW! _____	89
OTHER APPLICATIONS BY XIGLA SOFTWARE _	90

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You've just purchased one of the most powerful news and article management systems available today.

The Absolute News Manager is a powerful, state-of-the-art content management system that has been specially designed for easily updating and editing news releases, website announcements, company news and articles. Packed with plenty of features, but yet simple and easy to use, the Absolute News Manager is the perfect solution for publishing articles, news, stories, headlines, and editorials on the web.

Working with the Absolute News Manager is extremely easy. Just log into the application by using your username and password, enter the title, date and content of your news article, select the zones (places of your site) where you want the headline to be shown and it will be instantly published on your website. Best of all, writers and editors don't have to know HTML or FTP to update and create fully enhanced news articles.

Use a complete WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editor with built-in spell checking to create your articles without having to know HTML code. Include unlimited images, files, audio and video files with your articles and content. Use your own designed templates to give your articles and content any look and style that you want, enhance your system and give it further functionality with the use of plug-Ins, plus much more.

The Absolute News Manager is very easy to set up and administer, Its simple, intuitive and user-friendly Web-based administration interface allows you to manage your news and articles from any location with web access.

By placing a single line of code into any page of your site (regardless of the extension: .htm, .asp, .cfm or anything else), the Absolute News Manager will instantly display a list with your latest headlines on your site. Also, you can configure every aspect of how your headlines will look: fonts, sizes, colors, number of headlines, horizontal or vertical display, everything!

Absolute News Manager has been developed using ASP.NET technology. Microsoft's powerful .NET Framework guarantees the best scalability and reliability for this web based application.

We hope the functionality and versatility we've built into the Absolute News Manager System excites and inspires you. We've made our best effort to provide you with what we believe is the best system for managing content and articles on the web.

We hope you'll enjoy using the Absolute News Manager in many ways. Please e-mail us with any questions you may have regarding this program, including any wishes you have for additional features. We're committed to making the Absolute News Manager the best news content management system on the web.

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ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER FEATURES

The Absolute News Manager comes packed with everything you need to administer your news and articles on your web site and enjoy the benefits of a completely dynamic content management system. Here are just some of the features of this powerful application :

- ❑ Not a hosted solution, Absolute News Manager runs on your own server under your own domain and control.
- ❑ Developed using ASP.NET technology and SQL Server Stored procedures for the best scalability and reliability.
- ❑ User-friendly, web-based interface to author and administer the System from anywhere in the world. All you need is a web browser and an Internet connection!
- ❑ Feature packed Web-based HTML editor. Your publishers will be able to provide rich content without having to know HTML or FTP.
- ❑ Ability to attach unlimited images, files, documents, audio and video to your articles and news to fully enhance your content with state-of-the-art multimedia features.
- ❑ 3 User levels supported: No limits on the number of publishers, editors and administrators you can have. In order to fully administer and publish your vision, register as many publishers and administrators as your server can support!
- ❑ Support Javascript, Iframes and HTTP Post based includes to easily insert your latest headlines on any .htm, .cfm, .asp, .jsp, .php or any other type of page. You can also use ASP calls to display headlines on ASP pages, as well as an ASP.NET user control on ASP.NET pages.
- ❑ Completely Template driven: Create your own templates using your favorite HTML editor and use some special (and very easy) text tags to define the layout of your articles to exactly match the look and feel of your site. There is no limit on the number of Templates you can create.
- ❑ Articles can be scheduled to appear and disappear at a future date by scheduling Start and Ending Dates.
- ❑ Support for articles located outside the Absolute News Manager System and outside your web site. Articles can be stored in the database or set as URL's for articles located on other sites.

- ❑ Zone based. Zones are the places on your site where you want your headlines to appear, they behave as categories to let you classify your content. The Absolute News Manager supports 2 level zones : zones and subzones.
- ❑ Control every aspect of your Zones (the places where your headlines will be displayed): fonts, sizes, colors, number of headlines per Zone and other properties. Headlines can be displayed horizontally or even vertically. Every Zone can have its own unique look and feel, you can also use CSS styles or even define the layout of each zone through HTML.
- ❑ Zones can include thumbnail images with your headlines to further enhance usability and look and feel.
- ❑ Support for publisher's photo and signature. Give a personal touch to your content by including your publishers photos and small bio.
- ❑ Publishers can be assigned to zones, so that each publisher can only provide content to his allowed zones. Multiple zones are supported.
- ❑ Support for featured articles. Set which articles should be set as featured and appear first in your zones.
- ❑ Support for multi-page articles. Your content can be broken into any number of pages.
- ❑ Support for keywords and description. Add additional meta-data to describe your content.
- ❑ Option to have system editors review all articles before publishing.
- ❑ Option to have the editors and publishers access only to their assigned content.
- ❑ Support for automatic notifications. Let your editors know when an article has been posted or modified.
- ❑ Automatic archiving of articles after expiration date.
- ❑ Built-in Cache. Boost your system performance by using the built-in cache system to deliver your articles and content.
- ❑ Syndication protection. Protect your content and bandwidth by selecting the URLs that have permission to display your headlines.

- ❑ Cross-referenced/related articles. Define articles related to other articles. Keep your users lingering your site.
- ❑ Add any number of articles to any number of Zones.
- ❑ Plug-In Support. Absolute News Manager can be easily enhanced through the addition of Plug-Ins you may wish to add as they are developed.
- ❑ Powerful keyword based search engine system for easily browsing your articles and content. You can also deploy a public search interface for your articles and news with just three lines of HTML code and let your site visitors browse your content.
- ❑ Allow users to easily get a printable version of your articles or have the system send them by e-mail.
- ❑ Save time and work by easily updating your website or allowing remote Authors or Editors to do so.
- ❑ Option to Notify the editors by e-mail every time a new article is posted by your publishers.
- ❑ RSS News feed. Easily syndicate your headlines to sites which support RSS XML News feeds
- ❑ Get rid of complicated HTML changes and FTP file uploads. The Absolute News Manager updates your content with the click of a mouse.
- ❑ Password-protected login security so only your authorized Publishers will be able to edit news articles.
- ❑ Support for our picture and multimedia gallery administration system: Absolute Image Gallery, integrate both applications to deliver rich-multimedia content : <http://www.xigla.com/absoluteig>
- ❑ Common Assets Library. Now you can have a folder of shared assets for all your articles.
- ❑ Password Reminder. Your publishers can easily retrieve their passwords in case of forgetting them.
- ❑ Increased security controls. You can now restrict access by IP address and avoid multiple user logins.
- ❑ Zone Thumbnails : You can now have default thumbnails for each zone to be used with articles that have no thumbnail assigned.

- ❑ Built in support for CSS and Style Sheets. Reference an external CSS file to be used with your articles
- ❑ Individual Assets reference. You can reference up to 10 assets on your template and access each video, audio, file and image independently.
- ❑ Support for Absolute Banner Manager .NET. You can now include ads directly from our premier Banner Management tool into your articles.
- ❑ File types check. Only allowed files can be uploaded to the system.
- ❑ Plus much more!

At XIGLA SOFTWARE, we value our customers' feedback. If you have specific features you'd like to see implemented in the Absolute News Manager, please e-mail us at info@xigla.com and tell us about them. We'll consider them, and maybe you'll see them in a future version.

Also if you found a bug or have a problem, please e-mail us immediately so that we can help you solve the problem and keep your system operating as desired.

INSTALLING ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER

Installing the Absolute News Manager system is very straightforward. Just follow the instructions below and your new article management system will be running in no time.

System Requirements

Absolute News Manager .NET has been developed to run exclusively on web sites hosted on Windows based Servers with support for the Microsoft .NET Framework. No other Platforms are supported.

Absolute News Manager .NET requires SQL Server 2000 or higher as database backend, If you don't have SQL Server 2000, you can use MSDE 2000 or higher which is a scaled down version of SQL Server and is distributed with the .NET Framework.

Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher on a Windows based PC is required for system administration and content edition using the included HTML editor.

Setting Up the Database (MS SQL Server ONLY)

Absolute News Manager has been developed to work with SQL Server or higher databases. In order to set up the database backend, please follow these guidelines:

1. The Absolute News Manager database is e-mailed as a script file called absolutenm.sql, save this file somewhere on your local computer.
2. From within SQL Server Enterprise Manager, create a new database. Right-click on Database and select new database.
3. Enter the database name "absolutenm", or any other name you may want for this new database.
4. Click OK when finished. An empty database named "absolutenm" will be created.
5. Now, execute the absolutenm.sql script in order to create the tables and stored procedures in the new database. From the Tools menu of the Enterprise Manager, select SQL Server Query Analyzer.
6. From within the Query Analyzer, open the absolutenm.sql script file. Make sure to select the "absolutenm" database from the database drop-down menu.

7. Execute the script by clicking the Execute Query Button or pressing F5. If executed successfully, you'll see a "Query Batch Completed" message at the bottom of the screen.

8. In order to optimize the database, right click on the "absolutenm" database from within Enterprise Manager. Select 'Properties' and under the 'Options' tab, check the "Auto shrink" property.

9. Due to the nature of Absolute News Manager, this system will be constantly accessing your database to retrieve and display your dynamic content. It is advised to set a maintenance plan in order to backup the database logs on a daily basis or to set the recovery model of the database to "SIMPLE". Otherwise, your log file might grow really fast and eat your disk space.

Note:

If you have a single SQL Server database shared by all your applications, you can safely run the SQL script against it and the Absolute News Manager uses unique names for all its tables and stored procedures.

SQL Server's Enterprise Manager is an application that comes with SQL Server. If you don't have it, please contact your hosting provider for information on how to execute the SQL Script against your database.

Adding a New User for the absolutenm database

1. Within the SQL Server Enterprise Manager, expand the tree down to Security.
2. Right-click on Logins and select New Login.
3. Enter the name as absolutenm and select SQL Server authentication.
4. Enter a unique password (please take note of your password, **you'll need it later**).
5. Under 'Database' select the absolutenm database and click on the "Database Access" tab.
6. Click the Permit check box for the absolutenm database then check the db_owner box under "Permit in Database Role".
7. Click OK and enter your password confirmation.

Installing Absolute News Manager on Your Web Site

Absolute News Manager has been delivered to you in a zipped file (.zip) Follow these instructions to set-up the Absolute News Manager on your site:

1. Create a sub-directory in your site's root directory. This directory will house the Absolute News Manager software. So, it's a good idea to give it a name such as "absolutenm".

For example, if your domain is <http://www.something.com>, then you might create a directory called <http://www.something.com/absolutenm>.

2. Extract the contents of the Absolute News Manager zip file into this directory (You'll need an application like WinZip - <http://www.winzip.com> - in order to correctly unzip the file). The Absolute News Manager system includes several sub-directories. **You must maintain this directory structure** and include those sub-directories.

WARNING! : DO NOT PLACE A COPY OF OUR ZIP FILES ANYWHERE ON YOUR SITE. By doing this you'll be allowing your users to download the application without owning a license. You'll be violating the License Agreement and intellectual property rights.

3. Now, set the permissions for the newly created absolutenm directory to allow read and write permissions, allow files to be browsed and allow scripts to be run.

Note:

If you don't want to set write permission on the Absolute News Manager Directory, you need to know that the following directories require write permission, otherwise some errors will arise when uploading content:

- articlefiles : where the attached article files are stored
- thumbnails : where the headlines thumbnails are stored
- cache : articles and zones cached content
- publishers : where your publisher's pictures are stored

Those folders are used for storing uploaded content like images, files and any other type of attachment as well as the cached content. Your hosting provider will be able to set the appropriate write permissions for those folders.

By only enabling write permissions on these folders only , your web site will be more secure.

4. In order to point the Absolute News Manager to your SQL Server database, you'll need to edit the **web.config** file in order to update the database connection string with your SQL Server login information. To do this, open the **web.config** file using a text editor (notepad will do fine) and look for the **xlaANMconnectionstr** key in the **<appsettings>** section :

```
<add key="xlaANMconnectionstr"
value="Server=YOUR_SERVER;UID=YOUR_USERNAME;PWD=YOUR_PASSWORD;Da
tabase=absolutenm" />
```

On this entry key, replace YOUR_SERVER with your SQL Server's name, YOUR_USERNAME and YOUR_PASSWORD with the corresponding username and password that you previously set and save the file. Also, if you named the database different than **absolutenm**, you'll need to update the **Database** property in this key accordingly.

5. Absolute News Manager also requires you to define the full path to the application (For example C:\folder\absolutenm\). To do this, modify the **xlaANMphysicalpath** key in the **Web.Config** file and modify it with the full path to your application :

```
<add key="xlaANMphysicalpath" value="c:\folder\absolutenm\" />
```

You can get the physical path to the application by browsing to the file `getpath.aspx` in your Absolute News Manager folder (It is advised to delete the file after retrieving the path). Make sure to add the slash at the end of the path.

6. Some mail servers (SMTP Servers) require authentication in order to allow applications like Absolute News Manager to send e-mails. If your mail server requires authentication, you will need to modify the SMTP Server settings keys in the **Web.Config** file :

```
<!-- SMTP Server Settings -->
<add key="smtpusername" value="YourSMTPusername" />
<add key="smtppassword" value="YourSMTPpassword" />
<add key="smtpserverport" value="OptionalSMTPport" />
```

Your ISP should be able to provide you with the necessary information for your SMTP Server authentication.

7. In the `web.config` file there's also a security string called `xlaANMsecurityseed` with the following code:

```
<add key="xlaANMsecurityseed" value="TYPE A SERIES OF RANDOM NUMBERS AND CHARACTERS HERE" />
```

This string is used for tightening your system security. To set it up, make sure to enter a random string of characters as in the following example (you can use any number of random characters, just make sure to only use letters and numbers) :

```
<add key="xlaANMsecurityseed" value="DJEIFDNWIF7339RJHD76KJD7" />
```

8. Absolute News Manager comes with a folder called /bin that houses a .NET assembly (a DLL) called AbsoluteNewsManager.dll. The /bin folder is a special folder used by ASP.NET applications to access your .NET assemblies.

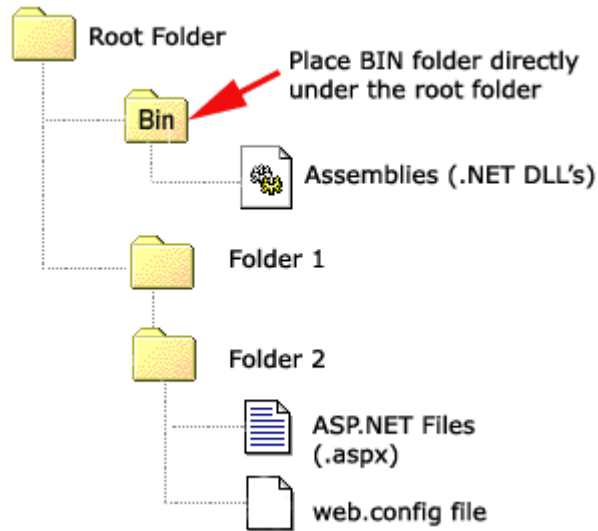
If you are installing Absolute News Manager on a subfolder (like we have explained in this guide), you'll probably need to move the AbsoluteNewsManager.dll file from the applications /bin folder to your site's /bin folder.

If your site does not have a /bin directory, you'll need to create one at the very root of your web site.

Note:

ASP.NET Applications like Absolute News Manager can be fully deployed through FTP. While this application comes with a DLL, you don't need to access the server in order to register it as it was required with previous ASP applications.

Just make sure to place the application's DLL in the /bin folder of your web site. Your hosting provider will be able to provide you with more information about the bin folder.



9. Start the Absolute News Manager application in your web browser by browsing to the web directory where you installed Absolute News Manager (e.g. <http://www.yourdomain.com/absolutenm>) and login using **admin** as the username and password and click the login button.

Click on the USERS button in the top menu. You'll see only a user named "Default Administrator". Click on its EDIT button (the pencil icon in front of it) in order to update the default administrator info with your own information.

10. Enter your name, your e-mail address, a new username and password, select Administrator for the user level, leave the zones field untouched, enter any additional info about you or the new System Administrator and click the "Save User" button. From now on, you'll use your new user name and password to access the system (The old "admin" account won't be available again, so take note of your new username and password).

11. Click on the Options button from the top menu, and click OK on the confirmation message. You'll be accessing the system configuration options.

12. In the "Licensed To" field, enter your name or the name of the company that purchased and will be using the Absolute News Manager system.

13. In the Serial No. Field, type your Serial Number exactly as it was provided to you.

14. In the "Site URL" field, enter the URL to your site:

e.g. <http://www.yourdomain.com>

15. In the "Application URL" field, enter the full URL to the Absolute News Manager in your site (this is the same URL you defined in step 1 and used in step 6 to access the application).

16. If you are an international user, you may want to use an appropriate charset encoding, otherwise, leave the charset encoding field untouched.

17. If your server's time differs from your local time, you might want to provide a time offset in minutes (i.e.: type -14 if your time is 14 minutes less than the server time or type 5 if your local time is 5 minutes ahead of your server time).

18. The Absolute News Manager supports three types of users: Publishers, Editors and Administrators. If you want the publishers to only be able to access their own information you can check the appropriate options on the publishers access field. If you want only the Editors to be able to publish (set active) content, you can check the Editor's access option. This will require all the articles provided by the Publishers to be reviewed and approved by an editor before going live. Don't check this option if you wish to allow your publishers to publish their content at any time. However, this is a good option if you want your editors to control everything that needs to be published on your site, or if you are concerned about your liability in allowing your users to publish directly to the web.

19. Scroll down the options screen to the e-mail options. The E-Mail options are used for sending e-mails from within the Absolute News Manager (For example, when you want to allow your site visitors to send articles by e-mail):

- **Default E-Mail:** The e-mail address used to send e-mails and articles from your site. This must be a valid e-mail address on your SMTP Server.
- **SMTP Server:** The SMTP Server you will use to send e-mails.
- **Subject:** The default subject for articles e-mailed from your site.
- **Signature:** You may want to provide a "signature" for all articles sent from your site. Be creative and commercial; this is a wonderful way to market and promote your site.

20. Click on the "Save Settings" button in order to save the changes (If you experience any problems, please make sure that the Absolute News Manager directory has "write" permission enabled in order to be able to update the settings).

Note:

If no write permissions are set on the Absolute News Manager folder, the application will show you the code necessary to update your settings. Follow these directions:

*Copy and paste this code into a blank .txt file (use Notepad)

*Rename this file to **xigla.config**

*Upload this file to your Absolute News Manager, replacing the existing default file, and your new settings will take place.

You can also download the code by clicking the proper button once the code is displayed, save this file to your computer and upload it to your Absolute News Manager application to set the new configuration.

Now Your Absolute News Manager System has been fully configured and is ready to start serving articles.

All you need to do now is create some templates to give your articles and content the look and feel that you want for your site.

Creating Templates for Displaying Your Content

The Absolute News Manager uses templates to display your articles so that they match your site's look and feel and seamlessly integrate into your site.

The Absolute News Manager supports both HTML and ASP.NET templates. HTML templates are easier to set than ASP.NET templates, but ASP.NET templates will let you add includes and dynamic code to your templates and provide higher flexibility. If you're a good ASP.NET programmer, the ASP.NET templates can be a great option for you.

As explained, Absolute News Manager is zone based, a zone is the place on your site where you want your headlines to appear, a zone also behaves as a category to classify your content. Each Zone can have a different template assigned (as will be explained later). In this way, when a user clicks on a headline displayed in a particular Zone, that Zone's assigned Template will be loaded and parsed with the full article.

The Template files are (and must be) located inside the Templates folder in the Absolute News Manager root directory. There should be at least one Template file (named template.htm) in this folder for the system to work.

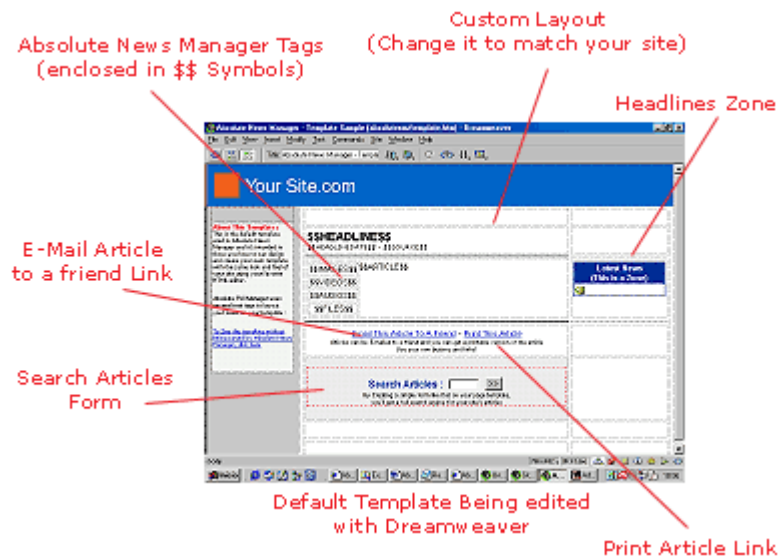
By default, the Absolute News Manager comes with a 5 predefined HTML and ASP.NET Templates, which have been designed to show you how to create your own Template files (you can have as many as you want).

HTML Templates

An HTML Template is just an HTML file (.htm) that uses several special tags (enclosed between \$\$ symbols) which tell the Absolute News Manager how to display and layout your articles and content.

To create an HTML Template, you can use your favorite HTML editor. Just design an HTML file with the look and feel that you want (use images, CSS, DHTML, anything) and use the Absolute News Manager Tags to define the content layout and then save the Template and its files into the Templates folder.

By opening the default template.htm file, you can see how easy it is to design your own Templates in your favorite HTML editor using the Absolute News Manager Tags.



HTML Template Tags

The Absolute News Manager System uses some special text tags in order to layout the articles and content in your templates, thus making it very easy to present your news and articles with any look and feel that you want.

To use these tags, all you need to do is to include them anywhere within your custom template file using your favorite HTML editor and save the Absolute News Manager TEMPLATES/ folder.

The default template.htm file will show you how easy is to use and locate the system tags within your templates. Just create an HTML file with your own design, use the tags that you want by placing them anywhere you want and save the new file to the Templates directory (including your own graphics and linked files). You can, and should, name this new Template something other than "template.htm"

Below are the Tags supported and their corresponding functions:

\$\$ARTICLE\$\$

This Tag displays the full selected article.

\$\$ARTICLEID\$\$

This Tag returns a number corresponding to the article ID in the database. Use this ID as a parameter in the Send Article By E-mail Link and the Print Article Link as explained later.

\$\$AUDIO\$\$

This Tag displays a bulleted list with the article's associated audio files' link and their corresponding comments.

\$\$AUDIO n \$\$

Embeds the n (1 to 10) audio file assigned to the article. I.E \$\$AUDIO3\$\$ will display a media player with the 3rd audio file assigned to the article

\$\$DESCRIPTION\$\$

Returns the META Description of your article. Can be used as the article's Description META TAG.

\$\$FILES\$\$

This Tag displays the article's associated files' links and their corresponding comments.

\$\$FILE n \$\$

Displays the n (1 to 10) file assigned to the article. I.E \$\$FILE10\$\$ will display the 10th file uploaded to the article.

\$\$FLASH n \$\$

Plays the n (1 to 10) flash file assigned to the article. I.E \$\$FLASH6\$\$ will display the 6th flash file related to the article.

\$\$HEADLINE\$\$

This Tag displays the headline of the selected article.

\$\$HEADLINEDATE\$\$

This Tag displays the headline date of the selected article.

\$\$IMAGES\$\$

This Tag displays the article's associated images and their corresponding comments.

\$\$IMAGEn\$\$

Displays the n (1 to 10) Image assigned to the article. I.E \$\$IMAGE3\$\$ will display the 3rd image assigned to the article

\$\$KEYWORDS\$\$

Returns the article's defined keywords, can be used as the article's keyword META TAG.

\$\$LINKS\$\$

This Tag displays a list of the article's associated links (URL's that provide further information) and their corresponding comments.

\$\$LINKn\$\$

Displays the n (1 to 10) link associated with the article. I.E \$\$LINK4\$\$ will display the 4th link associated with the article

\$\$NOPAGING\$\$

Use this tag in a template to force multi-page articles to display in a single page. When using this tag, the page selector will not be displayed and the article will not be broken into pages.

\$\$PAGES\$\$

Displays the page selector and navigation for articles with multiple pages. The absence of this tag will force multiple page articles to display in a single page behaving exactly as with the \$\$NOPAGING\$\$ article.

\$\$PUBLISHERID\$\$

Returns the article's Publisher ID.

\$\$PUBLISHEREMAIL\$\$

Return the article's publisher e-mail address.

\$\$PUBLISHERNAME\$\$

Returns the article's publisher name.

\$\$PUBLISHERPHOTO\$\$

Displays the publisher photo.

\$\$RELATED\$\$

This Tag displays a list of the article's related articles if there are any.

\$\$SIGNATURE\$\$

Returns the publisher's signature or small Bio.

\$\$SOURCE\$\$

Returns the source defined for the article.

\$\$SITE\$\$

This Tag displays the name of your site as defined in the Absolute News Manager options.

\$\$SITEURL\$\$

This Tag displays the URL of your site as defined in the Absolute News Manager options. You can also use it for links that point from your Templates to your site, in the form of:

```
<a href="$$SITEURL$$"> $$SITE$$ </a>
```

\$\$SUMMARY\$\$

This Tag displays the summary for the selected article.

\$\$THUMBNAILFILE\$\$

Returns the article's thumbnail.

\$\$VIDEOS\$\$

This Tag displays the article's associated video files' links and their corresponding comments.

\$\$VIDEO n \$\$

Plays the n (1 to 10) video file uploaded to the article. I.E **\$\$VIDEO4\$\$** will play the 4th video related to the article.

\$\$ZONEID\$\$

This Tag returns a number corresponding to the Zone ID of the Zone to which the article is assigned.

\$\$ZONENAME\$\$

This Tag returns the name of the zone where the article is being displayed.

Note :

You can use any or all the Tags here described when creating your Templates. Take a look at the accompanying templates to get a better knowledge of how to create templates using these tags.

ASP.NET Templates (ASP.NET Programmers Only)

If you're a good ASP.NET programmer, your site is built upon ASP.NET and you would like to include dynamic content in your templates to display along with your articles, or you want to have complete control over your article's display, the ASP.NET templates are a good option for you.

ASP.NET Templates are different from HTML templates as they don't make use of the HTML tags just explained (enclosed between \$\$ symbols), but rather they reference what is called an ASP.NET **Custom User Control** and its properties to retrieve and manage your article's content.

Absolute News Manager comes with a custom user control named **anmviewer.ascx** that can be used in your ASP.NET files to display your articles.

To create an ASP.NET template, all you have to do is create an ASP.NET file, save it into the templates folder and add a reference to the Absolute News Manager user control **anmviewer.ascx** like this :

At the very start of your ASP.NET template, you have to register the Absolute News Manager user control (anmviewer.ascx) with a line similar to this one :

```
<%@ Register TagPrefix="xigla" tagname="NewsManager"  
Src="../anmviewer.ascx" %>
```

In ASP.NET that line of code is mandatory when using user controls. It basically tells the ASP.NET file to take note of our control as we will be using it later (instantiate it).

On that line, we are telling the ASP.NET template that we will be making use of a control whose source is the file ANMVIEWER.ASCX located at the parent folder (SRC="../anmviewer.ascx") .

Also, we tell the ASP.NET file that each instance of the control will be referenced with the prefix XIGLA (TagPrefix="xigla") and tag name NEWSMANAGER (tagname="NewsManager") as we'll see next.

Note :

That code should go in a single line.

Please note that as the template file is located in the templates folder and the anmviewer.ascx control file is located one level above (root of Absolute News Manager), then the parent path "../anmviewer.ascx" is used.

Then, in the body of the ASP.NET file we create an instance of the just registered control and give it a unique ID, in this case "anm" so that we can use it :

```
<xigla:NewsManager ID="anm" runat="server" />
```

By creating a single instance of the Absolute News Manager user control as we have just done, when the template loads it will also load any article passed to it through a query string (I.E : `template.aspx?a=20&z=2` to load article ID 20 from zone id 2).

You can also directly set the Article ID to the user control or the zone ID by adding it to user control instance :

```
<xigla:NewsManager ID="anm" runat="server" articleid="2" zoneid="40" />
```

The code above will retrieve the properties for the article with ID 2 and Zone ID 40 regardless of the article ID or zone ID passed through a query string (this is useful if you want to create a page which always displays the same article on your site).

Then, to position the article elements, you will not use the `$$TAGS$$` used in the HTML templates, but the name of the article property enclosed between `<% %>` and referencing the user control ID just like normal ASP.NET code (I.E: `<%=anm.headline%>` for referencing the headline property using the control instance with ID "anm").

You can also reference each of the article's properties from your code in the same way, for example :

```
<%@ Register TagPrefix="xigla" tagname="NewsManager"
Src="../anmviewer.ascx" %>
<script runat=server>
sub page_load()
    response.write("The headline for article ID : ")
    response.write(anm.articleid & " is : " & anm.headline)
end sub
</script>
<xigla:NewsManager ID="anm" runat="server" articleid="1" />
```

The code above registers the user control at the very top of the ASP.NET file, then in the code is an instance of this control with the ID "anm" and in the `page_load()` event we retrieve the `articleid` and `headline` property.

The Absolute News Manager comes with 5 predefined asp.net templates which have been designed to show you how to use the Absolute News Manager user control to create your own ASP.NET Templates.

Below are the properties supported and their corresponding functions.

ARTICLE

Returns the full article or the current page in a multi-page article.

<%=anm.article%>

ARTICLEID

Stores the number corresponding to the article ID in the database. Use this ID as a parameter in the Send Article By E-mail Link and the Print Article Link as explained later.

<%=anm.articleid%>

ARTICLEPAGE(n)

Returns an array with the article broken into n pages.

<%=anm.articlepage(2)%>

AUDIOS

Stores the article's associated audio files' link and their corresponding comments.

<%=anm.audios%>

AUDIO(n)

Retrieves and embeds the n (1 to 10) article audio file

<%=anm.audio(3)%>

CURRENTPAGE

Integer, set the article's current page.

<% anm.currentpage=2 %>

DESCRIPTION

Returns the article's description.

<%=anm.description%>

ENDDATE

Returns the article's defined end date.

<%=anm.enddate%>

FILES

Stores the article's associated files' links and their corresponding comments.

<%=anm.files%>

FILE(n)

Retrieves the n (1 to 10) file attached to the article

<%=anm.file(5)%>

FLASH(n)

Plays the n (1 to 10) flash file uploaded to the article

<%=anm.flash(2)%>

HEADLINE

Stores the headline of the selected article.
<%=anm.headline%>

HEADLINE DATE

Stores the headline date of the selected article.
<%=anm.headlinedate%>

IMAGES

Stores the article's associated images and their corresponding comments.
<%=anm.images%>

IMAGE(n)

Retrieves the n (1 to 10) article image.
<%=anm.image(7)%>

KEYWORDS

Returns the article's defined keywords.
<%=anm.keywords%>

LASTUPDATE

Returns the article's last update date.
<%=anm.lastupdate%>

LINKS

Stores the article's associated links (URL's that provide further information) and their corresponding comments.
<%=anm.links%>

LINK(n)

Retrieves the n (1 to 10) link assigned to the article
<%=anm.link(6)%>

PAGES

Returns the page selector for multi page articles.
<%=anm.pages%>

PAGINATE

Boolean. When set to false, the multi page articles will be forced to display in a single page.
<%anm.paginate=false%>

POSTED

Returns the date the article was posted.
<%=anm.posted%>

PUBLISHEREMAIL

Returns the e-mail of the article's publisher.

<%=anm.publisheremail%>

PUBLISHERID

Returns the publisher's ID.

<%=anm.publisherid%>

PUBLISHERNAME

Returns the publisher's name.

<%=anm.publishername%>

PUBLISHERPHOTO

Returns the picture of the article's publisher.

<%=anm.publisherphoto%>

PUBLISHERPHOTOFILE

Returns the filename of the article's publisher photo.

<%=anm.photofile%>

RELATED

Stores a list of the article's related articles if there are any.

<%=anm.related%>

SIGNATURE

Returns the publisher's signature.

<%=anm.signature%>

SITE

Stores the name of your site as defined in the Absolute News Manager options.

<%=anm.site%>

SITEURL

Stores the URL of your site as defined in the Absolute News Manager options. You can also use it for links that point from your Templates to your site, in the form of:

`<a href="<%=anm.siteurl%>"> <%=anm.site%> `

SOURCE

Stores the selected article source.

<%=anm.source%>

SUMMARY

Stores the summary for the selected article.

<%=anm.summary%>

THUMBNAIL

Returns the articles thumbnail.

<%=anm.thumbnail%>

THUMBNAILFILE

Returns a reference to the article's thumbnail file.

<%=anm.thumbnailfile%>

TOTALPAGES

Returns the total number of pages of an article.

<%=anm.totalpages%>

VIDEOS

This variable stores the article's associated video files' links and their corresponding comments.

<%=anm.videos%>

VIDEO(n)

Embeds the n (1 to 10) video uploaded to the article.

<%=anm.video(5)%>

ZONEID

Stores a number corresponding to the Zone ID of the Zone to which the article is assigned.

<%=anm.zoneid%>

ZONENAME

Stores the current zone name for which the article is being displayed.

<%=anm.zonename%>

Note :

Take a look at the default ASP.NET Templates (template.aspx) in order to see how easy it is to create and position the the article elements within a Template.

Remember :

ASP.NET Templates use variables accesed through an user control instead of the HTML \$TAGS\$.

For instance, instead of typing \$ARTICLE\$ on an ASP.net template, you'll use <%=anm.article%> which references the ARTICLE property of the ANM user control.

ASP.NET Custom User Controls :

ASP.NET User controls are a complex topic beyond the scope of this manual. You might want to do a search on Google for information on how they work. You can also reference any ASP.NET book, as it is an important topic of ASP.NET

Caching content on ASP.NET templates

By using caching, the speed and scalability of your Absolute News Manager can be effectively increased. Absolute News Manager comes packed with a caching system specially designed for your HTML templates. It can be enabled from the options screen.

For ASP.NET templates, ASP.NET files already have a powerful built in caching system.

To enable it, all you have to do is to ADD an OUTPUTCACHE directive at the top of your .aspx templates like this :

```
<%@ OutputCache Duration="60" VaryByParam="a; z; page" %>
```

By adding that line of code to your ASP.NET templates, the articles will be cached for 60 seconds (Duration="60"). According to the parameters: a (articleid), z (zoneid) and page (articlepage) as set in the VaryByParam parameter.

The template file **template5.aspx** already has ASP.NET caching enabled. You might want to check it as well as review the .NET documentation for more information on the OUTPUTCACHE directive.

Using the Absolute News Manager user control on your ASP.NET pages

The user control approach lets you have total control on the articles's elements on an ASP.NET page. For example, you could load articles programatically and use the article properties directly on your ASP.NET pages.

Absolute News Manager comes with 3 sample files to show you how you can use the Absolute News Manager user control in your ASP.NET pages. These sample files can be found inside the samples folder :

- sample1.aspx : Shows how to load an article directly from the user control by setting its ARTICLEID property.
- sample2.aspx : Shows how to load 2 articles in a single asp.net page by creating 2 instances of the user control and setting a different ARTICLEID for each one.

- sample3.aspx : Shows how to load an article programatically from the the PAGE_LOAD() event in an ASP.NET page.

ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER PLUGINS

One of the powerful features of the Absolute News Manager is its support for Plug-Ins. Plug-Ins are programs intended to further enhance the functionality of your Absolute News Manager System. When using Plug-Ins, refer to their corresponding documentation in order to see how to correctly install and configure them.

The Absolute News Manager already includes 3 free pre-installed Plug-Ins which provide your visitors with the additional functionality to send articles by e-mail, search through all your articles and get a printable version of your articles.

These 3 Plug-Ins come installed by default and THEY DON'T NEED TO BE REGISTERED in the Plug-Ins screen (refer to the user guide for information on the plug-ins screen).

The "Send Article By E-Mail" Plug-In

This Plug-In has been developed to allow users to send articles by e-mail.

This Plug-In makes use of the e-mail parameters provided in the options screen, and doesn't need to be registered using the Plug-Ins screen.

If you want to allow your users to send articles by e-mail from your site, you'll need to create a link or button with the following parameters within your Template files (on one line).

For HTML Templates:

```
<a  
href="javascript:openppl('pplsendarticle.aspx?a=$$ARTICLEID$$',0,0,400,260)">Send This Article By E-mail</a>
```

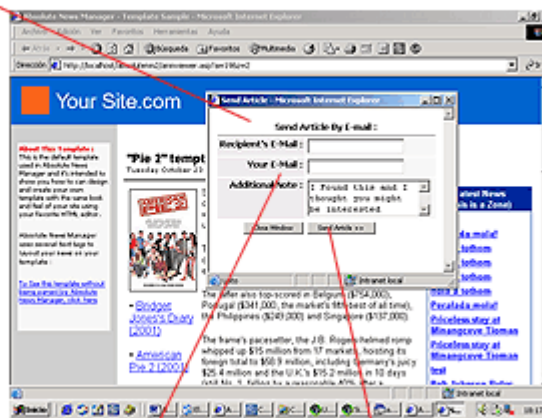
For ASP.NET Templates :

```
<a  
href="javascript:openppl('pplsendarticle.aspx?a=<%=anm.articleid%>',0,0,400,260)">Send This Article By E-mail</a>
```

By doing so, the Absolute News Manager will automatically insert the necessary code so that when a user clicks on this link, the Send Article by E-Mail Plug-In is loaded and will launch a pop-up window for allowing the user to e-mail the article.

You can change the "Send This Article By E-Mail" to any text you want, even an image button.

Plug-In being loaded after user clicks on link



Information Required

Send Button

Note:
If you take a closer look at the Plug-In code, you'll see that it makes a call to a javascript function named `openppl()`, you don't have to create this function as it is automatically generated by the Absolute News Manager when parsing a Template.
The `openppl()` function is the default javascript function generated by the Absolute News Manager to open Plug-Ins in Pop-Up windows.

The "Print This Article" Plug-In

This Plug-In has been developed so that users can have a print-ready version of your articles.

If you want to allow your users to get a printable version of the article they're reading, you'll have to create a link or button with the following parameters within your Template file.

For HTML Templates :

```
<a href="default.aspx?a=$$ARTICLEID$$&template=print-article.htm">Print Article</a>
```

For ASP Templates :

```
<a href="default.aspx?a=<%=anm.ARTICLEID%>&template=print-article.htm">Print Article</a>
```

By doing so, the Absolute News Manager will automatically insert the necessary code so that when a user clicks on this link, the Printable Version Plug-In is loaded and a printable version of the article is generated.

Note that this link uses the **ARTICLEID** Tag. This will tell the Absolute News Manager to replace this Tag with the ID of the currently shown article, so that when the user clicks on the link, the Plug-In will know which article to prepare for printing.

When an article using the Template with this code is displayed, you'll see a link with the text "Print Article". When a user clicks on the link, a print-ready version of the article will be displayed, so that the user can easily print it.

The printable version works by loading an article ID in an HTML template specially designed for printable versions of your articles named : **print-article.htm**. This file is also located in the Templates folder and can be customized in the same way as a normal Template file. Use your imagination, but bear in mind that a printable version of an article is intended for printing, so you may want to customize this file without too many graphics or banners (A logo and plain text is often a good idea).

The "Search Articles" Plug-In

The Search Articles Plug-In is a special program that will allow you to implement a simple search engine for your articles in any page of your site (or even outside your site!)

Enabling user searches is extremely easy. In order to implement a search box for the articles within your site, all you need to do is to create a FORM in each page where you want the search field to be displayed in the following way:

```
<form action="http://www.yoursite.com/absolutenm/PPLsearch.aspx">  
<input type="text" name="search">  
<input type="submit" name="Submit" value="Search">  
</form>
```

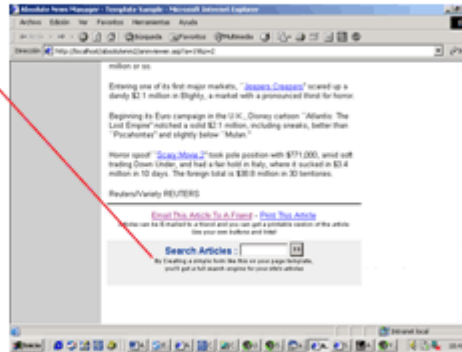
In the FORM ACTION, make sure to provide the URL to point to the PPLsearch.aspx file.

You can customize this FORM in any way you like, just make sure it contains a TEXT field named search and that it points to the PPLsearch.aspx file within your Absolute News Manager root directory.

The search results are displayed inside an ASP.NET page, you can customize the look and feel of this file by editing the PPLsearch.aspx file.

This Plug-In is an ASP.NET script. You may want to customize this file so that it matches your site's look and feel.

Search Form customized and
Displayed on a parsed template



Note :
When creating a search box in a .aspx file, make sure that the code is not within your ASP.NET <form runat=server> tags. Otherwise you'll have a form nested within a form which is invalid.

QUICK START GUIDE

1. Configuration (administrators only)	<p>The first thing you must do when using the Absolute News Manager for the first time is to set your configuration settings as explained in the installation guide :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Set the Absolute News Manager system to work with your SQL Server: Edit the web.config file in order to configure the proper database connection settings, security string and folder path.❑ Move the AbsoluteNewsManager.dll file from the application's /bin folder on your web site's /bin folder. You may need to create this folder at the very root of your web site.❑ Log into Absolute News Manager at http://www.yoursite.com/absolutenm using the default administrator username and password (admin/admin).❑ Click on the USERS option from the top menu and edit the default administrator with your own information (select a new username and password).❑ Click on the OPTIONS button from the top menu and configure the Absolute News Manager system by providing the necessary information and your Serial Number.❑ Set at least one Template file or edit the default Template (template.htm) file to match your site's look and feel. Use the Absolute News Manager Tags to layout the articles and create the "Send Article by E-mail" and "Print Article" buttons or links. Save your Templates and their files inside the Templates folder.
2. Define Your Headline Zones (Administrators only)	<p>Headline Zones are the places on your pages where you want your latest headlines to be displayed.</p> <p>For example: if you want to display news on your main page, then you may define a Zone named MAIN PAGE.</p> <p>Also, if you want to display headlines and news related to a special topic on your site (like music or sports) then you should create a Zone named MUSIC NEWS for the music</p>

	<p>news and a SPORTS NEWS for the sports news.</p> <p>By defining Zones, you'll be able to control the display of Headlines on your pages and classify your news.</p> <p>This allows you to place the code on your web page just once and then control which headlines should appear in which Zones.</p> <p>Your News can be scheduled so that the headlines displayed on the defined zones will periodically change based on the dates defined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ To create a Zone, click the Zones button in the Top Menu and then click on the CREATE NEW ZONE button.❑ Enter the New Zone Name and a short description of the Zone (optional) in the corresponding fields.❑ Select a Template file to use when a user clicks on an article from that zone (type the Template file name).❑ Select the properties that you want to control/modify: You can set the fonts, colors, sizes of the headlines, which elements to display (summary, headline date, thumbnail) , how to display the headlines (vertically or horizontally) and even a target frame to open the article.❑ Assign users (editors and publishers) to the Zone: Only the Publishers assigned to the Zone will be able to create and publish articles for the Zone.❑ Press the Save Zone Button.❑ The Zone will be created and its name will be added to the Zone list.❑ You can add as many Zones or subzones as you want and further assign publishers to any Zone. Also you can have different templates for each Zone or use the same one.❑ Next to each Zone is a code (Code for Zone). You need to copy and paste this code into each of your pages containing the Zone you just defined. E.g. You'll place the MAIN ZONE code on your main page where you want your headlines to be displayed, or you'll place the MUSIC NEWS Zone code on your music related pages. This Zone code can override the default Zone
--	--

	<p>options by passing additional parameters (see the Zone Section for details), thus allowing you to display the headlines with different styles than the zone's predefined options.</p>
<p>3. Create Publishers, Editors and Administrators (administrators only)</p>	<p>Publishers are the users in charge of publishing and maintaining articles on your site.</p> <p>Editors are the users in charge of publishing and approving content.</p> <p>Administrators are the users in charge of maintaining the application and they can also publish content.</p> <p>By defining Publishers and assigning them to Zones, they'll be able to log into the Absolute News Manager System using their corresponding usernames and passwords and provide content to their zones.</p> <p>For example: if you want to have sports news, you may want to register some Publishers and assign them to the Sports Zone.</p> <p>An editor then may review this content and approve it, publish it or assign it to another publisher.</p> <p>Administrators can freely add as many users as they want and assign them to any Zones at any time.</p> <p>Administrators have full access over the application.</p>
<p>4. Create Articles</p>	<p>To create a new article, click on the 'New Art.' button on the top menu.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ A pop-up window will be displayed, type a headline for the new article and you'll be taken to the ARTICLE PROPERTIES screen. ❑ Set the article's headline date, source and summary. Set a Start Date and Ending date to schedule the headline displaying of the article on the assigned Zone (explained later). ❑ If you're an editor or administrator, or the option to have the editors review the article before publishing (options menu) is not selected, you'll be able to set the status for the article. Select the current article status as Publish (Use Expired in case you don't want to display the headline

	<p>anymore). You can also set it to Pending if the article is waiting for approval or is being composed or edited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Select the Zones and subzones on your site where you want the headline for this article to be displayed. Publishers will be allowed to select only from their assigned zones. ❑ If the content is external (located outside Absolute News Manager), type the corresponding URL to the article. If you're going to create and compose an article, then edit and compose the article using the TEXT or the HTML editor. <p>By using the On-Line HTML Editor you can directly paste articles from Microsoft Word or other applications and enhance your articles using hyperlinks, colors, formatting and fonts without having to know HTML. Note: In order to use the On-Line HTML Editor you'll need to use Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 or higher.</p> <p>Also, you can use the TEXT editor to compose articles or directly paste HTML code.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ You can upload images and file to enhance your articles or insert them directly into the content using the HTML editor, as well as set related articles by providing the proper article ID. ❑ You can upload an article thumbnail for displaying on your zones, provide an optional description and keywords for the new article. ❑ Once finished, click the View Article Button and you'll be presented with the article information and the full article as will be displayed using the Zone Template. By selecting any other zone, the article will be displayed using the corresponding zone template.
<p>5. Publish your content</p>	<p>If you pasted the Zone codes on your site and there are articles published (status set to Publish), your headlines will be listed in the Zones depending on the start date that you previously set.</p> <p>When your visitors click on the headlines displayed in the Zones, The Absolute News Manager will display the full article using the Template file assigned to that Zone.</p>

	<p>If you've created the Plug-In links, users will be able to print the article, send it by e-mail and search all your articles.</p> <p>Every time you log into the Absolute News Manager you'll be able to search for your current articles and browse its content.</p>
<p>6. Enhance the System by Using Plug-Ins</p>	<p>If you want, you can add and register new Plug-Ins in your Absolute News Manager System to further enhance its functionality. At XIGLA SOFTWARE we're developing new Plug-Ins that will let you get more from your Absolute News Manager.</p> <p>Check out our site for more information on Plug-Ins being developed: http://www.xigla.com</p>

ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER OPTIONS

The Absolute News Manager is extremely easy to use. In order to operate the System, you just need the menu at the top of the screen. There, you'll find all the system options, which are explained below.

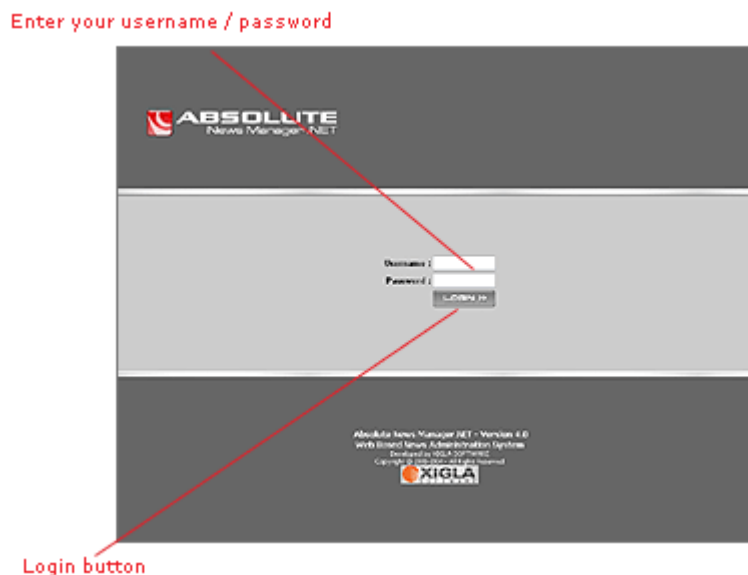
Login Screen

To access the Absolute News Manager, point your browser to <http://www.yourdomain.com/absolutem> or the URL set during installation of the program.

Once there, use your assigned username and password to access the application.

By default, the Absolute News Manager comes configured with both "admin" for the administrator's username and password. If you set a different username and password you'll have to use it in order to access the application.

The login screen also provides a password reminder in case that your publishers forget their passwords.



Search Screen

Use this option to browse and search through your articles

To search your articles you may enter any search criteria combination in the search box:

- ❑ **Keywords** : Enter the keywords to look for in your content and select if the returned articles should match any or all the keywords or if you are looking for an exact phrase.
- ❑ **Publisher Name / ID** : Type part of the name of the publisher or his/her ID to look for articles created by that publisher.
- ❑ **Featured** : Select if the search should be made only in the featured articles or not.
- ❑ **Zone**: Select a zone to list articles assigned to that particular zone.
- ❑ **Status**: Select the current status of the articles you want to list.
 - **Publish**: Articles with headlines currently available (published) and being displayed on your Zones, or scheduled to appear at a future date.
 - **Pending**: Articles just being created (under construction) or waiting for approval.
 - **Expired**: Old News. Articles whose headline has finished their displaying period on your Zones and should not be available.
 - **Archived** : If the option to allow browsing of archived articles is active (Options screen) you'll be able to search articles that have been archived.
- ❑ **Article Ids** : Type one or more article ID's separated by comma, to look for them directly.
- ❑ **Displayed Between**: Check this option and select two dates to list articles that were made available and displayed on their assigned zones during the selected period.
- ❑ **Modified Between**: Check this option and select two dates to list articles that were modified during the selected period.

Click the "VIEW ARTICLE" button to list all the articles that match your search criteria.

The Absolute News Manager will list the found articles and display the following information:

- ❑ **Articles Found**: Number of articles returned that matched your search criteria.

- ❑ **Article** : Article headline, publisher name and summary. Click the headline to view the full article with its properties.
- ❑ **ID** : Displays the article ID.
- ❑ **Source**: The article source.
- ❑ **Display** : Shows the article schedule (when it will appear on your zones).
- ❑ **Status**: Current article status (Publish, Pending, Expired or Archived).
- ❑ **Views**: Number of times that the article has been viewed by your site visitors.
- ❑ **View**: Click the View button to view the full article and its properties.
- ❑ **Edit**: Click the edit button in order to modify and edit the article. Only the article's author (Publisher) or the administrators and editor assigned to the zone will be able to modify the article.
- ❑ **Delete**: Click the Delete button to delete an article from the database. Only the article's author (Publisher) or the administrators and editor assigned to the zone will be able to delete the article.

You can sort the search results by clicking on the corresponding icon below each of the articles found properties

Also there are additional buttons on this screen:



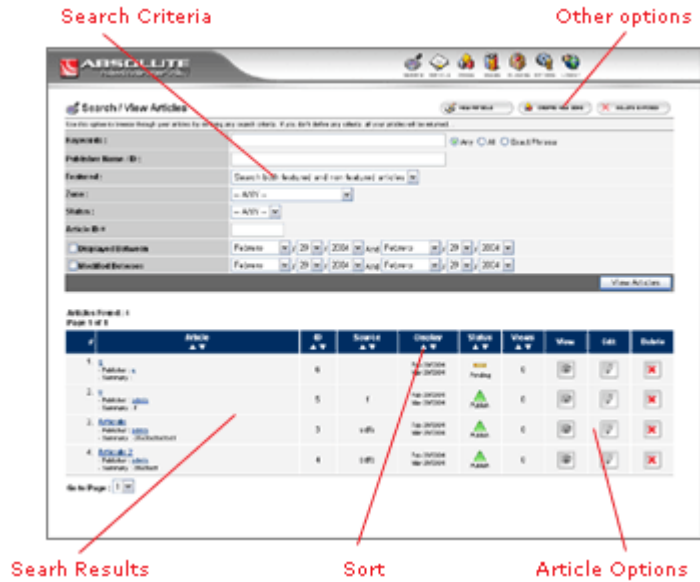
New Article: Use this option to create new articles.



Create New Zone: Use this option to define new zones (Administrators only).



Delete Expired : Use this option to delete all the expired articles from the database (administrators only).



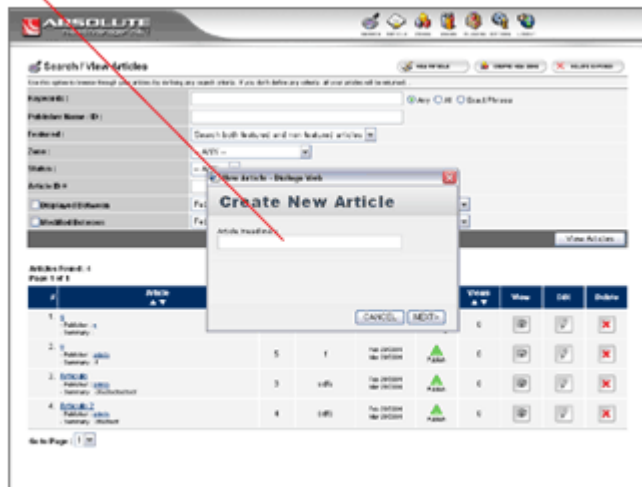
Compose New Article

Use this option to create and publish articles on your site.

Creating articles is extremely easy with the Absolute News Manager. All you have to do is provide the article information, attach any files you want to include with the article and select any related content.

To create a new article, click on the "ARTICLE" button from the top menu. A pop-up window will be displayed asking for the article headline / title :



Type the headline for the new article and press Next



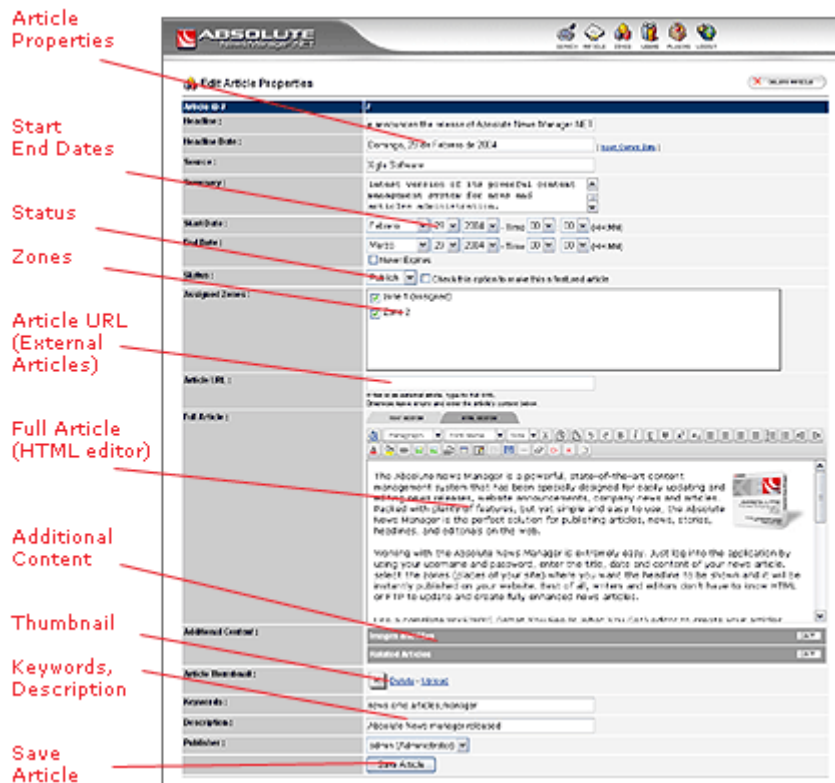
Type the article's title and click next, the ARTICLE PROPERTIES screen will be loaded allowing you to edit the article.

ARTICLE PROPERTIES

- ❑ **Article ID** : Displays the ID of the article.
- ❑ **Headline**: The article's title.
- ❑ **Headline Date**: Enter a date for the article. This is a text field, so you can enter any text and information for the date that you consider necessary or click the "Insert Current Date" to insert the actual date in the proper field.
- ❑ **Source**: If you want, you can provide a source for the article. For example : Reuters, CNN, or even the name of the Publisher.
- ❑ **Summary**: If you want, you may provide a brief summary/teaser for the article.
- ❑ **Start Date and End Date**: Enter the corresponding dates to schedule the release of the news headline in the corresponding Zone. The article will become available (the headline will be displayed on your zones) once the start date is reached and will appear in the zone until the end date is reached. You can also set the hour and minute when the article will began to be available as well as to set the article to never expire by checking the corresponding option.
- ❑ **Status**: A Publish status means that this article is ready to be published and is available on the site and the headline will be displayed on the zones according to the start and ending date. A Pending status is used when an article is under construction or waiting for approval and an Expired status means that the headline will no longer be shown in the Zone and is not available anymore. If the options to browse archived articles is enabled (Options screen) you'll be able to set the status of an article as archived.
- ❑ **Set Article as Featured** : When an article is set as featured, it has priority to be displayed first on the zones assigned. Also, the zones let you enhance the headlines for the featured articles through HTML and CSS (I.E : using a bolder font or displaying an image next to the headline in the zone).
- ❑ **Zones**: Select the zones and subzones where the article belongs. When the start date comes, the headline of the article will be shown on the specified zones. Publishers can only access their assigned Zones.

- ❑ **Article URL** : If the article is outside Absolute News Manager, type the URL to the full article.
- ❑ **Full Article** : If you are composing an article, you can edit it here. The Absolute News Manager has two editors available for editing articles (click on the proper tab to select each one) :
 - **TEXT Editor**: This is a simple text editor with no rich-editing features. You can use it to directly write your articles or pasting pure HTML code. The Don't Auto Format option must be checked when you enter pure HTML code. Not checking this option will make the system automatically format the text article into HTML.
 - **On-Line HTML Editor**: The Absolute News Manager comes with its own HTML web-based editor. Using this editor you can visually edit your articles and enhance them with colors, fonts, links, tables and images. Also you can directly paste formatted text from other programs like Microsoft Word. Publishers don't need to know HTML when working with this editor as it is a What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) editor.
- ❑ **Additional Content / Images and Files** : Click on the  button to display the Images and Files panel, you can upload files to attach to your articles from this screen.
- ❑ **Additional Content / Related Articles** : Click on the  button to display the related articles panel. You can set articles related to the new content by providing the article ID or doing a search through the ADD RELATED TOOL button
- ❑ **Article Thumbnail** : If you want, you can add a thumbnail for the article to display in your zones by clicking on the UPLOAD button. You'll be able to select an image from your local drive to upload and even resize it.
- ❑ **Keywords** : You can set several keywords to classify the article (this option is useful for the KEYWORD META TAG when displaying the full article on your site).
- ❑ **Description** : You can set an optional description for the article (this option is useful for the DESCRIPTION META TAG when displaying the full article on your site).
- ❑ **Publisher**: If you're an editor or administrator, you can reassign the article to another publisher by selecting it from this drop-down list.

- **Save Article:** Saves the article and takes you to the View Article Screen where you can preview it using the Zone Templates (for the Zones that the article has been assigned to) and see all the assigned properties.



Note :
Creating a Summary only articles :
 You can create a summary only article (an article without any content) by just providing a summary and with no URL or content. This is useful for example, if you want to list events in a zone.

Adding In-Line files to the articles :
 If you check the option to SET AS ASSET in the IMAGES AND FILES panel, you will be able to use the file directly from the HTML editor during the article edition.

Editing Multipage Articles

You can type the full article using either the TEXT editor or the HTML editor which can be selected by clicking on the appropriate TAB.

The HTML editor provides several buttons that resembles a word processing editor like Microsoft Word or an HTML editor like MS FrontPage.

One of the features of Absolute News Manager, is its option to support multipage articles. To do so, all you have to do is type the word `$$PAGE$$` (or click the Page break button in the HTML editor) to tell the editor that a new article is being edited.

For example, by typing the following into the HTML editor, you'll have a 2 pages article :


Here is page 1

`$$PAGE$$`

Here is page 2

Images and Files Panel

You can attach an unlimited number of files to your articles. By attaching images, audio, videos and even URLs, your articles will be greatly enhanced. To upload an attach files to an article, open the IMAGES AND FILES panel.

- ❑ **Title:** Provide a title for the file that you are attaching like the name of the picture, the file or the name of the link.
- ❑ **Comments:** Provide any comment to further describe the file. For example you may attach a picture, enter the name of the picture and then type a description of the picture here.
- ❑ **Upload File:** Use this option to upload a local file to the server and attach it to the article. Click on the BROWSE button to search your local drive and select the file that you want to upload.
- ❑ **File URL:** If you don't want to upload a file, but to link to it, you can provide the URL to the file that you want to attach to the article, just type the full URL to the file or link that you want to attach. If you have support for Absolute Image Gallery you can use it to select the file from your multimedia gallery system by clicking on the  icon (This button will only appear if Absolute Image Gallery is available and set to be used from Absolute News Manager as explained in the installation guide).

- ❑ **Width / Height** : You can optionally set the width and height of the file (useful for Images, Video and Flash files).
- ❑ **File Type:** The Absolute News Manager classifies the attached files as images, audio files, Flash , video files, links, or any other type of file. Just select the correct file type to classify the attached item.
- ❑ **Set As Asset** : An ASSET file type is used for inserting pictures and files directly to the article using the HTML editor. Any file uploaded and set as asset can be used directly from the HTML editor and will not be parsed into the template using the appropriate tags. If you do not enable this option, then the file type will be parsed directly into the template using the appropriate tags. I.E : Any file uploaded as IMAGE will appear on the template just where the IMAGE tag has been located.
- ❑ **TAG ID #** : Use it to number the file uploaded and allow direct access through it by using the proper tag. For example, if you upload an image and set its tag as 3, you will be able to access the image using the \$\$IMAGE3\$\$ tag. This option will only work for files not set as assets and parsed directly into the DB.

Once you've provided all the information, click on the SUBMIT FILE to attach the file to the article. You can upload as many files as you want.

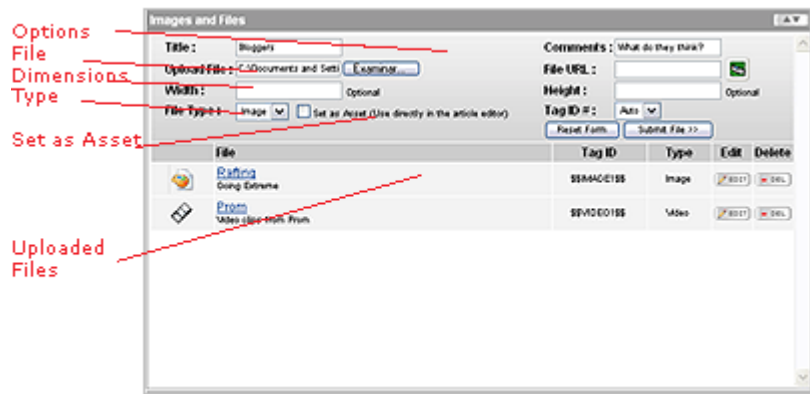
The attached files will be listed with their options to access and view the files and delete them.

Note :

In order to Upload files to attach to your articles the ARTICLEFILES folder inside your Absolute News Manager directory must have write permission.

Remember :

Only files uploaded as ASSET can be inserted directly within your article using the HTML editor. Otherwise the files will be parsed in the template using the corresponding tag (I.E : \$\$IMAGES\$\$ will display the files uploaded as IMAGE, \$\$LINKS\$\$ will display the files submitted as LINKS)



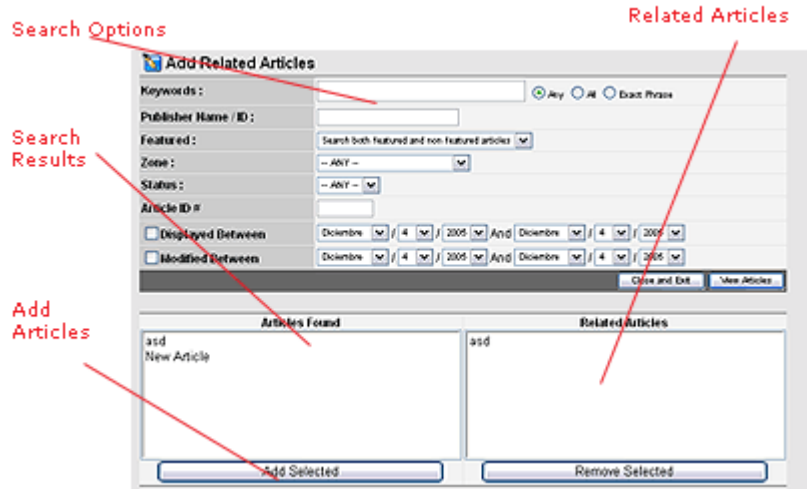
Related Articles Panel

If you want, you can add related articles to the article being edited by opening the RELATED ARTICLES panel and providing the ID of the article to set as related.

To get the article ID, you can do a search in the search screen which lists each article with its ID.

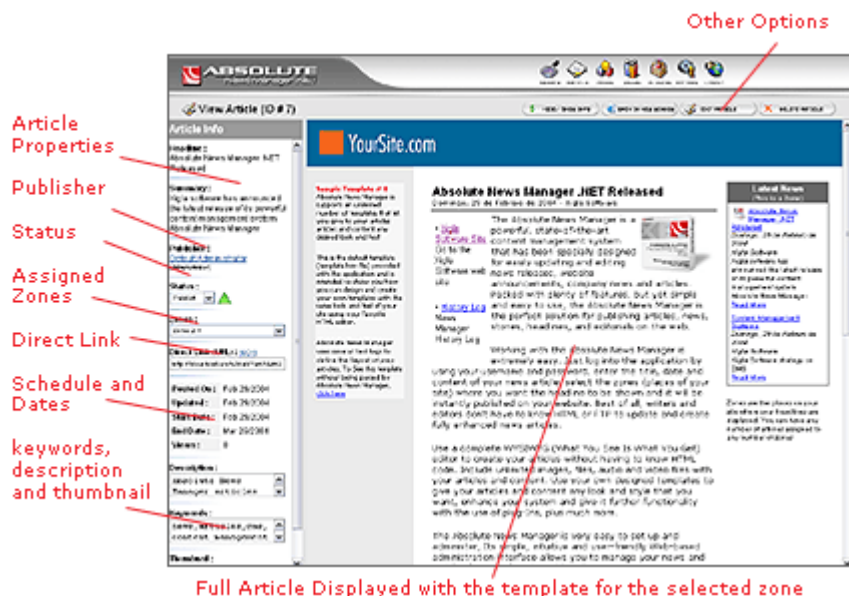


You can also use the ADD RELATED TOOL which is an advanced search screen which lets you select which articles to related to the content being edited in a very easy way.



View Article

To view an article, you must click on the VIEW button from the search screen or create a new article. This option will display all the article properties and will let you preview it exactly as it will be shown on your site using the Templates for the Zones that you have assigned the article to.

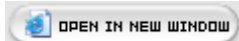


By selecting a different zone from the left section, the article will be parsed using the the template for the selected zone (The direct link will be also updated)

Also, there are additional options when viewing an article in Absolute News Manager an article:



Hide / Show Info : Hides the properties panel to display the article in the full frame.



Open in New Window : Click this button to view the article in a full new window.



Edit Article : Click to edit the current article.



Delete Article: Click to delete the current article.



Zones

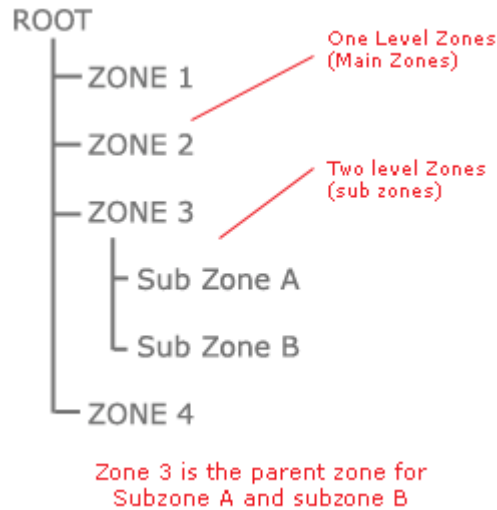
This option lets you create and define the zones for your site.

Zones are the places on your site where you want the Absolute News Manager to display your latest headlines.

Zones also work as categories used to classify your articles. By defining Zones, your users will see your latest headlines grouped so that they can easily access them.

For example, if you want to have a section for music related articles on your site, then you may define a Zone named MUSIC ARTICLES, and create articles for this Zone. Then just copy and paste the Zone code into each page where you want your music related headlines to be displayed, and your users will access your music articles by clicking on the corresponding headline.

You can also have subzones, for example for a MUSIC zone, you might create several subzones for each musical genere. Absolute News Manager supports 2 level deep zones : Zones and subzones.



The ZONES screen provides a complete list with all your zones and subzones along with the following information :

- ❑ **Zone Name/Description:** The name of the Zone / Subzone , its optional description as well as template file and maximum number of headlines to display.
- ❑ **Zone ID :** The ID Number for referencing the zone / subzone.
- ❑ **Code for Headline Zone:** Copy and Paste this code in each page where you want to display the headlines of the articles that you'll assign to each Zone.

Absolute News Manager provides four types of codes which you can select from the DROP DOWN Menu :

- **Javascript Inject :** Use this code to display your headlines on any page regardless of the extension. The Javascript code is similar to this one :

```
<script language="JavaScript" src="http://site/anm/xlaabsolutem.aspx?z=1"></script>
```

This code is helpful for syndicating your content to external web sites.

- **IFRAME** : Similar to the Javascript in that it allows you to display your headlines into any page by using an inline frame. This is very practical code as it can quickly load your headlines without delay, the headlines can be crawled by web spiders and it lets you display the headlines on small sections on your site (the Iframe provides an scroll bar). The code is similar to this one:

```
<iframe width=100% height=100% allowtransparency=true
src=http://domain.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=1
&isframe=1 frameborder=0 scrolling=auto marginheight=0
marginwidth=0></iframe>
```

- **Javascript HTTP Post** : This code lets you retrieve the headlines only if the News Manager is on the same domain as the page calling the headlines. It behaves similar to the Javascript code but is faster. It makes use of an HTTP post which might not be usable for older browsers. It requires a call to a Javascript file once in the pages :

```
<script language=JavaScript
src=/absolutenm/anmgrab.aspx></script>
```

And then the following code per each zone call :

```
<script>
xlaanm( '/anmnet42/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=1' );
</script>
```

- **ASP.NET User Control** : You can directly display your headlines on ASP.NET pages by using the provided user control. This code works by registering the control in your ASP.NET page and then instantiating the control with the URL to the zone rendering script (xlaabsolutenm.asp) :

```
<%@ Register TagPrefix="xigla" TagName="anm"
Src="xlagc.ascx" %>
```

```
<xigla:anm runat="server"
location="http://www.yoursite.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolute
nm.aspx?z=1"/>
```

The Control registration is only required once in your ASP.NET page, at the beginning of the ASPX script. Make sure that its SRC (source) attribute, points to the xlagc.ascx file in your Absolute News Manager directory.

Then, you can call and instantiate the control (<xigla:anm>) any number of times in the ASP.NET page. For the LOCATION property, you provide the full URL to the xlaabsolutenm.aspx file along with some parameters to render the headlines.

This is an advanced code, please refer to the .NET Framework documentation from Microsoft for info on how to use user controls on your ASP.NET pages.

- **ASP Include Call** : Use this code for ASP pages. The ASP include call works by adding a single include (xlaGC.asp) to your ASP pages and then calling a function on it called xlagc() :

```
<!-- #include file="xlaGC.asp" -->
<%=xlagc("http://site/anm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=1")%>
```

The xlaGC.asp file only has to be included once on your ASP pages. As it does not rely on paths or databases, you make copies of this file across your site's directories and call it directly with a simple include directive, without having to worry about paths.

The function xlagc() receives as a parameter the URL to the zone.

The following code, retrieves the headlines for 2 different zones into 2 variables and then renders them on the current ASP page :

```
<!-- #include file="xlaGC.asp" -->
<%
'/// Variables that will hold the headlines
dim headlines1
dim headlines2

'/// using the xlagc() function to retrieve the headlines from
'/// site/anm/

headlines1=xlagc("http://site/anm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=1")
headlines2=xlagc(http://site/anm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=2)

'/// Displaying the headlines in the page
response.write headlines1
response.write headlines2
%>
```

- **Link to RSS Newsfeed** : You can syndicate your content to other sites via an XML RSS Newsfeed. Absolute News Manager provides

you with a code to syndicate each of your zones. Many sites accept this format like <http://www.syndic8.com> and <http://www.newsisfree.com> . The RSS Newsfeed outputs an XML file with links and summaries of your articles that is easily accessible to other sites.

RSS is an advanced topic out of the scope of this user manual. You might want to do a search on Google for more information about RSS Newsfeeds

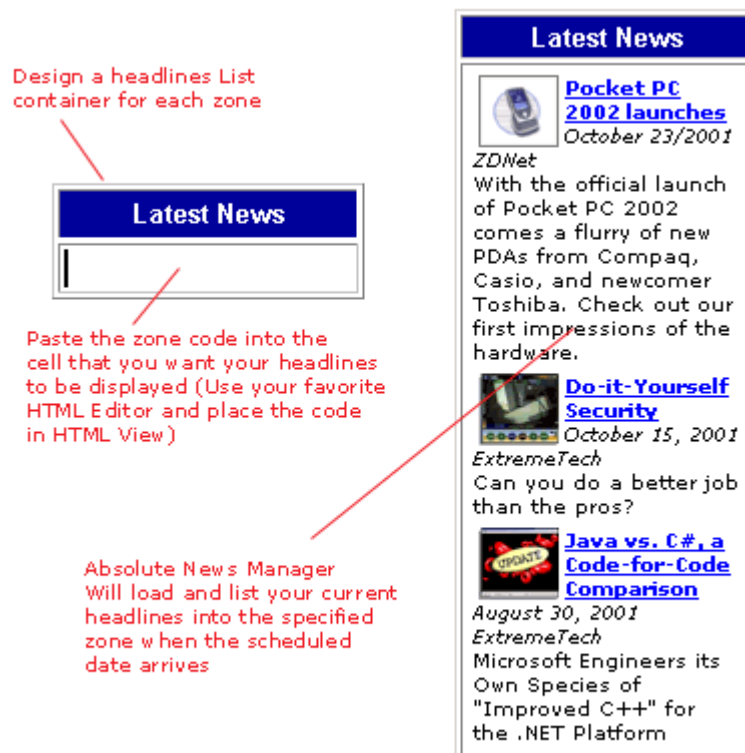
When a page with any of these codes is displayed (except for the RSS Newsfeed code which outputs XML code), the Absolute News Manager will show a list of the current articles assigned to that Zone. This listing is shown inside a border-less table that resizes to 100% of the cell's width where you placed the code into.

You may want to create a table such as the one below to display the headlines for each Zone (you can display your headlines both horizontally or vertically):

Design a headlines List container for each zone

Paste the zone code into the cell that you want your headlines to be displayed (Use your favorite HTML Editor and place the code in HTML View)

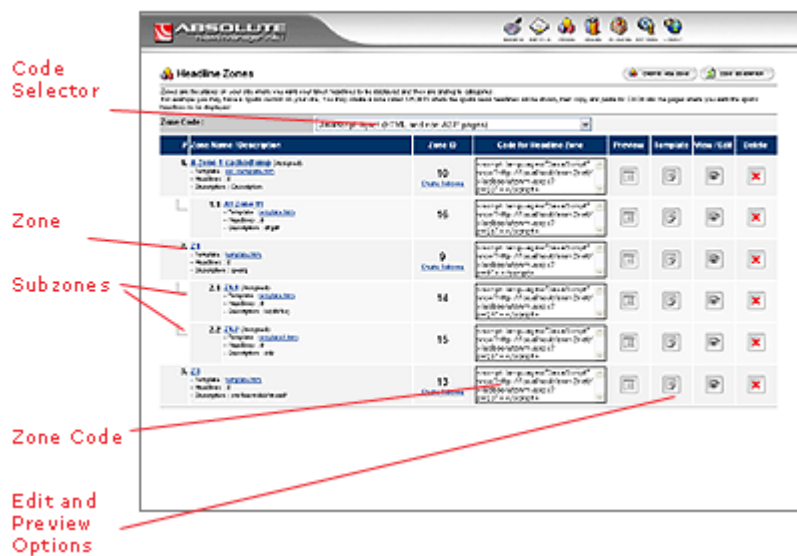
Absolute News Manager Will load and list your current headlines into the specified zone when the scheduled date arrives



The diagram illustrates the process of displaying news headlines. On the left, a blue header box labeled 'Latest News' is shown above a white rectangular container. Red arrows point from the text instructions to these elements. On the right, a preview of the news feed output is shown, featuring a blue header 'Latest News' and three news items, each with a small image, a title, a date, and a source. The items are: 'Pocket PC 2002 launches' (October 23, 2001, ZDNet), 'Do-it-Yourself Security' (October 15, 2001, ExtremeTech), and 'Java vs. C#, a Code-for-Code Comparison' (August 30, 2001, ExtremeTech).

- **Preview:** Click the preview button to see how the zone will display at any given date.

- ❑ **Template:** Click the Template Button to view the Zone's assigned Template without being parsed. This Template will be later used to display and layout your articles.
- ❑ **Edit:** Click the Edit Button to edit the Zone properties and assign Publishers to it.
- ❑ **Delete:** Click the delete button to delete a Zone. Also, you'll need to delete the code from the pages that contained that Zone. All the articles assigned to that zone (and its subzones) will be automatically deleted.




Creating New Zones (Administrators Only)

The Absolute News Manager uses zones to display your latest headlines. Zones can be assigned templates to parse your article and content, plus they provide a set of properties to let you fully customize look and feel of your headlines displayed on your pages.

Only System Administrators will be able to edit and create new Zones. To create a new Zone, click on the Create New Zone button or in the Create Subzone link displayed next to each main zone.

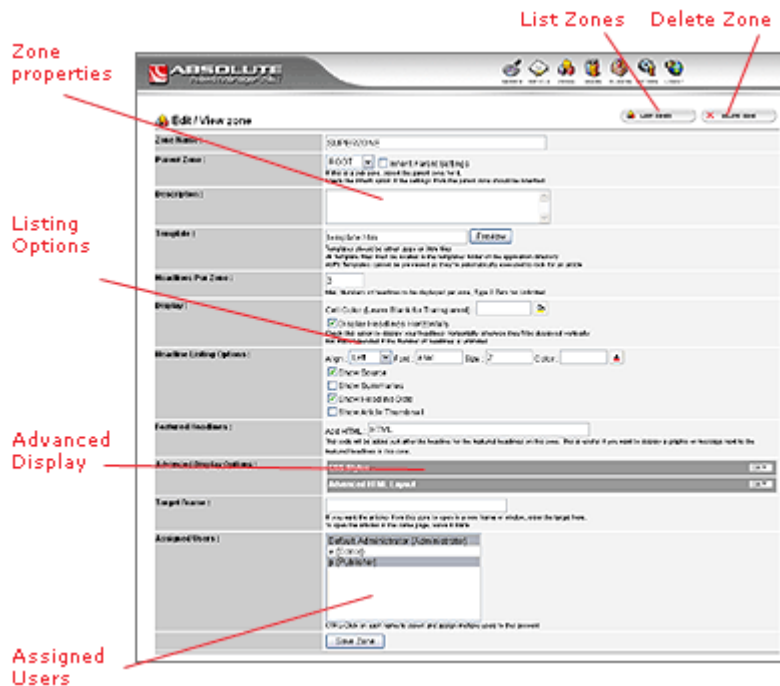
The Zone Properties will be displayed. These properties allow you to control how your headlines will be displayed:

- ❑ **Zone Name:** Enter a name to identify the new Zone. For example, if you want to have sports news, you may name a Zone "Sports". Also your zones work as categories to let you classify your articles, so a good category name will be a perfect Zone name.
- ❑ **Parent Zone :** If you are creating a main zone (one level), select ROOT. If you want to create a subzone (two level) select the parent zone.
- ❑ **Inherit Parent settings :** If you are creating a subzone, you can inherit all the properties from the parent zone. In this way, a change to the parent zone will be reflected immediately in all your sub zones.
- ❑ **Description:** Provide an optional description for the new Zone.
- ❑ **Template:** Enter the full name of the file that will be used as Template for articles assigned to this Zone. Your Templates must be located inside the Templates folder. You can have .html templates and .aspx templates, no other extensions are allowed. The default Template file is template.htm.
- ❑ **Headlines Per Zone:** Allows you to limit the number of headlines to be displayed on a zone. Type 0 (Zero) if you want to display all the articles that are currently available (published) on the zone.
- ❑ **Display:** Allows you to control the display of the cells containing your headlines:
 - **Cell Width :** You can optionally enter the width in pixels or percentage of the cell containing each headline
 - **Cell height :** You can optionally enter the height of each cell in pixels or percentage of the cell containing each headline
 - **Cell padding / Cell Spacing :** Margins of the cell containing each headline
 - **Cell Color:** If you want, provide a color for each headline cell.
 - **Display Headlines Horizontally:** Headlines can be displayed either horizontally or vertically. If you want your headlines to be displayed horizontally, you'll need to check this option. It is a good idea to limit the number of headlines per Zone when displaying them horizontally, otherwise, if you have a lot of active articles, your pages may end up displaying an annoying horizontal scroll bar.
- ❑ **Headline Listing Options:** Lets you control which information to display and which fonts to use with your headlines:
 - **Align, Font, Size, Color:** Select how the headlines will be aligned set a font (type the font name, I.E : arial), size and color.
 - **Show Source:** Check this option to display the source of your articles.

- **Show Summaries:** Check this option to display the summary / teaser of your articles.
 - **Show Headline's Dates:** Check this option to display the headline date of your articles.
 - **Show Article Thumbnail:** If your article has a thumbnail and you want it to be shown on your Zone, check this option.
- **Featured Headlines :** When an article is set as featured, it will have priority to be displayed first on your zones. This option lets you add a snippet of HTML to the headlines for articles set a featured. This is useful if you want to add a small bullet or text along with your featured headlines. You need to type the HTML code that you want to add to your featured headlines.
 - **Advanced display options :** Lets you set advanced display options for your headlines as CSS styles for each element (headline, source, summary) or even define the layout of the zone by using HTML.
 - **CSS Styles :** Use this option to define independent CSS styles for each element displayed on a zone. Please note that these settings will override any listing options defined like the font, size, color and alignment. To use this option, click on the  button and simply provide a CSS style or enter the CSS class name for the element that you want. If you enter the name of the CSS class to be used then make sure that the pages where you paste the zone code have the proper definition of the CSS Classes
 - **Advanced HTML Layout :** This option lets you define the exact layout for your templates. This can be useful if you want to include HTML elements with your zones or set alignments and fonts. This option will override any setting defined in the zone. Refer to the Advanced HTML Layout section for information on how to use this option.
 - **Default Thumbnail :** If you enabled the option to display thumbnails for the current zone, you could set a default thumbnail which will be displayed in case that an article assigned to the zone does not have an assigned thumbnail.
 - **Target Frame:** If your site is using frames and you want your Zone to be displayed on one frame and open its articles on another, you should enter the name of the target frame here. Also, if you want your articles to open on a new window when a headline is clicked, you should type the target frame `_blank` . If you want your articles to display on the same page/frame, leave this field blank.

- ❑ **Assigned Users** : Select the Publishers/ Editors / Administrators that will be assigned to this Zone. Publishers will be allowed to edit articles to their assigned Zones only.

Click the Save Button and your new Zone will be created. Remember that you can have different Templates for each Zone : If you want your music news to be displayed with a different look than your sports news, you may have 2 different Templates and assign one to each Zone.



Note:

Inheriting Zone Settings:
When a zone is set to inherit its parent zone settings, any change made to the parent zone (main zone) will be immediately de made to all the subzones inheriting its settings.

Advanced Display :
By setting a CSS style for the elements of a zone, any displaying settings for it will be overridden.

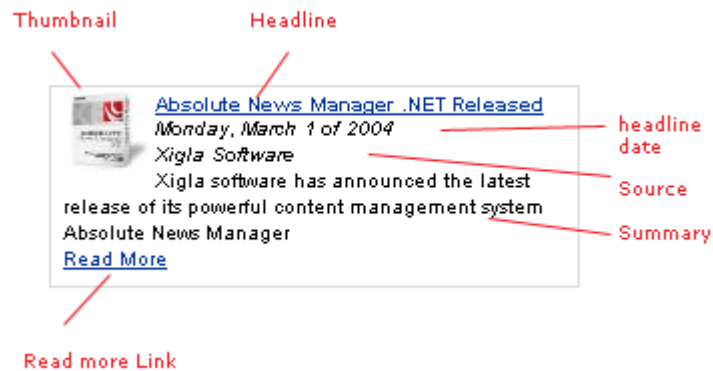
Overriding Zone Parameters :
When you create a Zone, the values provided are considered the default settings. However those values can be overridden by passing a new set of parameters in the URL used for the zone code previously explained

(the URL pointing to the xlaabsolutenm.aspx file). Thus allowing you to have the same Zone displayed in different ways.
To see how to override these parameters refer to the "Overriding Zone Parameters" section.

Advanced HTML Layout

When a zone code is pasted on a page, the Absolute News Manager will render a list with the articles assigned to that zone according to the settings defined in the zone (fonts, colors, etc).

When a headline is displayed in a zone using the default settings and selecting all the options might look like this :

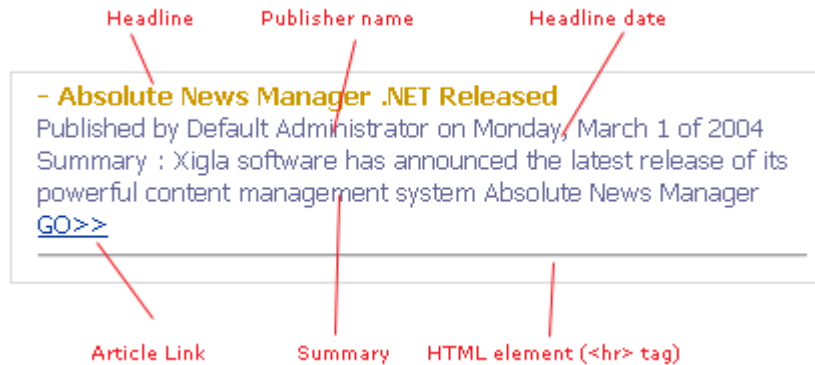


However, the way the headlines are displayed can be modified through the Advanced HTML Layout option.

This option lets you define specific layouts for the headlines in a zone by combining HTML with some special tags.

For instance, by inserting the following HTML code into the Advanced HTML layout option, the headlines will have a different layout :

```
<font size="2" face="Tahoma" color="#CC9900">
<b>- $$HEADLINE$$</b><br>
<font color="#666699">Published by $$PUBLISHER$$ on
$$HEADLINEDATE$$<br>
Summary : $$SUMMARY$$<br>
<a href="$$ARTICLEURL$$">GO<gt ;&gt ;</a><br>
</font></font>
<hr>
```



As you can see from the code provided, we have used some special tags enclosed within \$\$ symbols like `$$HEADLINE$$`, `$$PUBLISHER$$` and `$$HEADLINE DATE$$` as well as HTML for defining fonts (Tahoma font, size 2) and even added an HTML element like an Horizontal Rule (`<hr>` tag), to provide a completely different layout from the default one previously shown. This, ensures a greater flexibility as you can perfectly set how your headlines should be displayed on your zones.

The advanced HTML layout option supports any HTML code as well as the following tags for the article elements :

\$\$HEADLINE\$\$

Displays the article headline.

\$\$HEADELINE DATE\$\$

Displays the article headline date.

\$\$SUMMARY\$\$

Displays the article summary.

\$\$SOURCE\$\$

Displays the article source.

\$\$THUMBNAIL FILE\$\$

Returns the full Url to the thumbnail image file, should be used with an `` HTML tag. I.E ``

\$\$PUBLISHER\$\$

Displays the publisher name.

\$\$ARTICLE ID\$\$

Returns the Article ID.

\$\$ZONE ID\$\$

Returns the Zone ID.

Note:

You can use HTML code combined with the special `$$TAGS$$` for defining the layout of each headline on the zone.

When using an advanced HTML layout, any listing options previously set will be overridden.

Please note that this layout affects how each single headline is displayed, it will not affect the cell color or the number of headlines to display in a zone

Overriding the Default Zone Parameters

When creating a Zone, you define several parameters in order to display and list your headlines the way you want.

Once a Zone is created, the application provides a zone code that needs to be pasted in each page of your site. For Instance, when using the Javascript Inject code, the code provided is similar to the one shown below :

```
<script language="JavaScript"  
src="http://www.site.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=1"></script>
```

Please note that there is a mandatory question mark (?) inside the code in the SRC (source) attribute. This means that several parameters will be passed to the application. In this case, the parameter `z=1` is being passed. Where `z` is the parameter for Zone and `1` corresponds to the Zone ID # 1, thus this code will display the headlines for the Zone with Zone ID 1 using the displaying options that you configured when creating the Zone.

However, you can override those parameters and present the same Zone in a different way.

For example, a Zone has been set to display all of your available headlines vertically without its thumbnails. By overriding the zone parameters, you can make this same Zone to display only 4 headlines, horizontally and with thumbnails. You don't have to create a new Zone with these new settings; you can just override the default parameters.

For overriding the Zone parameters the line of code can be modified in the following way by adding some new parameters (in red) with a value (in green):

```
<script language="JavaScript"  
src="http://site.com/anm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=[ZONEID(S)]&pz=  
[ZONEID]&p=[PUBLISHERID]&template=[FILE]&layout=[y,n]&feature  
d=[only,n,normal]&subzones=[y,n]&h=[0..n]&ss=[y,n]&sc=[y,n]&s  
d=[y,n]&st=[y,n]&d=[v,h]&al=[Align]&cc=[HexColor]&target=[Tar  
getFrame]&font=[font]&color=[HexColor]&size=[0..n]&startdate=[da  
te]&edate=[date]&pdate=[date]&isarchive=[y,n]&sort=[datafield  
&ord=[asc,desc]&css=[ClassName]&rmore=[text]&headlinecss=[Cl  
assName]&sourcecss=[ClassName]&summarycss=[ClassName]&headlin  
edatecss=[ClassName]&featuredcss=[ClassName]&cp=[pixels]&cs=[  
pixels]&cw=[n]&ch=[pixels]&cellcss=[ClassName]"></script>
```

❑ **z : ZONE IDs**

Type the IDS of the zones that you want to display headlines for.

I.E : z=2

Will display the headlines from Zone ID 2

z=4,5,7

Will display the headlines zones 4,5 and 7

When using multiple zones, the settings used for displaying the headlines will be those for the first zone ID defined. In the above sample, the listings from zone 4,5 and 7 will show with the settings from zone ID 4

❑ **pz : Use properties from Zone**

You can set a zone to use the settings from another zone by using the PZ parameter.

I.E :

z=2&pz=4

Will list the headlines from zone ID 2 using the display settings from Zone ID 4

❑ **p : PUBLISHER ID**

Returns the headlines of the articles for a specific user. You can get the ID for each publisher in the USERS screen.

You will also need to set up the PZ parameter to tell the application which zone settings to use for displaying the headlines, otherwise nothing will be shown.

I.E : p=23&pz=4 will list the headlines for publisher with ID 23 using the display settings from zone ID 4

❑ **template : Use Template file**

Lets you select a template file for displaying your articles. When defining a zone, you define a template file to parse the full article, by passing a template file using this parameter, you can override the template parameter.

I.E : `z=2&template=mytemplate.htm` will display the headlines from zone id 2 and will parse the full article using the template file "mytemplate.htm". Remember that the templates should be located in the templates folder

❑ **layout : Use advanced HTML Layout**

Use this option to avoid using the advanced HTML layout of the zone. Can be either y (yes) or n (no).

I.E :

`z=2&pz=7&layout=n`

Will return the headlines from zone ID 2 using the settings from zone 7, however if zone 7 has a custom HTML layout defined, it will not be used.

`z=2&layout=n`

Will display the headlines from zone ID 2 without using its HTML layout

❑ **featured : option for featured articles**

This option lets you set what to do with the featured articles from a zone. It can have any of the following 3 values

only : the zone should display only featured articles

n : The zone should not display any featured articles at all

normal : the zone will display both normal and featured articles (default setting).

I.E : `z=3&featured=only` , will display the featured articles only for zone ID 3

`z=2&featured=n` , will display only the articles that have not been set as featured from `z=2` (no featured articles)

❑ **subzones : include headlines from subzones**

Whether or not the zone should also list headlines from articles assigned to its subzones.

It can be either y (yes) or n (no)

I.E :

`z=3&subzones=y`

Will display the headlines from `z=3` as well as the headlines from all its subzones.

- **h : Max. Number of headlines to be displayed**
 Sets how many headlines should be listed in a zone.
 By typing 0 (zero) all the headlines will be returned.
 I.E :
 z=4&h=5
 Will list 5 headlines for zone ID 4

- **ss : Show Summary**
 Sets whether or not to display the articles' summary.
 Can be either y (yes) or n (no).
 I.E :
 z=2&ss=y
 Will force the display of the summaries for the headlines of Zone ID 2.

- **sc : Show Source.**
 Sets whether or not to display the articles' source.
 Can be either y (yes) or n (no)
 I.E :
 z=2&sc=y
 Will force the display of the article source for Zone ID 2

- **sd : Show headline Date.**
 Sets whether or not to display the articles' headline date.
 Can be either y (yes) or n (no).
 I.E :
 z=4&sd=n
 Will not display the headline date for the headlines from zone ID 4

- **st : Show Thumbnail**
 Sets Whether or not to display the articles' thumbnail (if any)
 Can be either y (yes) or n (no).
 I.E :
 z=5&st=y
 Will force the display of thumbnails for the headlines from zone ID 5

- **d: Display (vertical or horizontal)**
 Sets how to display the headlines, can be either v (vertical) or h (horizontal).
 I.E :
 z=2&d=h
 Will display the headlines from Zone ID 2 horizontally.

When using this parameter set to horizontal is good to set the Max number Headlines per zone parameter to a low number in order to avoid

an horizontal scroll bar. This can be done directly when editing a zone or through the zone parameters :

`z=2&d=h&h=5`

Will display 5 headlines (h=5) for zone id 2 (z=2) horizontally (d=h).

❑ **al: Alignment**

Sets how to align the headlines.

Can be either left, center or right.

I.E :

`z=6&al=right`

Will display the headlines from zone id 6 using a right alignment.

❑ **cc: Cell Color**

Sets the color of the cell where the headlines are displayed.

Should be an hexadecimal value.

I.E :

`z=7&cc=CC00FF`

Will display the headlines for Zone ID 7 using the color CC00FF which corresponds to the hexadecimal value of fuchsia.

❑ **target: Target frame or window**

Defines a target frame to open the full articles.

I.E :

`z=3&target=MyFrame`

Will display the headlines from zone ID 3 and open the full articles in the frame named "MyFrame".

❑ **font: Font Face**

Sets the font for the text in a zone.

I.E :

`z=3&font=verdana`

Will list the headlines from Zone ID 3 using the verdana font.

❑ **color: Font Color**

Sets the text color.

Should be an hexadecimal value

I.E :

`z=3&color=0099FF`

Displays the headlines from Zone ID 3 using the color 0099FF which corresponds to the hexadecimal value of a light blue.

❑ **size: Font Size**

Sets the text size.

I.E :

z=3&size=2

Displays the headlines for zone ID 3 using size = 2

❑ **startdate : Start Date**

Display the headlines for articles with a specific start date.

The date provided should be in YYYY/MM/DD format.

You can pass a complete date or just part of it.

I.E :

z=2&startdate=2004/01

Will return headlines from Zone ID with start date Jan/2004

z=2&startdate=20

Will return all the articles whose start date begins with 20 (2001, 2002, 2010, 2099)

❑ **edate : End date**

Displays the headlines for articles with a specific end date.

The date provided should be in YYYY/MM/DD format.

You can pass a complete date or just part of it.

I.E :

z=2&edate=2002/04

Will display all the headlines from zone id 2 which expired in April/2002

z=2&edate=200

Will display all articles from zone ID 2 whose end date begins with 200 (2000,2001,2002,... 2009)

❑ **pdate : Posted date**

Display headlines with a defined posted date.

The date provided should be in YYYY/MM/DD format.

You can pass a complete date or just part of it.

I.E :

z=2&pdate=2002/01

Will return articles posted during january 2002

❑ **isarchive : Retrieve archived articles**

Can be either y (yes) or n (no).

By setting this parameter to y (Yes) the zone will return all its archived articles, this parameter should be combined with startdate, edate, or pdate to properly work.

I.E :

z=2&isarchive=y&startdate=2000

Will return all archived articles from zonde ID 2 published during year 2000

□ **sort : sorting criteria.**

You can pass any database field name to be used for sorting the headlines on the zone. You can use the following values to sort your headlines. :

- **articleid** : Sort the headlines by articleid.
- **posted** : Sort the headlines by date posted.
- **lastupdate** : Sort the headlines by last update date.
- **headline** : Sort the headlines by headline.
- **headlinedate** : Sort the headlines by headline date.
- **startdate** : Sort the headlines by start date.
- **enddate** : Sort the headlines by end date.
- **source** : Sort the headlines by source.
- **summary** : Sort the headlines by summary.
- **clicks** : Sort articles by hits.

I.E :

`z=2&sort=articleid`

Displays the headlines from zone id 2 sorted by article ID

It is a good idea to combine this parameter with the ORD parameter.

□ **Ord : Order**

Sets the order of the headlines in the zone.

Can be either asc (ascending) or desc (descending).

I.E :

`z=2&ord=desc&sort=clicks`

Displays the headlines from zine id 2 in descending order sorted by clicks (the most clicked headlines first).

□ **css:** CSS Class style

Inherits a class style for all the text in the zone.

You should pass the name from the CSS class from which the headlines should inherit the style.

A CSS class should be defined in the page where the code using this parameter is used.

I.E :

`z=3&CSS=mystyle`

Inherits the CSS style class "mystyle" to display all the headlines from zone id 3

□ **rmore** : Read More Label.

You can change the read more label by passing it as a parameter. Make sure to pass the spaces as a plus(+) signs.

I.E :

`z=4&rmore=click+here`

Will display the links with a "click here" message to follow get to the full article.

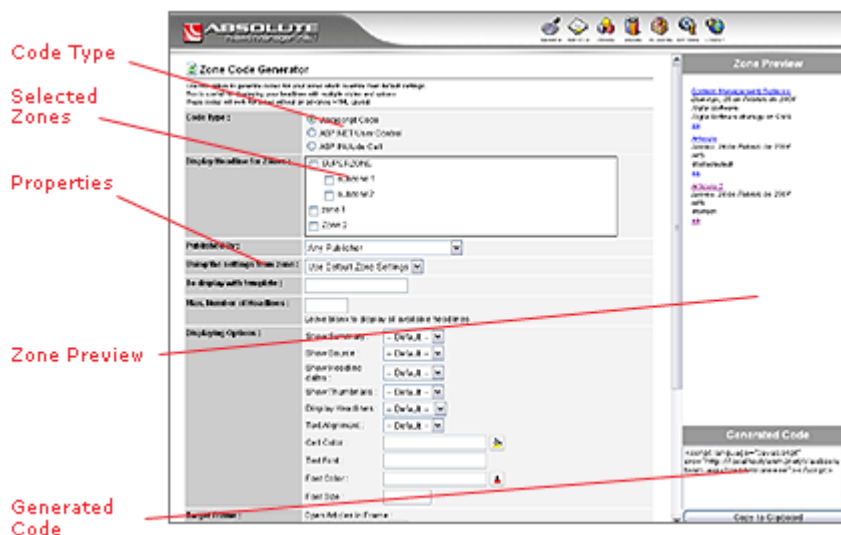
- ❑ **Headlinecss** : CSS Class to be used for the headlines title.
 You can pass a reference to a class name to be used for the headline titles listed in the zone.
 I.E :
 headlinecss=mycssclass
- ❑ **Sourcecss** : CSS Class to be used for the source of the headlines.
 You can pass a reference to a class name to be used for the headlines listed in the zone.
 I.E :
 sourcecss=mycssclass
- ❑ **Summarycss** : CSS Class to be used for the summary of the headlines.
 You can pass a reference to a class name to be used for the summaries listed in the zone.
 I.E :
 summarycss=mycssclass
- ❑ **headlinedatecss** : CSS Class to be used for the date of each headline.
 You can pass a reference to a class name to be used for the headline dates listed in the zone.
 I.E :
 headlinedatecss=mycssclass
- ❑ **featuredcss** : CSS Class to be used for the featured headlines listed in the zone. I.E :
 featuredcss=mycssclass
- ❑ **cp** : Cell padding.
 Use it to override / define the cell padding in pixels
 cp=240 for a cell padding of 240 pixels
- ❑ **cs** : Cell Spacing.
 Use it to override / define the cell spacing in pixels
 cs=100 for 100 pixels space between each headline cell in the zone.
- ❑ **Cw** : cell width
 Override the cell width in percentage or pixels.
 cw=90% for a 90% cell width
 cw=180 for a 180 pixel width
- ❑ **CH** : cell height
 Override the cell height in pixels
 CH=45 for a 45 pixels cell

Zone Code Generator

Absolute News Manager comes packed with a tool designed to help you generate codes for your zones with overridden parameters. This tool can be accessed from the Zones screen.

To generate a code, simply select the type of code (Javascript, ASP.NET or ASP) and the zones to list headlines from and set the parameters that you want to override.

Once ready, press the preview button to preview the zone code as it will look on your pages and the generated code. You can now copy and paste the selected code on the pages you want.



Zone Overriding Samples

You don't need to use all the zone parameters all the time, you can just take the ones that you want to be modified and overridden for presenting the Zone and provide new values for them. Below are some examples on how to use overriding:

Sample 1 :

A Zone is defined to display all the available headlines vertically and their summaries. This Zone is Zone ID #4 and we'd like to display those same

articles vertically but limited to 5 headlines, without the summaries but with the headlines dates and using a verdana font and ordered alphabetically.

The following code should be used:

```
<script language="JavaScript"
src="http://www.site.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=4&h=5&ss=
n&sd=y&font=verdana&sort=headline&ord=asc">
</script>
```

This code has the following parameters:

z=4: The Zone ID. Display Headlines for Zone # 4.

h=5: The number of headlines will be limited to only 5.

ss=n: By default the article summaries will be displayed, so we have to override this parameter telling the application to not show the summaries.

sd=y: Display The Headline's dates.

font=verdana: Use the verdana Font.

Sort=headline. Use the headline field to sort the articles

Ord=asc. Sort the headlines in ascending order

Sample 2 :

We would like to display 5 headlines from zones with ID 3 and 7 but using the parameters defined for zone ID 4 and the articles should be displayed in a template file called myfile.aspx

```
<script language="JavaScript"
src="http://www.site.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=3,7&pz=4&
template=myfile.aspx&h=5">
</script>
```

This code has the following parameters:

z=3,7: The Zone IDs. Display the headlines from zones 3 and 7

pz=4 : Use properties from zone ID 4

template=myfile.aspx : use template myfile.aspx to display the full articles

h=5: The number of headlines will be limited to only 5.

Sample 3 :

Zone ID #2 displays vertically only 5 headlines with their dates and we would like to display those same 5 headlines but horizontally with the thumbnails and summaries only in font color red.

Use the following code to override the Zone #2 settings:

```
<script language="JavaScript"
src="http://www.site.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=2&sd=n&ss
```

```
=y&st=y&d=h&color=FF0000">  
</script>
```

This code has the following parameters:

z=2: Display headlines for Zone #2.

sd=n: As the Zone by default displays the dates, we'll override that value by passing a n for not displaying the headlines dates.

ss=y: Display the source of the article.

st=y: Display the article's thumbnail.

d=h: Display the headlines Horizontally(h).

color=FF0000: Use Font Color FF0000 (Red).

Sample 4 :

We would like to display a list all the archived articles during year 2000 from zone ID 4, but we would like to use the display options from zone 7 and sort the headlines alphabetically.

```
<script language="JavaScript"  
src="http://www.site.com/absolutenm/xlaabsolutenm.aspx?z=4&isarchi  
ve=y&edate=2000&pz=7&sort=headline&ord=asc ">  
</script>
```

z=4: Display headlines for Zone # 4.

isarchive=y : display only archived articles

edate=2000 : articles expired during year 2000

pz=7 : use settings from zone id 7

sort=headline : sort by headline

ord=asc : ascending order

By overriding the Zone's default parameters you'll have much more control on how your headlines are displayed. Experiment a little to get the knack of it.

Latest News		
		
<p><u>Pocket PC 2002 launches</u></p> <p><i>October 23/2001 ZDNet</i></p> <p>With the official launch of Pocket PC 2002 comes a flurry of new PDAs from Compaq, Casio, and newcomer Toshiba. Check out our first impressions of the hardware.</p>	<p><u>Do-it-Yourself Security</u></p> <p><i>October 15, 2001 ExtremeTech</i></p> <p>Can you do a better job than the pros?</p>	<p><u>Java vs. C#, a Code-for-Code Comparison</u></p> <p><i>August 30, 2001 ExtremeTech</i></p> <p>Microsoft Engineers its Own Species of "Improved C++" for the .NET Platform</p>

Zones provide you with a set of comprehensive properties to let you display your headlines in any way you want

Note:
 You can also override parameters with ASP.NET user control and the ASP include calls.
 Just add the parameteres to the LOCATION property of the ASP.NET control :

```
<xigla:anm runat="server"
location="http://www.domain.com/anm/xlaabsolutenm.asp?z=1
&h=2"/>
```

And the URL is the xlagc() function call in the ASP codes :

```
<%=xlagc("http://site.com/anm/xlaabsolutenm.asp?z=1&h=2")
%>
```



Users

This option lets you register Publishers and administrators for providing articles to your Zones and managing the System.

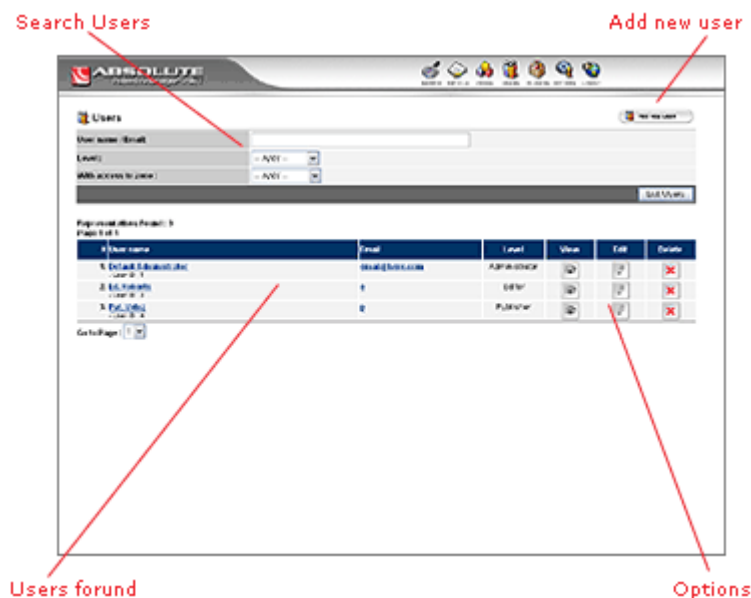
The Absolute News Manager lets you have an unlimited number of users for publishing articles on your site. There are three user levels:

- **System Administrators:** Have complete control over the application. They can post and delete articles, create and modify zones, register new

users and modify the application settings. They have the highest security level and can access to every part of the application.

- ❑ **Editors:** Editors have access to almost every part of the application but they cannot change the configuration settings, modify or create users and zones. They can publish content, make it active, access the system plug-ins and reassign an article to another publisher. An editor can access every publisher's information.
- ❑ **Publishers:** The lowest user level. They can be set so that they can only access their own information. They can only submit content to their assigned zones and you can set them so that editors have to review their content before making it active. You can assign any number of Publishers to any Zone, so that they can only publish articles to their Zones.

You can list the different system users by providing a search criteria in the USERS screen

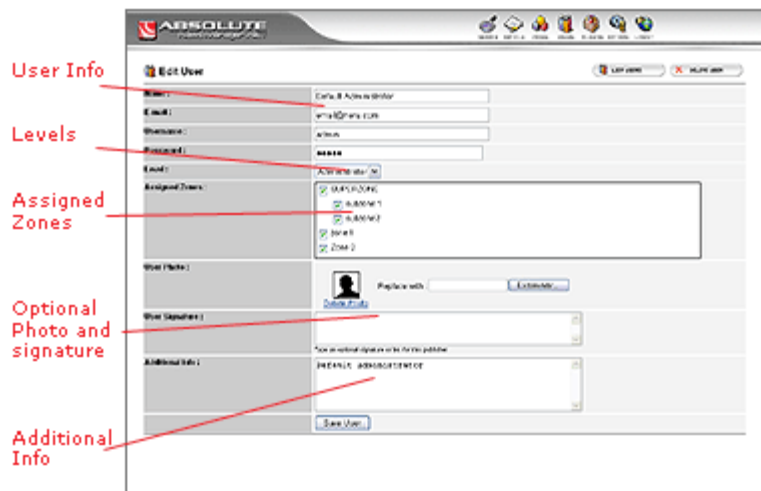


Registering New Users (administrators only)

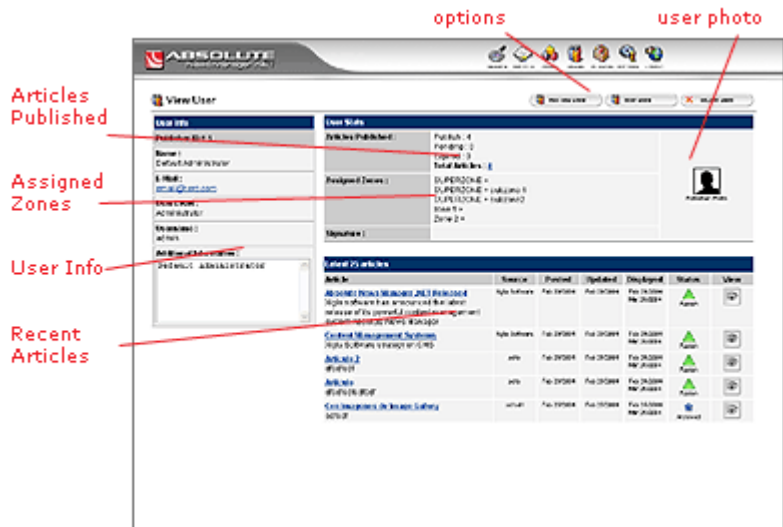
Only System Administrators will be able to edit and register new users. To do so, just click on the ADD NEW USER button from the USERS screen and you'll be taken to the Edit User Screen where you can define the user properties :

- ❑ **Name, E-Mail:** Enter the name and e-mail of the new Absolute News Manager user.

- ❑ **Username and Password:** Type an username and password for the new user.
- ❑ **Level:** Select the user level (administrator, editor or publisher).
- ❑ **Permissions :** Select if the user will be allowed to upload files or add related content to the edited articles
- ❑ **Assigned Zones:** Select the Zones that the new Publisher will have access to.
- ❑ **User Photo :** You can set an optional photo for the publisher.
- ❑ **User Signature :** You can set an optional signature or Biography for the publisher.
- ❑ **Additional Info:** Enter any additional info for the Publisher (phone number, address, notes, etc).



The new user will be created and you'll be taken to the VIEW USER screen where you can see all the publisher information as well as his articles. You can also access this information by clicking the user's name on the USERS SEARCH screen.



Plug-Ins

PLUGINS

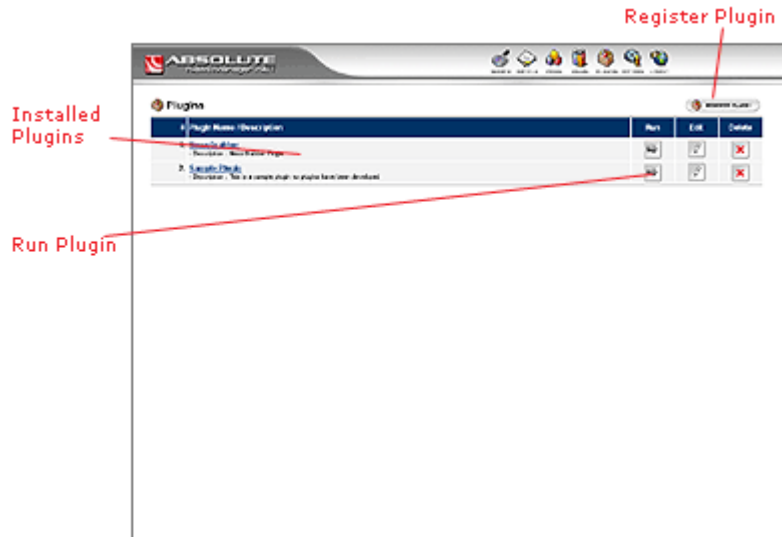
Let you register and access your Absolute News Manager plugins

Plug-Ins are programs developed to work with the System and add further functionality to your Absolute News Manager.

Plug-Ins are intended to perform a wide variety of tasks like: allowing users to comment an article or allowing them to rate an article or to send articles by e-mail, displaying your headlines in News Tickers instead of in Zones, allowing users to browse your articles, and much more.

Xigla Software is constantly developing new ideas and programs to be adapted as Plug-Ins for your Absolute News Manager for more information, visit our site at <http://www.xigla.com>.

Only System Administrators can register new Plug-Ins, however they can be accessed by both administrators and editors. Publishers have no access to them.



Registering New Plug-Ins (administrators only)

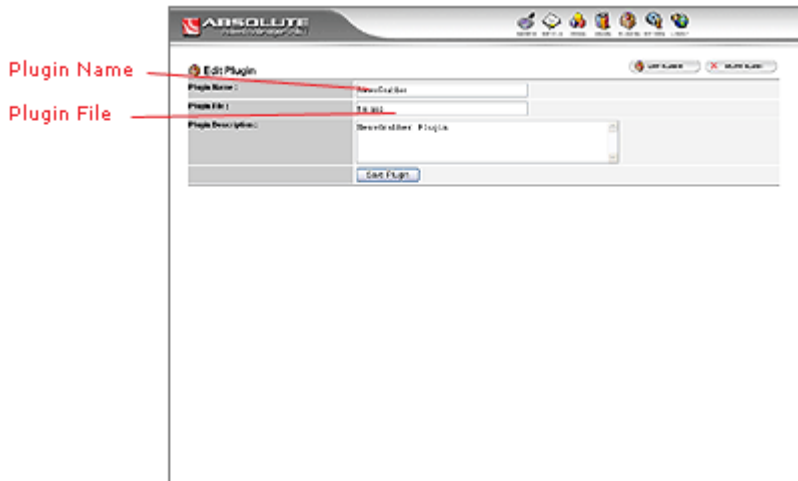
When getting a new Plug-In, you must refer to its accompanying documentation in order to know how to correctly install it.

Some Plug-Ins need to be registered in order to be managed from within the Absolute News Manager control panel (refer to the Plug-In's accompanying documentation to know if your Plug-In needs to be registered or not).

To register a Plug-In, click on the Register Plug-In Button on the Plug-Ins screen.

A registration form will be shown asking you for the following information:

- ❑ **Plug-In Name:** Name of the Plug-In being registered in the Absolute News Manager.
- ❑ **Plug-In File:** URL to the file that must be loaded in order to execute the Plug-In within the System.
- ❑ **Description:** If you want, you can enter any additional information about the Plug-In.
- ❑ **Additional code :** Some plugins may require you to enter additional properties. This field is used to define such options.



Note :

Remember that not all Plug-Ins need to be registered this way. You must read the Plug-In accompanying documentation in order to determine whether or not the Plug-In needs to be registered.

Absolute News Manager already comes with 3 preinstalled plugins which don't need to be registered in this screen.



Options (administrator only)

Set and configure your Absolute News Manager.

The configuration settings define several properties that the Absolute News Manager needs for its proper working:

- ❑ **Physical Path to the application** : Shows the physical path of your Absolute News Manager on the web server. This information should be entered in your Web.Config file.
- ❑ **Licensed To:** Enter the name of the person/company to whom the Absolute News Manager system was licensed to.
- ❑ **Serial No.** : Type the serial number exactly as it came on the e-mail that you received upon purchasing the application. This serial is case sensitive, make sure to type it correctly.
- ❑ **Site URL:** Enter the full URL to your site.

- ❑ **Application URL:** Full URL to the Absolute News Manager system (I.E : <http://www.yourdomain.com/absolutem>).
- ❑ **Charset Encoding :** Defines the character set used in the application. This is useful for international users. By default it is iso-8859-1
- ❑ **Time Offset :** Defines a time difference between your local time and the server time. This is useful for international users in order to to synchronize both times. I.E : time Offset -50 , means that your local time is 50 minutes behind, and the server should subtract 50 minutes from its time and the dates administration in news manager.
- ❑ **Publishers Access :** Sets the access allowed to the publishers registered. You can set whether or not a publisher can access other publisher's information as well as if they can browse their own information and assigned zones.
- ❑ **Editors' Access :** These options let you set the level of access for your editors. You can set whether or not editors can access and browse articles from their non assigned zones as well as to have them review all articles before publishing. By checking this option (only editors can publish articles), the system publishers will only be able to set the status of their articles to PENDING while editors and administrators will be able to change it to PUBLISH or EXPIRED.
- ❑ **Attachments and external articles :** Select if you want the external articles to open on a new window as well as the files and links when a user clicks on a headline in a zone.
- ❑ **No News Message:** Enter a message that will be displayed on your Zones when no headlines are available. You may leave this field blank.
- ❑ **Related Articles :** Select if you want the summaries and headline dates of the related articles to be shown. You can also set if related articles should be related In both ways, this means that if you set an article as related to other, the other article will also be set as related for it. You can also set a "No Related Articles" Label that will be displayed when no related articles are found (You can leave it blank).
- ❑ **Read More Label :** if you want to add a "Read More" Link to your headlines on the zones, type the label here.
- ❑ **Caching :** Use these options to enable the systems caching options. Write permission is required on the cache folder of your Absolute News Manager system. Caching will help to get a better performance by saving the information to disk and keeping it there for a specific time frame (in minutes). You can set independent caching times for your

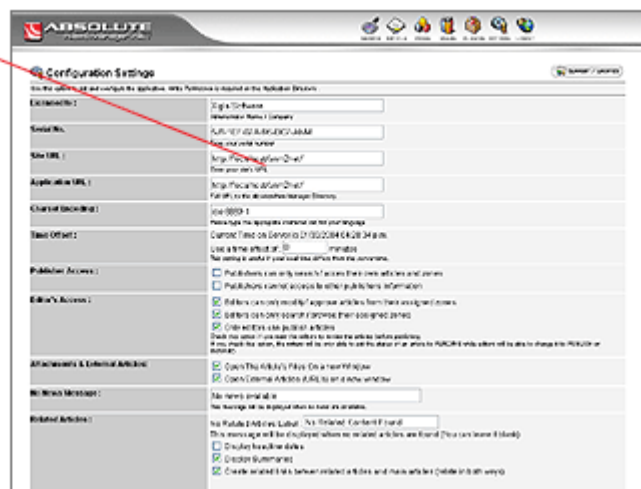
zones and for your articles, however please note that article caching will not work on ASP.NET templates. For ASP.NET templates it is advised to use the ASP.NET caching features, refer to the .NET documentation for information of caching of ASP.NET pages.

- ❑ **Subzones** : Check this option if you would like the headlines from your sub zones to also appear listed on their main zones. This setting can be overridden by using the SUBZONES parameter in the zones screen.
- ❑ **Zone Syndication** : Use this option to protect your headlines to be displayed on non authorized sites. Select the option that you want and type the banned or approved URL's on the text box and pressing ENTER after each one (one URL per line).
- ❑ **RSS Syndication:** Enables the XML RSS Syndication feature. Provide the number of days that a headline should appear in your RSS News feeds as well as the name of your site and optional description to include in the news feed. You can also define how many headlines to display in a feed at a time and from how many days ago.
- ❑ **Archives:** Select how to handle the archiving of your articles (when do they become active after expiring) and if they can be freely browsed (archives are always available to the end users through the search plugin).
- ❑ **Article Purging** : use this option ONLY if you want the Absolute News Manager to delete the older content from your database. Only expired / archived articles with the number of days of expiration will be removed from the system. Type 0 (zero) to disable this option.
- ❑ **Article Editor** : Select which editor to use by default (text / HTML) you can also define a CSS Styles sheet to be used from the HTML editor,
- ❑ **Absolute Image Gallery Support** : Absolute Image gallery is a picture and multimedia gallery administration system developed by XIGLA SOFTWARE. You can integrate Absolute News Manager with Absolute Image Gallery so that files stored on AIG can be used in Absolute News Manager. If you have Absolute Image Gallery installed on the same domain where ANM is, just type the URL path to the system to allow this support. You'll be able to attach files from your gallery when editing articles.
For information about Absolute Image Gallery, visit <http://www.xigla.com/absoluteig>
- ❑ **Absolute Banner Manager .NET support** : Absolute banner Manager is a banner management system developed by XIGLA SOFTWARE. You can integrate this ad tracking tool with your news manager and insert ads directly into your News Manager articles. To enable this option,

simply type the URL to your Absolute Banner Manager application and the HTML editor will provide you with a new option to insert these ads. You can also enter the name of the Banner Manager zones that can be used from within News Manager and their Ids (refer to the Absolute Banner Manager documentation for more information).

- ❑ **Security** : You can also use a restricted by IP login access to your News Manager. Use this option to enter the Ips of the users that will be able to log and work with News Manager.
- ❑ **Media Players** : Enter the HTML code used for embedding the meadia players for your article videos, audios and Flash files.
- ❑ **E-Mail Options** : These values are used for sending articles by e-mail and by Plug-Ins with e-mail capability:
 - **Default E-mail Address**: A default e-mail used to send any messages from the application.
 - **SMTP Server**: SMTP Server used for sending e-mails.
 - **Subject**: Subject used for the articles sent by e-mail. I.e. Article sent from yourdomain.com.
 - **Send Article By E-mail** : Enter the default message to be used with the Send Article by E-mail plugin
 - **Signature**: This message will be added to all the articles sent by e-mail from your site. Use this to promote your site by providing your site's URL, title and optional description.
- ❑ **E-Mail Notifications** : Use this option to receive e-mail notifications when a publisher has created or modified an article.

Configuration settings



Press the Save button to save the new settings. Write permission is required on the Absolute News Manager root directory in order to save the settings, otherwise, the application will present you with the necessary code for uploading to your site. You can download this code or copy and paste it into a blank .txt file and rename it to **xigla.config**. Upload this file from your local PC to your Absolute News Manager root directory and your new settings will take place.



Log Out

Once finished, click the Log Out button to finish your Absolute News Manager Session and you'll be taken back to the login screen.


ABSOLUTE IMAGE GALLERY INTEGRATION

Absolute News Manager, supports our multimedia gallery and digital assets administration system Absolute Image Gallery.

If you have Absolute Image Gallery installed on the same domain as Absolute News Manager, you can integrate it with Absolute News Manager in order to pull files from there to use on your articles.

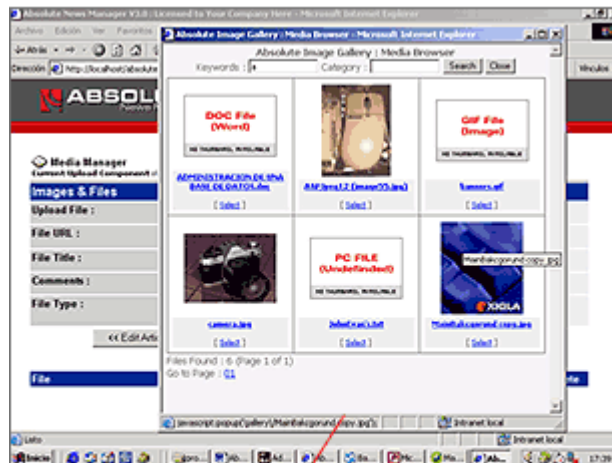
To do this, make sure that there's a file inside your Absolute Image Gallery folder called **aig-anm.asp**

Then, in the options screen, under the "Absolute Image Gallery support" field, make sure to type the relative path to your Absolute Image Gallery application. I.E : `../absoluteig/` , you can also use the full path , I.E : `http://www.domain.com/absoluteig/`

Once set, when adding images and files to your articles you'll see the following button : 

By pressing this button, the Absolute Image Gallery media browser will be opened allowing you to select the file that you want to use in your article.

Click on the [SELECT] link below the file that you want to use and click the UPLOAD button to register this file to use it on your articles.



Absolute Image Gallery Media Browser being opened from the Media Manager of Absolute News Manager when adding new images and files to an article

Note:

In order for Absolute News Manager to work with Absolute Image Gallery, both applications must be installed under the same domain. Also the file aig-anm.asp should be located on the Absolute Image Gallery root folder.

IDEAS FOR YOUR ABSOLUTE NEWS MANAGER

The Absolute News Manager System is a very versatile application. People around the world are currently using it in a variety of ways. Below is a list of just a few of the different ways you can use the Absolute News Manager System:

- **Syndicate Content:** Since the Absolute News Manager uses Javascript Includes to display the current headlines on your Zones, you can also include your latest news in any type of web page (regardless of whether they are HTML, CFM, ASPX, ASP, JSP, PHP or any other type of file). Just provide this script code to the sites that you want to syndicate your content and they'll be displaying your news!
- **Intranet Content:** The Absolute News Manager has successfully delivered as a content management system for Intranets to display fresh, up-to-date content. Install your Absolute News Manager in your corporate Intranet, design Zones for each of your company's departments, assign Publishers to your Zones and let them do the rest!
- **Create an Announcements Zone for Your Site:** Just create a Zone for your latest announcements and provide the news for it. Your visitors will be up to date with your latest news!
- **Create an On-Line Course:** Just create your course and break it into different articles, attach any files that your users will need for taking the course, link each following article directly by creating hyperlinks in the article using the included on-line HTML editor. This is very powerful!
- **Use It for Document Management:** Upload your documents to an article where you describe the contents of the files, implement a search engine and your users will be able to manage their documents easily, plus they can e-mail them to other users!
- **Create a Knowledge base :** This application is perfect for creating knowledge bases as you can attach any kind of document to it, select start and ending dates, and archive articles for further browsing.

Got other great ideas? Let us know and we'll pass them along.

We believe the Absolute News Manager is the best and easiest web publishing tool on the web, and we're doing our best to keep it that way.

TROUBLESHOOTING AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Absolute News Manager has been developed using ASP.NET. If you are experiencing any problems or errors with the application, please make sure to try the following in order to view the exact error message and track down the problem :

- **Disable friendly HTTP errors on your browser:** On your Internet Explorer, Select Tools, Internet Options, Advanced Options and uncheck the box for "Show friendly http error messages"
- **Turn on debug mode on the Web.Config file of the application:** The **Web.Config** file has the following line in the <system.web> section:

```
<compilation debug="false" />
```

Turn on debugging for the application by changing the line to :

```
<compilation debug="true" />
```

Please note that enabling debug mode will greatly affect the performance of this ASP.NET application. Remember to disable debug mode before deploying the application.

Q: When trying to access the application for the first time I get an error about "validateRequest" not being a valid attribute

A: This error will occur if you are running the application under .NET Framework V1.0 , in order to fix it, open the Web.Config file and comment the following line :

```
<pages validateRequest="false" />
```

The line should be commented like this:

```
<!-- <pages validateRequest="false" /> -->
```

Q: When trying to run the application for the first time I get an error about not being able to load the type 'XIGLA.AbsoluteNewsManager.AbsoluteNewsManager'

A: Make sure that you have located the AbsoluteNewsManager.dll file in the proper /BIN folder.

If the application is installed on a subfolder of your web site, the AbsoluteNewsManager.dll should be located in a folder called BIN at the root of the site. If there's no BIN folder, create it and move the AbsoluteNewsManager.dll file there

Q: The pages are taking too long to load, any reasons why?

A: The first time you execute this application, the ASP.NET pages are compiled on the server. This is the way that this technology works. This compilation will affect the system performance the first time that you run the program on the server and every time you make a modification or save new settings. It is a normal behavior of the .NET Framework

Q: When trying to login for the first time I'm getting an error regarding the SQL Server.

A: Make sure that you have modified the database connection string in the Web.Config file properly. Make sure that it points to the right SQL Server and database.

Also, make sure that your SQL Server is configured with mixed mode authentication. If only Windows Based authentication is enabled, the application might not be able to access it, and you'll need to use a different connection string in the Web.Config file like the one below (just provided as a sample) :

```
<add key="xlaANMconnectionstr"
value="server=YourServer;Trusted_Connection=true;database=absolutem" />
```

Also, make sure that the SQL Server script has been fully executed against the database.

Q: I'm trying to configure Absolute News Manager from the Options screen. However, every time I press the 'Save Settings' button I get an error message saying that the directory has no write permission and that I must create and upload a file.

A: In order to save the settings from the options screen, write permissions should be enabled on the application folder. If no write permissions are enabled, you'll have to manually configure your Absolute News Manager system and upload the changed xigla.config file to your site.

To do this, download the code shown by clicking the download button or copy and paste it into a blank .txt file and rename this file to xigla.config. Upload it to your Absolute News Manager root directory and the new settings will take place.

Q: I'm trying to configure Absolute News Manager from the Options screen. However, every time I press the 'Save Settings' button the application hangs.

A: If you have an antivirus application like Norton Antivirus, on the server where Absolute News Manager resides, make sure that its option to "Block Scripting Objects" is disabled. If this option is enabled then any script that attempts to write to the disk will cause the server to hang.

Q: When performing a search the application is only returning 1000 results even though there are much more in the database.

A: In order to guarantee the best performance and avoid table locking and possible timeouts in the SQL Server, Absolute News Manager returns only the top 1000 results when a search is performed. Try being more specific in your search in order to broaden the results.

Q: I'm getting the following error : "A potentially dangerous Request.Form value was detected from the client of the messages".

A: In order to fix it, open the application's Web.Config file and make sure to set the <pages validateRequest> setting to false. Make sure to have the following key in your <system.web> settings of the Web.Config file :

```
<pages validateRequest="false" />
```

Q: I have a page with multiple zones but it is taking really long to download.

A: Try using other Zone code. The Javascript code is the slowest of all the zone codes. The Iframe code is the best one of all. If you are using ASP.NET files, make sure to use the ASP.NET code. Also, make sure to enable caching of the zones in the options screen.

Last, make sure that your database has a dailly maintenance plan that backups your log files or that its recovery model is set to simple.

Q: Is it possible to share a series of assets among all my articles?

A: Yes. There's a folder called COMMON within Absolute News Manager. Any files available in this folder can be accessed at any time from any article. This folder acts as a container for common assets.

Please note that you cannot upload files from the application to the COMMON folder. You should upload these files through FTP.

Q: Our SMTP Server requires authentication, how does your application handle this?

A: If your SMTP server requires authentication or you are trying to send e-mail through a gateway or using a different port than 25. You'll need to modify the WEB.CONFIG file to add your SMTP values.

Using a text editor like Note Pad, open the Web.Config file. Add the following lines just between the <appsettings> section (it can be after the database connection string section):

```
<!-- SMTP Server Settings -->  
<add key="smtpusername" value="YOUR_USERNAME" />  
<add key="smtppassword" value="YOUR_PASSWORD" />
```

Make sure to replace YOUR_USERNAME and YOUR_PASSWORD with your SMTP username and your SMTP Password.

If the SMTP server also requires you to specify a port name, you can add the following key as well:

```
<add key="smtpserverport" value="SMTP_PORT" />
```

Q: I'm using SQL Server. After some time using Absolute News Manager, I've noticed that the database log file is growing too much, what can I do?

A: Left uncontrolled the Log Files will grow forever until the hard drive is filled. To prevent this, you should setup the database to periodically truncate the log file as well as limit the size of the log file. For SQL Server. It is advised to set a maintenance plan on the SQL Server database to backup the log file, or set the recovery model of the database to "Simple". SQL Server requires some experience for its proper tuning.

Q: The application is turning slower and I keep getting a TIMEOUT EXPIRED error?

A: Same as above. Make sure that the database recovery model is set to simple and that you have a daily maintenance plan to backup and truncate your log files.

Q: I'm getting an error about not finding the file xigla.config (Could not find file c:\....\xigla.config)

A: Make sure to enter the full physical path to the application in the Web.Config file.

You can get the physical path to the application by browsing to the file getpath.aspx in your Absolute News Manager folder (It is advised to delete the file after retrieving the path), or from the options screen of the application.

```
<!-- Physical Path to application -->  
<add key="xlaANMphysicalpath" value="c:\folder\folder2\" />
```

Q: I'm trying to upload a file but nothing is happening.

A: For your security, Absolute News Manager only allows some types of files to be uploaded. These files are determined in the web.config file through the allowed file types string. You can modify this string to add other file types by entering their extension :

```
<!-- File Extensions Allowed for upload -->
```

```
<add key="xlaANMallowedfiletypes" value=".jpg .gif .swf .doc .xls  
.txt .wmv .mp3 .wav .wma" />
```

Q:The Url for my articles shows the TEMPLATES folder. Is there any way to change this?

A: Yes, rename the templates folder and change its definition in the web.config file through the TEMPLATES FOLDER string :

```
<!-- Templates folder -->  
<add key="xlaANMtemplatesfolder" value="templates/" />
```

Q: I'm having problems not listed here. What can I do?

A: Contact us! We're more than happy to help you.

You can reach us at: <http://www.xigla.com/absolutelnmnet> or e-mail us at: info@xigla.com. Please refer to the License Agreement for our support terms and conditions.

FOUND A BUG? LET US KNOW!

We've tried our best to make this a bug-free solution, however, with all the different server configurations out there, some minor problems may arise. If you find that something isn't working the way you think it should, please e-mail us ASAP so that we can quickly work to resolve the problem. This won't cost you and you'll be helping to improve the system and to deliver a better program to all of our current and future users.

The best way to report a bug is by contacting us at the Absolute News Manager web site: <http://www.xigla.com/absolutenmnet> .

OTHER APPLICATIONS BY XIGLA SOFTWARE



Bring live customer support to your site

The complete, and feature-packed software solution for increasing your sales, providing technical assistance and increasing your customers satisfaction by delivering Live Customer Service on your own web-site!

Sounds good? It is Good!

Absolute Live Support is a customer service tool for your website that enables web site visitors to instantaneously communicate with your customer service personnel. Web site visitors simply click a Live Support button and are connected with one of your customer service representatives. Your company representative then assists the visitor by providing information, links, graphics, or even guiding them through your web site.

Some Key Features and Benefits:

- Absolute Live Support makes it easy to provide real time customer support for both your prospects and your existing customers.
- Runs on your own server under your own domain: This is not a hosted service; you get the full application for installing on your own site.
- 100% Web-based: Provide real-time customer service support from any computer, anywhere. No need to install any client application. Just launch your browser!
- Reduce Costs: Your representatives can handle concurrent multiple calls instead of being limited to one conversation. By providing assistance online, you do not incur in any telephone charges, thus lowering your phone bills drastically



Absolute Live Support :
Provide the Right Answers at the Right time
Add Customer Support to Your Site!

- Increase Customer Satisfaction: By providing one-on-one interaction, you can better explain your products and services and confirm that your explanation truly answers the customer's question.
- Close More Sales: Absolute Live Support can help you close the sale with customers who may be sceptical about purchasing online. Your live, personal attention demonstrates your commitment to providing great customer service.
- Add Unlimited Representatives and Departments: Get you whole staff to work with the system!

Plus Much More!

"Absolute Live Support Is The Perfect Solution For Improving Your Customer Service And Increasing Your Sales On-Line"

GET IT NOW AT:

<http://www.xigla.com/>

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E-mail Marketing and Newsletter Management Software

The Absolute Newsletter is a powerful Newsletter Publishing and E-mail Marketing software that will allow you to easily design HTML and text based newsletters, and deliver personalized emails to your target audiences through mailing lists. Packed with tons of features it is the perfect solution for publishing newsletters on small to medium size sites!

The Absolute Newsletter is not a hosted solution. It runs under your own site and domain. You don't have to pay any recurring fees or rely on 3rd party companies to maintain and publish your newsletters. This powerful system doesn't require any additional software, there are no monthly fees or expensive programming and is entirely self contained.

Some Key Features and Benefits:

- Unlimited Subscribers and Mailing Lists. There are no built in limitations for the number of subscribers and mailing lists that you can have.
- E-mail Personalization. Use data merging options to send personalized e-mails to your subscribers.
- Mail Scheduler. Absolute Newsletter comes packed with a client program that you can set up on your server to check for queued newsletters and send them automatically on their release date.
- Easily Create HTML newsletters using the powerful built-in Word-Like HTML editor.
- Subscription Form Generator. Create your subscription forms using the built-in Form Generator.



Absolute Newsletter.NET E-mail Marketing and Newsletter Management Software

- Developed using ASP.NET. Absolute Newsletter has been developed using Microsoft's next-generation .NET platform which provides the highest level of scalability and reliability for web based applications today.
- Attachments support. You can attach any number of files to be sent along with your newsletters.
- Bulk Operations options. Batch import or remove e-mail addresses and names from and to your mailing lists.

Plus Much More!

"Absolute Newsletter .NET Is The Perfect Solution for maintaining and administer your own newsletter"

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<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Online Poll and Survey Software

The complete, robust and easy-to-use web-based poll administration system that will allow you to dynamically add and manage polls on your web site while creating interest among your site's visitors and gathering valuable information about what they think.

Generate interest, increase retention, drive traffic, make sales, tempt visitors to stay on your site... Invite them to voice their opinion!

Absolute Poll Manager is a ready-to-run, out-of-the-box solution that will allow you to easily create professionally-looking questionnaires, collect instant feedback and business intelligence from your site's visitors and customers.

Features:

- 100% Active Server Pages (ASP) script, there are no DLLs to install on the server.
- Easy-to-use, HTML-based interface to let you administer the application from anywhere in the world. You only need web access!
- Packed with a powerful filter that lets you filter the poll's results to display only the votes that match an specific criteria or pattern.
- Only one (1) line of code is needed to insert your polls onto your pages.
- Polls are displayed and rotated in Zones which you previously define allowing you to completely control the look and feel of your polls.
- Add unlimited questions per poll.
- Polls can be scheduled to appear and disappear at a future date by defining Start and Ending Dates.
- Supports 6 types of questions: Radio Button, Multi-Select Check Boxes , Drop Down Lists, Text areas, text fields and rating scale.



Absolute Poll Manager XE
The most complete and easy to use
Web Based Polling Software

- Option to export the polls' results and information to MS Word and MS Excel formats.
- Powerful filtering option lets you analyze your data online
- Full system configuration through the control panel.
- Works with both Microsoft Access and SQL Server databases (full script included).

This is a really powerful application that you don't want to miss!

**To get your
Absolute Poll Manager
go now to:**

<http://www.xigla.com/>

Absolute Content Rotator XE By XIGLA SOFTWARE
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Fast and Easy News and Articles Web Publishing

Do you need a quick and easy to use solution for updating and editing massive amounts of articles and content on your website?

Absolute News Manager makes it really easy for you or your company staff to perform in-house updates to your online schedules, information bulletins, announcements, tour schedules, sale specials, internal company information, news breaks, daily restaurant menus, as well as articles and public information.

You will save precious time and work by easily updating your website with fresh and up-to-date content that will keep your visitors coming back for more!

- Perfect for any site constantly requiring to update articles, news, stories, headlines, editorials, etc.
- Add any type of multimedia content to fully enhance your articles.
- Template-driven. By editing a template file, your articles will be published with the exact look and feel that you want.
- Save time, work, and money by not having to make hundreds of HTML changes and tons of time consuming FTP uploads.
- Create multiple Zones for displaying your articles (e.g. Business, Sports, Music, Entertainment, etc.).
- Integrated Visual HTML Editor: Publishers don't need to know any HTML
- Supports multiple publishers with different access levels. Get your entire staff to work staff to work with the application!



Absolute News Manager
The powerful web based system for easily publishing News and articles on your site

- Integrated Visual HTML Editor: Publishers don't need to know any HTML.
- Option to send articles by e-mail: Attract more visitors as they send links to your articles.
- Implement a full article search engine with only 3 lines of code.
- Syndicate your content to attract more traffic
- Support for RSS or syndicating content through XML
- Support for plugins for getting even more from the application.

"Absolute News Manager is the complete tool for easy article publishing on your web site or corporate Intranet"

GET IT NOW AT:
<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Ad Tracking, Banner Management Software

The powerful and easy to use web based banner management solution specially designed for webmasters who need fast, scalable, reliable and flexible ad serving and management front-end.

Absolute Banner Manager simplifies your advertising tasks while maximizing your advertising revenues.

An Application That Pays by Itself

Do you want to sell your ad space and boost your revenue?, need an easy to use, yet powerful solution for rotating and managing banners on your website at a very affordable price? Absolute Banner Manager XE is what you're looking for.

- Unlimited banners, zones and advertisers
There are no limitations built into the application, Register as many advertisers, banners and zones as your database can handle.
- 100% ASP Source code : Completely Developed Using Active Server Pages, there are no DLL's to install and supports both MS Access and SQL Server 2000 (Full Script Included).
- Rich Media Support : Multiple types of ads supported : Use GIFs, JPEGs, Animated GIFs, Text ads, HTML banners, Flash banners, Java Applets, Rich Media banners, and 3rd party ad serve.
- Independent Client Stats : Individual passwords allow each of your advertisers to log into the application to view their own advert stats by using beautiful bar charts and generating detailed reports in HTML and MS Excel Format.



ABSOLUTE BANNER MANAGER XE
THE POWERFUL BANNER ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM

- Powerful banner tracking engine : Multiple zones can be established, allowing certain banners to appear only on certain parts of your pages. Absolute Banner Manager XE keeps track of exposures and click-thrus for each banner, as well as of the average total number of exposures per day.
- Banners can be weighted to control how often they are displayed, and can automatically be expired from the rotation after a designated number of exposures, click-thrus or date.
- Supports Pop-ups and automatic rotation banners: You can set banners that are automatically rotated and changed without having the user to reload the page or pop-up windows based ads!

A perfect ad management solution for small and medium sites and powerful enough for higher traffic portals.

GET IT NOW AT:

<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Introducing Absolute FAQ Manager XE
 The incredibly powerful and cost effective customer support system for reducing your costs, increasing customer satisfaction and boosting your sales by empowering your customers to get the answers they need when they need them by themselves!

It's Customer Service on Demand!
 The Absolute FAQ Manager is a feature packed Frequently Asked Questions management system that allows you to offer your customers an easy way to automatically get answers to their specific questions on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

With this powerful system your customers will get the information they need when they want it and within the context of your site. This, prevents your customers from leaving your site when they have questions, and cannot readily find answers.

Some Features and Benefits:

- Reduce your support costs: Eliminate redundant support phone calls and e-mails. With Absolute FAQ Manager you will reduce your expenditures in customer service by allowing your customers to help themselves and get the information they need.
- Increase Customer Satisfaction : Your customers will get instant answers to their questions, directly from your web site. They won't have to call your company or send you an e-mail and wait for a reply!
- Natural Language Support : Our powerful search functionality enables customers to get the information they want, using natural language questions.



Absolute FAQ Manager XE
 Empower Your Customers to Help Themselves

- Effectiveness on rise : If a customer does not find the answer he's looking for, he can submit it to you. When you answer the question, you can automatically add it to the knowledge!, the longer the use of the system, the greater the number of instant answers available!
- Gather Valuable Customer Knowledge : With the Absolute FAQ Manager, you can easily find out what your customers need by providing them with an easy and powerful communication channel with your company!
- Unlimited Topics and FAQs: You can create virtually unlimited topics to organize your FAQs and have virtually unlimited number of questions.

Plus Much More!

“Absolute FAQ Manager is a featured packed Frequently Asked Questions management system”

GET IT NOW AT:
<http://www.xigla.com>

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The Perfect Tool to Start Your Own Web-Based Multimedia Gallery

The powerful and feature-rich, database-driven Image Gallery administration system totally developed using Active Server Pages technology.

Absolute Image Gallery, makes creating and maintaining pictures and multimedia galleries a snap! It resides on your web server and searches your web server drive for new images and files to add to your gallery; all from within the powerful (and very easy to use) administration area.

Support for All Kinds of Multimedia

The Absolute Image Gallery is a state-of-the-art digital assets administration system that will let you have and maintain any kind of multimedia content on your site: pictures, animations, movies and videos, MP3s, WAVs, Real Media, Word, Excel, Flash—all of these file types and much more are supported. Plus, you can add support for any file type that you want!

- 100% pure Active Server Pages (ASP) script; there are no DLLs to install on the server.
- Supports unlimited Categories and Sub-Categories. You can have as many as your server can handle. Plus, virtually unlimited files per category.
- Batch Thumbnailer utility included: you'll receive a powerful batch thumbnailer program (.EXE) for easily creating your thumbnails. Totally Free!
- Not just for picture administration: you can have image galleries, video galleries, audio files, office documents, flash, PDF's, ANYTHING!



Absolute Image Gallery
Create Your Own Multimedia Gallery

- Favourite Files: users can mark their favourite files and then have them sent to their e-mail addresses, and you can keep a log of the e-mails addresses entered.
- Images and files can be uploaded via FTP or from within the application. The Absolute Image Gallery also comes with its own upload script.
- Default Thumbnails: If a file has no thumbnail assigned, a default thumbnail is displayed detailing the file type.
- Hit Tracking and Rating System: the system keeps a record of the number of hits that each file receives plus users can rate your files!

Plus Much More!

"Absolute Image Gallery is a complete digital assets administration system!"

GET IT NOW AT:

<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Web Form Processing Software

Easily gather and process feedback and customer information on your site. The Absolute Form Processor is an application with many : use it to process surveys, order forms, registration forms, collect e-mails for your mailing lists, create reservation forms, sweepstakes, support and contact forms and anything else you can think of where you need to capture your users information online!

The Absolute Form Processor is a powerful tool for processing your web based HTML forms. You don't have to waste time developing server code, validation rules , form mailers or auto responders for your web forms, this application does all this for you.

The Absolute Form Processor is more than a Form Mailer system, it can process any HTML form submitted to it by validating the integrity of the information sent according to your requirements, saving the collected data to a database, working as a form mailer by forwarding the information to anyone and even sending autoresponses to the user upon the form submission!

Some Features and Benefits:

- Easily collect and process information from your web forms : Absolute Form Processor has been designed to process any form submitted to it. You won't have to write any validation routines, mail forwarders or autoresponses.
- Powerful processing capabilities : Define how your forms should be processed. Set which fields are required through several easy rules, where to e-mail and forward the form results, as well as saving the form data to a database.



Absolute Form Processor
Form Processing has never been so easy!

- Form to E-mail and autoresponses : Easily set autoresponses to your forms so that your customers receive an immediate e-mail confirmation once their form has been submitted.
- No need to code validation routines or form mailers : Absolute Form Processor will take care of your form processing routines. You won't have to code any validation routines or form mailer systems.
- Multiple user support : Get your whole staff to work with the system. The people from customer support will get the information collected from your customer support forms and the people from marketing will get the information from their latest survey.

"No matter if you need a form mailer, form to database script, form validator, or autoresponse, it has it all and more!"

GET IT NOW AT:
<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Quickly add dynamic content to your site

The Absolute Content Rotator is a powerful content management system specially designed to rotate content through your web site automatically. The Absolute Content Rotator will keep your visitors coming back by showing them fresh new content on every visit to your site.

Absolute Content Rotator is an application with many, many uses. It's the perfect solution for displaying factoids, famous quotes and sayings, thoughts of the day, daily tips, featured sales items or special offers, pictures and anything else you can think of.

Some Features and Benefits:

- Support for unlimited content zones : Your content is displayed and rotated in Zones, which you previously define, allowing you to target specific sections of your site to deliver the content you want.
- Powerful Scheduling Engine : You can set specific information as to how and when the content should be displayed. Easily define date sensitive content and data to be displayed when you need it.
- Rotate content randomly or sequentially : Define how often your content should be refreshed on every zone, you can set it to change randomly every hour or even to display it sequentially until reaching a number of impressions (useful if you want to display banner ads!)



Absolute Content Rotator
The powerful content management system specially designed to rotate content

- Easily add content to any page: only one (1) line of code is needed to add and rotate your content in your pages.
- HTML Editor : Packed with a powerful WYSIWYG (What you see is what you get) editor to let you edit rich content online without having to rely on any other applications.
- Unlimited Zones and Content Items : Your content is displayed and rotated in Zones, which you previously define, allowing you to target specific sections of your site to deliver the content you want. You can have as many zones as you want with as many content as you server can handle.

Plus Much More!

“Absolute Content Rotator has to be the most innovative content rotator system”

GET IT NOW AT:

<http://www.xigla.com/absolutecr>

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ABSOLUTE CONTROL PANEL

Control Your web applications from a single location

Absolute Control Panel is a web based interfacing system specially designed to provide centralized access to your web based applications and Xigla application modules. It has been developed as a practical access point to our web based suite of solutions on your web sites.

By using the Absolute Control Panel, you don't have to worry about login in and out to each of your web based modules; the application does it for you, thus letting you easily switch back and forth between your web modules all from a practical and ergonomically interface.

Some Key Features:

- Centralized Access Point: Your whole staff can access your different web based modules from within a single login screen.
- Specially designed for our line of web based applications : All of Xigla Software's web developments can be easily registered into the Absolute Control Panel.
- Add support for 3rd party web applications : Users with knowledge of HTML, can add references to their own applications and deploy a full administrative portal from a single location.
- Support for external programs: Your web modules don't have to be installed on the same server where the Absolute Control Panel is. You can register applications hosted on any server and domain.



Absolute Control Panel
Manage your Xigla Applications from a single location

- Intuitive and easy to use user Interface: The Top menu provides everything you need to easily work with the system and switch between your applications.
- Use your own logos and images: You can use your own logos and images with the application to identify the control panel as well as personalized icons to identify your applications.

Specially designed for Xigla Software's line of products

Absolute Control Panel provides a powerful centralized access point to your Xigla Software's applications. Plus, if you have knowledge of HTML, you can add support for additional 3rd party applications and create a deploy a full administrative portal with this innovative system!

Plus Much More!

GET IT NOW AT:
<http://www.xigla.com/>

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Absolute News Manager .NET V5.1

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For more quality applications, visit our site at

<http://www.xigla.com>