

Microblogging Web Part

SharePoint® 2010 Installation Instructions

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Version 1.0.0

July 2011

Using a Micro Blog

Share and Discuss



Christian Zeh: I am sharing my thoughts about this new initiative. It seems, that SharePoint itself is a very good toolbox, but still missing important collaboration features. We may provide extensions.
1 day ago [Reply](#)

▼ 1 reply (all)



Hermann Löh: Christian, I do believe, that with our web parts we can help companies to increase their RoI of SharePoint.
12 minutes ago



Marcel Bolliger: I thought we could implement some of the best practice features of the VEA Collaboration Suite as web parts for SharePoint. What about a Accordion List web part?
1 hour ago [Reply](#)

▼ 5 replies (recent)



Marcel Bolliger: Correct. I will have to see what effort it is to program it with JavaScript
30 minutes ago



Christian Zeh: You are completely right. And we could add a Tabs List web part with the same functionality.
15 minutes ago

▼ All replies

▼ Older discussions Recent discussions only ▲

Description

The Microblogging web part adds a real time, context oriented discussion platform to SharePoint 2010. You will be able to share any thoughts and ideas at your fingertips. It is useful for fostering the quick exchange inside a site or in the context of some activity there, and thus collaboration and coordination.

Discussions with most recent replies are shown at top. Within the discussions you see the most recent replies. Their order is historical the older on top, the most recent at bottom. This ensures the sequential readability of the discussion.

The standard configuration of this web part is to show the pictures of the user profiles and to have a background color for the replies. In case you don't have the user profile pictures on your SharePoint installation, you can hide it. The same applies for the background color. You can hide it at your convenience.

Furthermore you can define how many discussions will be shown when loading the page. Discussions and replies can be expanded and collapsed. Other parameters like update intervals etc. are configurable as well.

Prerequisites

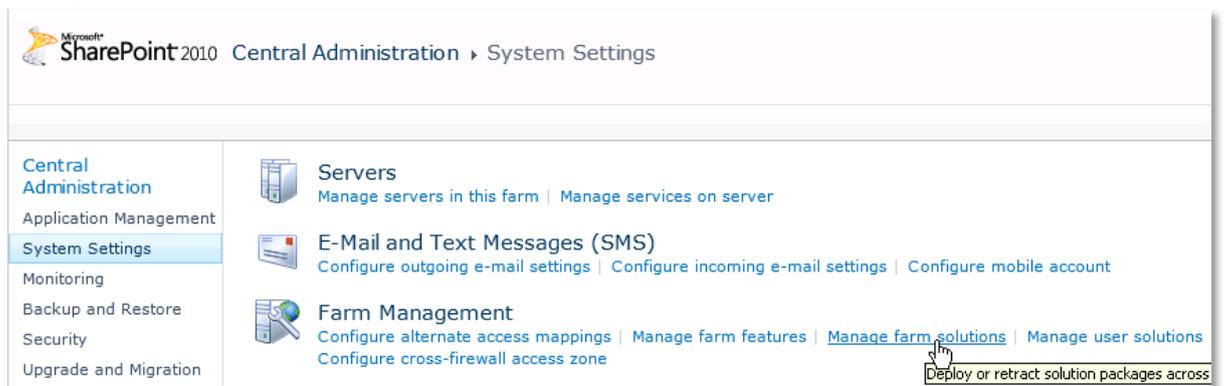
Before you attempt to install the solutions you need to make sure that you have the following installed on your server(s):

- Microsoft SharePoint 2010

Installation

Automatic Installation

1. Unpack the **VEAMicroBlog.wsp** and **install2010.bat** files from the Zip Archive and place the 2 files onto your SharePoint Server.
2. Add the Solution by either running **Install2010.bat** or manually entering:
stsadm -o addsolution -filename VEAMicroBlog.wsp
3. Deploy the solution by navigating with your browser to Central Administration > System Settings > Farm Management > Manage farm solutions



4. You should now see the **VEAMicroBlog.wsp** in the farm's solution store:

The screenshot shows the SharePoint 2010 Central Administration 'Solution Management' page. The breadcrumb path is 'Central Administration > Solution Management'. Below the breadcrumb, it says 'This page has a list of the Solutions in the farm.' The main content area is a table with the following data:

Name	Status	Deployed To
profilephotosync.wsp	Deployed	https://sp.contonso.com
veaaccordionlist.wsp	Deployed	https://sp.contonso.com
veamicroblog.wsp	Not Deployed	None
veaskypeconnectionkitf.wsp	Deployed	https://sp.contonso.com
veatabslist.wsp	Deployed	https://sp.contonso.com

5. Click on “VEAMicroBlog.wsp” to deploy the solution:

The screenshot shows the SharePoint 2010 Central Administration interface. The breadcrumb path is "SharePoint 2010 Central Administration > Solution Properties". On the left is a navigation menu with "Central Administration" selected. The main content area has three tabs: "Deploy Solution" (active), "Remove Solution", and "Back to Solutions". Below the tabs is a "Deploy Solution" button. A table lists the solution's properties:

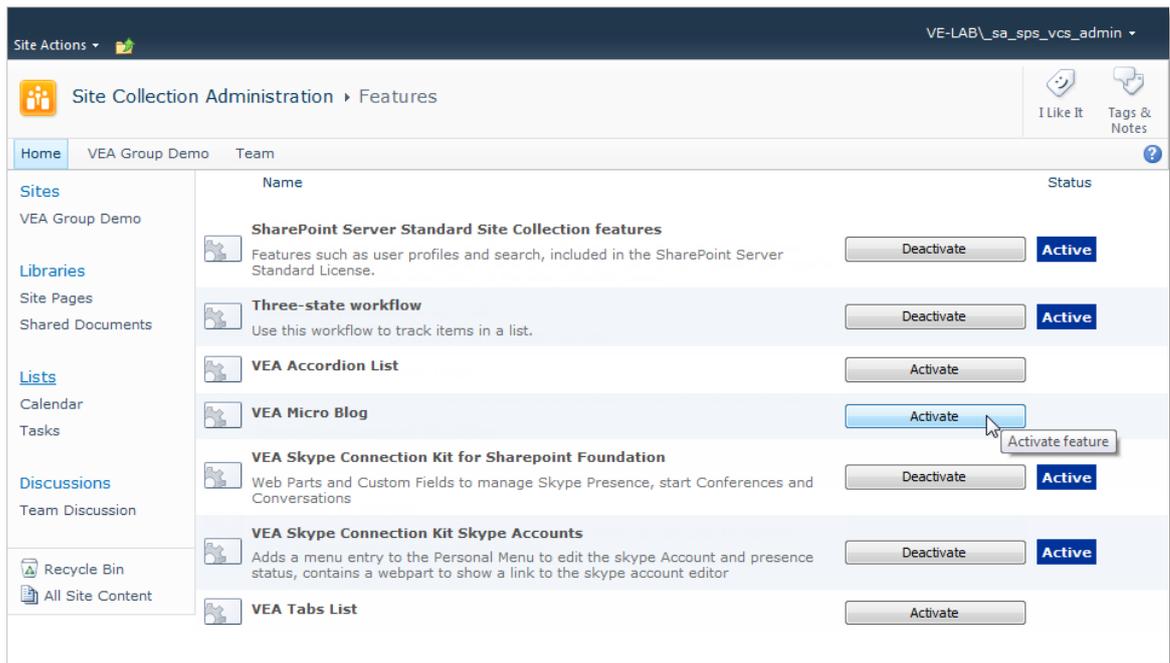
Name:	veamicroblog.wsp
Type:	Core Solution
Contains Web Application Resource:	Yes
Contains Global Assembly:	Yes
Contains Code Access Security Policy:	No
Deployment Server Type:	Front-end Web server
Deployment Status:	Not Deployed
Deployed To:	None
Last Operation Result:	No operation has been performed on this solution.

6. Proceed to activate the feature by navigating to the “Site Actions/Site Settings” page in your top-level site:

The screenshot shows the SharePoint 2010 Site Settings page for a site named "VCS". The breadcrumb path is "VCS > Site Settings". The page has a "Home" tab and "VEA Group Demo" as the current site. On the left is a navigation menu with "Libraries", "Lists", "Discussions", "Recycle Bin", and "All Site Content". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Users and Permissions**: People and groups, Site permissions, Site collection administrators
- Galleries**: Site columns, Site content types, Web parts, List templates, Master pages, Themes, Solutions
- Site Administration**: Regional settings, Site libraries and lists, User alerts, RSS, Search and offline availability, Sites and workspaces, Workflows, Workflow settings, Related Links scope settings, Term store management
- Site Collection Administration**: Search settings, Search scopes, Search keywords, Recycle bin, Site collection features (highlighted with a mouse cursor), Site hierarchy, Site collection audit settings, Audit log reports, Portal site connection, Site collection policies, Content type publishing, SharePoint Designer Settings, Visual Upgrade, Help settings
- Look and Feel**: Title, description, and icon, Quick launch, Top link bar, Tree view, Site theme
- Site Actions**: Manage site features, Save site as template, Reset to site definition, Delete this site, Site Web Analytics reports, Site Collection Web Analytics reports
- Reporting Services**: Manage Shared Schedules, Reporting Services Site Settings

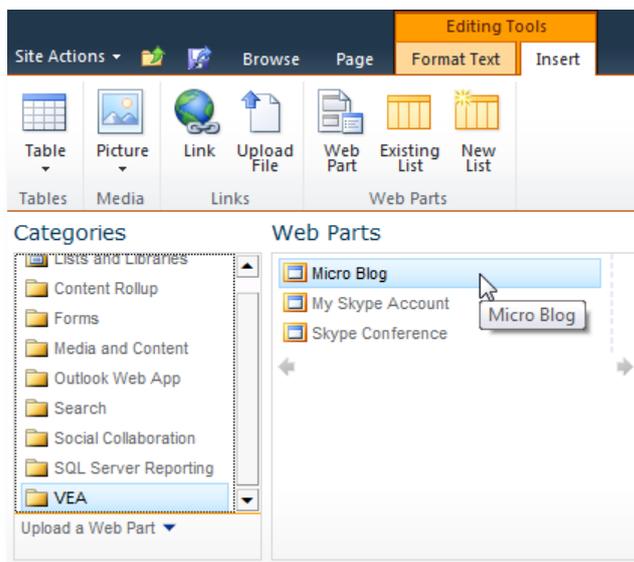
7. Choose "Site collection features" to navigate to the Site Collection Features page:



Activate the "VEA Micro Blog" feature

Adding the Web Part to a Page

Navigate to a page where you would like to place the web part and choose "Site Actions/Edit Page"
Add the web part to the appropriate zone. The web part is listed in the "VEA" gallery section:

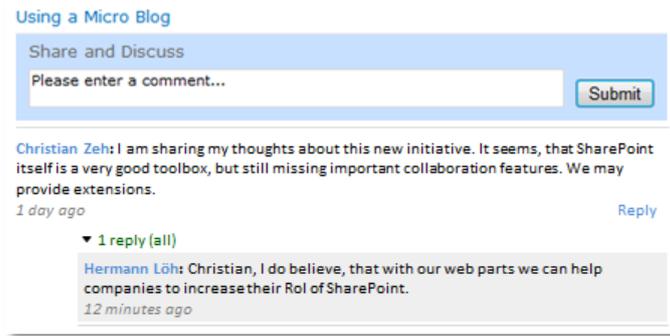


After adding the Microblogging web part, you may proceed to the configuration of the web part.

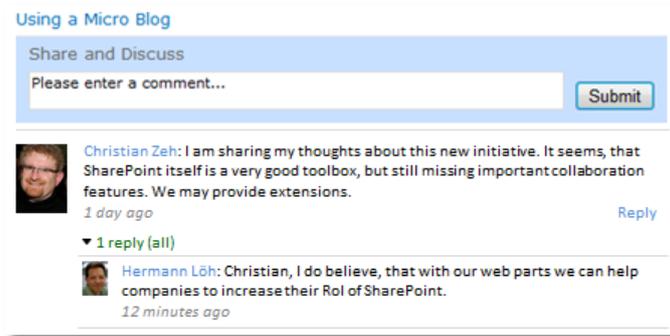
Web Part Configuration

Configure the following Web Part properties in the Web Part Editor "Micro Blog Settings" pane section as needed:

- **Title:** Set the title of your web part. Good practice is to select a name representing the context of discussion.
- **Hide Profile Pictures:** Select this option, if you don't want to post the user profile pictures or if they are not available. Settings will only be visible after refreshing the page.



- **Hide Subblog Background:** Select this option to discard the background of the replies.



- **My Site Host URL:** Please enter the root URL of your My Site Host here. The URL should end with /.
- **Blog Update Interval:** Set the update interval to check for new blog entries. The value is set in seconds.
- **Date Time Update Interval:** Set the update interval for the actual age of discussions and replies.
- **Visible Sub Blog Entries:** Define the default of how many replies you will see per discussion.
- **More Entries Count:** Define the number of additional discussions to be shown, when clicking the "Older discussions" link at the bottom left of the web part.
- **Start Entries Count:** Define default number of discussions to be shown, when page loads.
- **Navigating the replies section:**
 - Click on the green replies link "6 replies (recent)" to collapse replies. Click it again "6 replies (collapsed)" to expand replies.
 - Click on "All replies" to see all replies. The green link shows: "6 replies (all)". Click on "Recent replies only" to switch back to the most recent replies only.
- **More Entries Count:** Define the number of additional discussions to be shown, when clicking the "Older discussions" link at the bottom left of the web part.
- **Start Entries Count:** Define default number of discussions to be shown, when page loads.
- **Navigating the discussion:**
 - Click on "Older discussions" to expand your discussions by the number defined in "More Entries Count".
 - Click on "Recent discussions only" to switch back to the original number of discussions shown.
- **Identifier:** This is a unique identifier for each micro blog. You can add additional Micro Blogging Web Parts to different pages of the same site. If you want to refer them to the same discussions, you need to copy and paste this identifier
- **License Key:** Here you enter the license key for your purchased web part.

The screenshot shows the "Micro Blog" configuration pane with the following settings:

- Appearance:**
 - Title: Micro Blog
 - Height: No. Adjust height to fit zone.
 - Width: No. Adjust width to fit zone.
 - Chrome State: Normal
 - Chrome Type: Default
- Layout:**
 - Advanced: (expanded)
 - Micro Blog Settings: (expanded)
- Micro Blog Settings:**
 - Hide Profile Pictures:
 - Hide Subblog Background:
 - My Site Host URL: https://mysite.contonso.com/
 - Blog Update Interval: 5
 - Date Time Update Interval: 5
 - Visible Sub Blog Entries: 3
 - More Entries Count: 5
 - Start Entries Count: 5
 - Identifier: 670d2afb-6bb9-4506-83e4-428
- Miscellaneous:**
 - License Key: (empty field)

Buttons: OK, Cancel, Apply