Introduction to PHP

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Background

- What is PHP ?

- Why is it called PHP ?

- Beginnings: PHP/FI

Versions

- PHP 3
- PHP 4
- PHP 5

Syntax

```
//This is a single-line comment
<html>
<body>
<?php $txt="Hello World";
   echo $txt;
?>
</body>
 </html>
/* A comment block here */
```

Features

- Open source with a 'support and solutions' community
- Simple
  - built-in web-ready functions (XML output/parse)
  - familiar syntax: PERL, C++, Java
- Flexible:
  - structure (OOP, procedural, or mix)
  - output (HTML,PDF,FLASH)
  - requirements (hardware, OS, HTTP, DBMS)
  - natively interoperable with a variety of protocols
- Extensible architecture adds more value

Drawbacks

- Performance
  - Versus compiled languages
  - Versus scripted languages
- Security
  - Flexibility leads to bad coding
  - Older versions still dominant

Usage

- Notable sites
- Domain installations
- Version dominance

Competition

- **ASP.NET** - projects with larger needs/budgets
- **PERL** – more robust usage
- **Cold Fusion** – even faster development
- **Python, Ruby** - higher performance

Future

- PHP 6
  - Philosophy
  - Features
  - Progress
  - Criticisms

Thank you. Visit:

PHP.NET

for more information