BlueSpice and MediaWiki

What BlueSpice and MediaWiki have in common and where the differences between the two platforms are.

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MediaWiki

MediaWiki is a freely available open source content management software in the form of a wiki system.
Users can read and change the content via a web browser.

MediaWiki was originally developed for the free encyclopedia wikipedia. It is licensed under the GPL (General Public License) and available free of charge.

MediaWiki is developed by the **Wikimedia Foundation**, an organization with about 300 employees and a community of about 75,000 volunteers and organizations. This makes MediaWiki the „standard" in the wiki world with a long-term perspective on its existence and continous development.

MediaWiki is written in the scripting language PHP. The MySQL database management system is primarily used to store the contents. The user interface is available in more than 300 languages.
In addition, MediaWiki has more than 900 configuration settings and 1,900 extensions, making it highly customizable in terms of functionality.

In addition to use on wikimedia pages (such as wikipedia), MediaWiki is used on thousands of public and private websites as a platform for shared content creation.

Special strengths of the software are the possibilities for the classification of pages in categories and namespaces, the version management and the supply of templates.

BlueSpice

BlueSpice is based on MediaWiki, substantially extending its core functionally. *The focus is on special applications for coporations worldwide.*

BlueSpice turns MediaWiki into an enterprise software

BlueSpice is, so to speak, the „enterprise variant" of MediaWiki with a compatibility of 100 %.
The primary goal: To adapt the functionality of MediaWiki to the specific needs of enterprises and to increase user-friendliness. To do so BlueSpice features a growing bundle of practical extensions and functionalities developed by the employees at Hallo Welt! Ltd. in Regensburg, Germany.

The core functions of BlueSpice include a visual editor, a professional search (elastic search), quality assurance through rights management (workflow and release rules), collaboration tools, a book function and a connection to the central user administration.

Use Cases

- **BlueSpice as an integrated management system (IMS)**
  An IMS combines individual management systems such as quality or knowledge management to form a system of holistic corporate management. It serves the systematic documentation of processes, structures, information and company knowledge and minimizes misconduct.

- **BlueSpice as an organization manual**
  In addition to facts on corporate development and corporate organization in general, an organization manual often collects information from individual management systems.
  Quality management, for example, is the source of the quality manual. It can be a stand-alone manual or be integrated into a comprehensive organizational manual.

BlueSpice as a documentation system

With BlueSpice you ensure that your employees professionally document business-critical information and quickly find it when needed. Typical applications are IT documentation, technical documentation or software documentation.

BlueSpice as a flexible knowledge base

In addition BlueSpice can be used to implement knowledge- and information-based offers of all kinds for employees, customers and partners. This includes, for example, online helpdesks for service & support or solutions for the organization of team and department knowledge.

Services from a single source

BlueSpice is being developd by a growing team of over 20 employees at Hallo Welt! Ltd. since 2010. Since then it has been distributed in more than 160 countries with more than 80,000 downloads. With our experience we support you on many levels:

Installation, Migration, Updates

After the professional installation our migration service will, upon request, take care of the relocation of large and complex data volumes into BlueSpice (via scripts, synchronization, API, database copies). Plus, with our update and upgrade services you are always up to date with the latest technology.

Programming

Whether it's about small adaptations or larger programming oders: we make sure that your wiki meets your requirements. Simply contact us and we will be happy to make you an offer.

Technical support

Our wiki experts are available to help and advise you if needed. As a BlueSpice pro customer you benefit from a comprehensive support contingent as part of your service contract.

Branding package

Within a framework of standardised possibilities you can adapt your enterprise wiki to your corporate design. Larger adaptions are possible on project base. Let us know what you're planning.

Trainings & workshops

With our training offers, optimally tailored to your individual needs, you create the perfect starting point for working with BlueSpice pro in your company.

Differences at a glance

	MediaWiki	BlueSpice free	BlueSpice pro	BlueSpice farm
developer	Wikimedia foundation + Media Wiki community	Hallo Welt! Ltd. + MediaWiki community		
open source	yes			
target audience	platform for wikipedia and sister projects, private individuals and smaller organizations	enterprise wiki for medium-sized and large companies and organizations		
focal points	knowledge base online encyclopedia	knowledge base	management system organization manual documentation system knowledge base	
visual editor	online encyclopedia	yes	yes	yes
professional search (elastic search)	plugin	yes	yes	yes
quality assurance (workflows, rights)	no	plugin	yes	yes
book function	plugin	plugin	yes	yes
semantics	plugin	plugin	yes	yes
communication (social / timeline)	no	no	yes	yes
subwikis (farm)	plugin	plugin	plugin	yes
connections	plugin	central authentication links to external files working with external documents connection to your search connection to external data sources		
technical support	community-Support	community-Support	professional support (contingent) community-support	

additional services	no	installation, migration, updates individual programming branding package trainings and workshops
technical deployment	self installation	own server (on premise) external server (hosting) virtual machine docker
flexibility	given product	Step-by-step development of further enterprise functions

Contact us

Do you have any questions and/or would you like advice?
We are happy to take the time for your individual request and an online presentation. Free of charge and without obligation.

Your contact person: Angelika Müller

Hallo Welt! GmbH • PO Box (Postfach) 11 02 09 • 93015 Regensburg

E-Mail	sales@bluespice.com
Telephone	+49 (0)941 660 80 197
Telefax	+49 (0)941 660 80 189
Website	www.bluespice.com

The team behind BlueSpice (left) and the management (right), 2017

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