Distribute work, keep control
Reason makes the most of your resources by empowering non-technical users to update their own content—freeing the web experts to focus on projects that require more technical expertise. To prevent content chaos, this distributed publishing power comes bundled with centralized control over the design and global navigation.

- **Train new users in an hour.** That’s all it takes to learn the basics and begin creating content via user-friendly templates and WYSIWYG (“what you see is what you get”) editing features. No HTML knowledge required.
- **Your code stays clean.** Content maintainers never see the HTML, so they have no opportunity to introduce malformed code. Reason includes features that encourage web best practices and enforce standards-compliant code.
- **Design stays consistent.** Site design is controlled by stylesheets (CSS), allowing you to create design themes that can be shared by all your sites for a coordinated look. You control which design themes are available to Reason sites.

Create any number of sites with a single installation
Reason requires no desktop installation for content maintainers or site administrators, so a single installation of the application can serve all the web sites you need (Carleton has more than 300 separate sites for offices, departments, committees, and student organizations).

- **Set up a new site in minutes.**
- **Assign** individual editing rights for each site.
- **Categorize** sites to create an automatic organization-wide site map.
- **Tag** sites with keywords to create a college-wide A-to-Z index.

Migrate content at your own speed
Migrating web content to a new system can be a daunting prospect. Reason allows you to do this at your own pace, co-existing gracefully alongside other sites and systems. Your old sites can be easily included in Reason navigation menus and site maps—temporarily or forever.

Offer a rich set of features without information overload
Some systems sacrifice ease of use for the sake of complex functionality. Reason allows you to offer a wide selection of options while keeping it simple for the end user. You can plug additional features into a Reason site as they’re needed — end users only see those features they’ll actually use.

Limit duplication of effort with content sharing
Reason’s sharing feature helps all your content maintainers coordinate and share information. One group can publish an item, and any other group can use that item on their site. If the creator of the item changes it, that change instantly takes effect everywhere the item appears.

- **Add an event** to a department calendar and share it with a campus events calendar.
- **Upload a photo** on your Athletics site and borrow it for your News site.
- **Republish** news from your public relations office on appropriate department sites.

Partners welcome
Developed at Carleton College since 2003, Reason is now available as a free application under the GNU General Public License (GPL). Carleton invites other institutions to work with us as we continue to expand Reason with new features tailored to higher education. Reason is designed in a modular, easy-to-extend framework, convenient for collaborative development.

Technical specifications
Reason is written to work on a Linux, Apache HTTPd, MySQL, PHP stack. Any Linux distribution should be suitable, though Reason has been tested most on Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS4. Reason has been run in production under Apache 1.3, 2.0, and 2.2 without issue. Reason requires MySQL v4.x and PHP v4.x; there are known issues under v3.x and v5.x of both.

Mac OS X should be a viable platform for the current code base with some fine-tuning. Reason has not been tested under Win32.

Learn more at reason.carleton.edu or reason-support@lists.carleton.edu