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. Apache 1.3, 2.0, and 2.2 have all been run in production without issue. Reason requires MySQL v4.x and PHP v4.x; there are known issues under v3.x and v5.x of both.
- MacOSX should be a viable platform for the current code base with some fine-tuning. Reason has not been tested under Win32.

One installation, any number of sites

- Create any number of sites from a single installation of Reason
- Administrators and content maintainers use a web-based interface—no desktop installation required
- Assign individual editing rights for each site; content maintainers see only the areas they are allowed to edit

Clean, standards-compliant code

- Tidy integration ensures that all markup in the system is xhtml-compliant
- Templates and WYSIWYG editors use a simple, semantically-focused interface designed to prevent “tag soup”
- Keeps code clean, semantic and standards-compliant

Built-in LDAP integration

- Reason can use LDAP — or, through a pluggable framework, any directory service — as an authoritative source for authentication and/or identity information
- Support for department staff and faculty listings
- Understanding of dynamic groups based on attributes like affiliation and title

XHTML- and CSS-based theme system

- Choose from a library of predefined themes or create your own
- Make new themes using CSS and/or by creating new xhtml templates
- You control which themes are available for selection, and which sites may change themes

Reduce server load for high-traffic pages with a cache

- Turn cache on and off on a site-by-site basis

Full Unicode (foreign language) support

- Thoroughly tested UTF-8 support accommodates content in multiple languages and character sets

Publish information via RSS

- Reason creates RSS feeds automatically for many common data types, including blogs, newsletters, faqs, events, etc.
- Modular feed system allows straightforward creation of new feeds with light programming

Extend Reason to meet organization-specific needs

- Create custom modules to integrate with existing systems or to expand Reason’s features
- Modular, open-source framework puts control in your hands
- Create new data types and extend existing data types as needed.
- Reason auto-generates administrative interfaces for your custom data types, and you can customize those interfaces with a powerful administrative API.
- Your custom data types are “full citizens” in Reason—automatically get all of Reason’s built-in services such as borrowing/sharing, change-by-change item history, caching, tidy, unicode, rss feeds, etc.
- Clear framework for adding new features and overriding default behaviors
- Intrinsic understanding of development-testing-production process for use as an application development framework

Questions about Reason?

Visit http://reason.carleton.edu or email wsg@lists.carleton.edu