Packaging

Overview

It is possible to install a component manually by copying the files using an SFTP client and modifying the database tables. It is more efficient to create a package file in the form on a composer.json document that will allow the Installer to do this for you. This package file resides in the top-level of your component's directory and contains a variety of information:

- basic descriptive details about your component (i.e. name), and optionally, a description, copyright and license information.
- the extension type (component, module, plugin, template)
- optionally, a destined install directory

Structure

Packaging a component for distribution is relatively easy. The file and directory structure is exactly as it would be after installation. Here's what a typical package will look like:

```
/com_{componentname}
  {componentname}.xml
  composer.json
  /site
    {componentname}.php
    controller.php
    /views
      /{viewname}
        /tmpl
          default.php
    /models
      {modelname}.php
    /controllers
      {controllername}.php
  /admin
    {componentname}.php
    controller.php
    /views
      /{viewname}
        /tmpl
          default.php
    /models
      {modelname}.php
    /controllers
```

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```
{controllername}.php
```