

MDI Business Solutions Hosting Features

Account Management

The File Manager allows you to manage your site through HTML, rather than an FTP tool or other third-party application. You can upload, create or delete files, organize files in folders, and change file permissions. While not as sophisticated as most FTP tools, File Manager is free and gives you all the basic functionality necessary to manage your site.

The Image Manager allows you to manage your images through your control panel, rather than another third-party application. You can easily convert the format (jpg,gif,bmp,etc) or size of your image, and or create thumbnails with the included thumbnailer.

SSL stands for **Secure Sockets Layer**, which is a means of providing encrypted communications on the Internet. CPanel provides you with an online SSL Shell (an application) that allows you to log in to the Linux computer that is your web server and make changes at the server side. You use Telnet (the Internet standard protocol for remote login) commands through the SSL Shell to activate the web server.

Note: If you do not know exactly what you are doing, you can potentially cause problems on your web server. Please contact your hosting administrator if you are not sure how to use SSL.

The Backup area allows you to download the daily, weekly, or monthly backup file of your entire web site, or a particular MySQL, alias, or filter backup file. If your computer crashes, or your personal backups are destroyed, these files allow you to recover your site in a convenient manner (you could also use FTP to download each file, but it would take much longer as the files are not compressed).

How often a backup is created is decided by your web host. Contact your hosting administrator for more details.

Error pages are displayed to Internet users when any one of a variety of errors occur, such as when a user enters an incorrect URL or is not authorized to access a specific directory in your web site. Companies often customize error pages to brand them with a specific corporate image and a link to their home page. You do not have to customize these pages - the error page is always available, whether customized or not.

Note: Custom error pages that are smaller than 10k in size will not display properly in Internet Explorer. Insert a large amount of text into a comment to create the required size.

MIME types tell browsers how to handle specific extensions. Most MIME types are set globally on the server. For example, the text/html MIME type equates to htm, html, and shtml extensions on most servers, and this tells

your browser to interpret all files with those extensions as HTML files. You can alter or add new MIME types specifically for your site (note that you can not alter the global MIME type values, only add to them). MIME types are often used to handle new technologies as they appear. When WAP technology first appeared no one had these extensions set up on their server. With MIME types, however, you could have set it up yourself and begun serving WAP pages immediately.

Warning: Make sure you check the list of pre-existing MIME types before adding new ones. Check with your hosting administrator **before** adding a MIME type, as they can easily alter the correct functioning of your web site.

Note: People often get confused as to the difference between MIME types and Apache handlers. Basically, MIME types tell your **browser** how to handle files, while Apache handlers tell the **server** how to handle files.

Apache is an open-source HTTP server, and is used to serve your site. Apache handlers tell the server how to deal with web files that need to be processed on the server. For example, Apache is set up to process files with .pl extensions using Perl. However, if for some reason you also wanted to process files with .script extension using Perl, then you would have to set up a custom Apache handler for your site.

Note: People often get confused as to the difference between MIME types and Apache handlers. Basically, MIME types tell your **browser** how to handle files, while Apache handlers tell the **server** how to handle files.

Warning: Check with your hosting administrator **before** adding an Apache handler, as they can easily alter the correct functioning of your web site.

You can **protect directories** within your site from browsers by using a password to protect them. This allows you to restrict material to only authorized users or store sensitive material online. This has the same appearance and effect as the password protection on CPanel.

The IP Deny Manager enables you to block access to your web site from specific IP addresses. This is useful to remove nuisance surfers who use a large amount of bandwidth or to prevent hotlinking to your site.

Hotlinking is when another web site owner links directly to one or more of your images or multimedia files and includes it on their web page. Not only is this theft of your intellectual property, you are paying for the bandwidth used by that site.

Leech Protect allows you to prevent your users from giving out or publicly posting their password to a restricted area of your site. This feature will redirect (and suspend if selected) accounts which have been compromised to a url of your choice.

Frontpage Extensions allow you to publish your web site using Microsoft Frontpage. These extensions can occasionally become corrupted, so you can uninstall and then reinstall Frontpage Extensions whenever required.

The Redirects area allows you to redirect Internet traffics from one web page to another. This is usually used when a web page has been moved to another location.