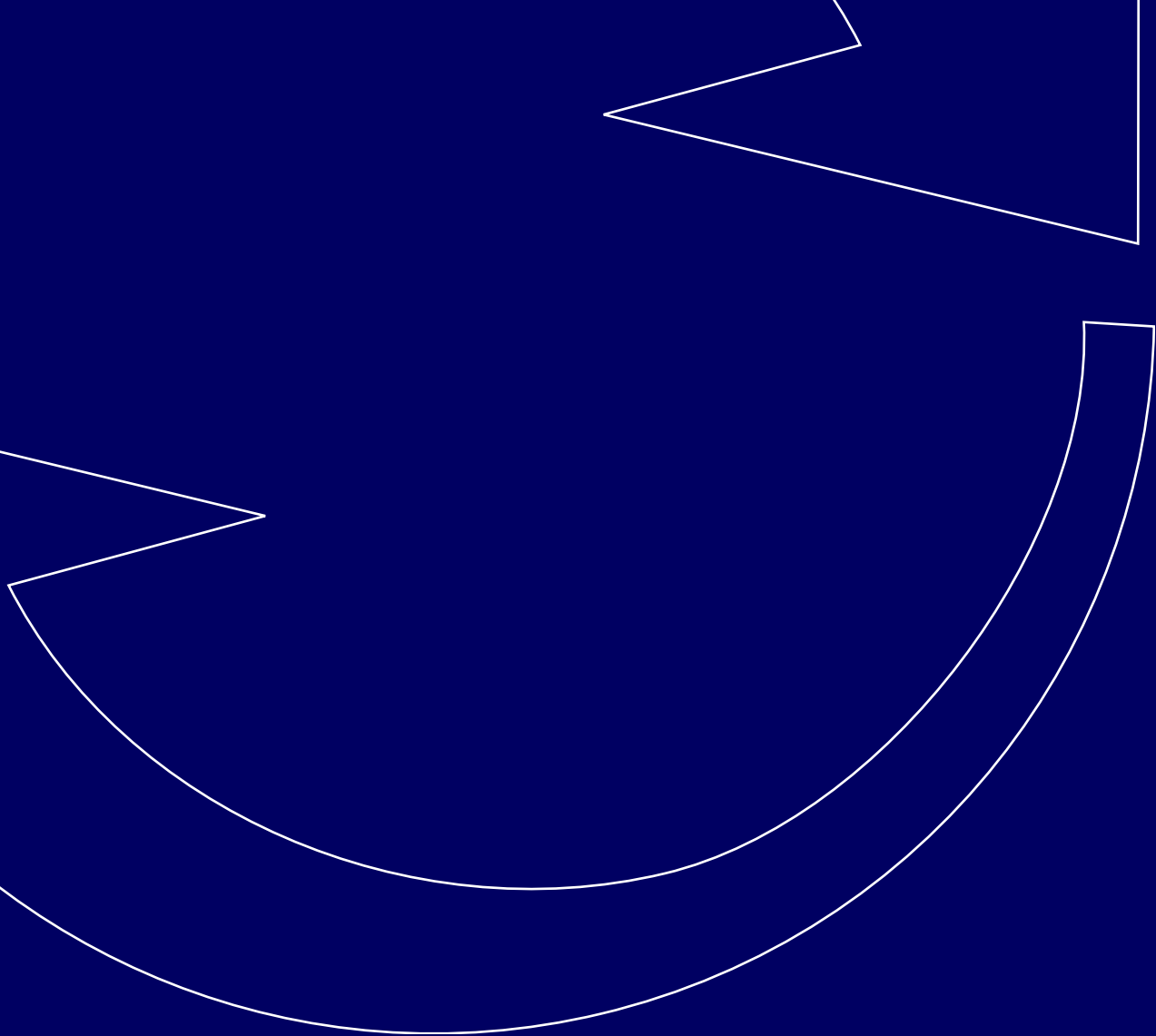


# ADMINISTRATOR GUIDE





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## ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Welcome to the *Administrator guide*. This guide is intended for system administrators who want to setup and configure phpAdsNew. After you finished reading this guide you will know how to install and configure phpAdsNew. Before you install phpAdsNew be sure you understand the license under which this software is released. A copy of the GNU Public License can be found in the back of this guide.

The setup process is fairly simple but there are some things you should take a close look at. You also might want to take a look at the chapter *Configuration* which might help you determine the way phpAdsNew need to be set up.

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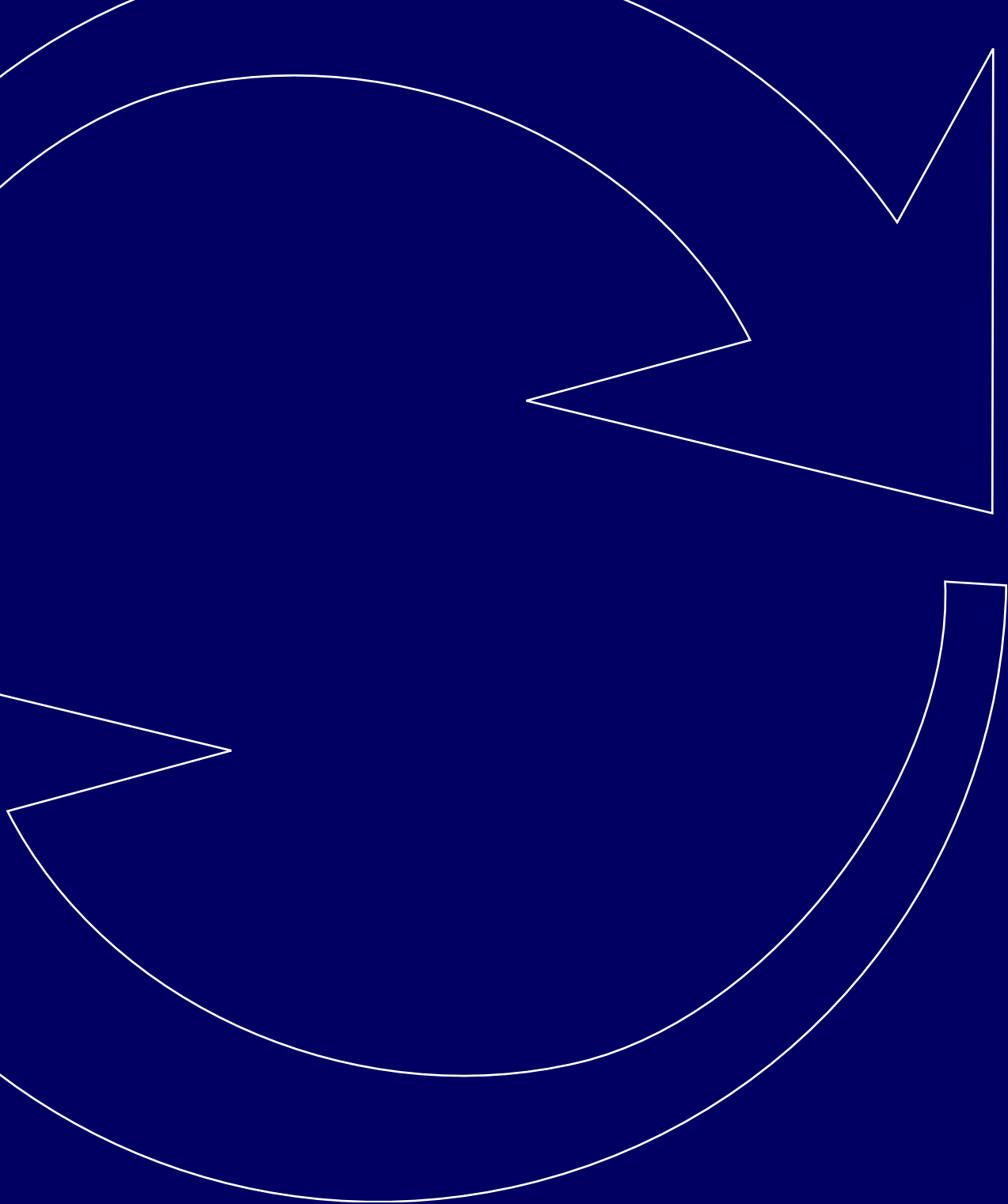
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# INSTALLING AND UPGRADING

# SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Before you can start the installation you need to make sure your server meets the requirements describe below.

## Web server

phpAdsNew should be able to run on any web server which is supported by PHP. phpAdsNew has been tested with Apache running on Linux and Windows and Microsoft IIS on Windows. Other servers might also work as long as PHP is supported, but they are currently untested and unsupported by phpAdsNew.

## PHP

phpAdsNew is written in PHP and requires that PHP is installed on your server. For security reasons the use of PHP 4.4.2 or higher is highly recommended, but phpAdsNew should also work with PHP 4.0.3 or higher. phpAdsNew is also compatible with PHP 5. For more information about PHP, please look at the following website: <http://www.php.net>.



**When using Apache it is not recommended to run PHP as a CGI binary, use the Apache module instead. The Apache module is not only much faster, it also causes less load on the server, which improves the number of impressions the server can handle.**

**If your are using Microsoft IIS 5.1 or 6, please try to use Fast-CGI, because the ISAPI module is not yet declared stable. If you are using Microsoft IIS 5.0 or earlier please upgrade to the latest version. If you can't upgrade to IIS 5.1 or 6, please use the less stable ISAPI module. IIS 5.0 or earlier are affected by a serious bug which interferes with the**

### correct operation of CGI applications.

phpAdsNew is fully compatible with PHP 4.2 and 4.3, including when the `register_globals` setting is turned off. We've also added support for running phpAds-New when `magic_quotes_gpc` is turned off and `magic_quotes_runtime` is turned on.

#### phpAdsNew requires the following PHP configuration settings:

- `track_vars` needs to be turned on
- `file_uploads` need to be turned on
- `register_long_arrays` needs to be turned on when using PHP5

Because phpAdsNew uses a MySQL database, the *MySQL* extension needs to be included, but in most installations this is enabled by default. Other than the *MySQL* extension, phpAdsNew doesn't require any exotic extensions to be present for basic operation, however some optional features may require additional extensions to be installed.

The *ZLib* extension is required if you want to convert hard-coded links inside compressed Flash files which are generated by Flash MX. Without the *ZLib* extension phpAdsNew is not able to decompress the Flash file and won't detect any hard-coded links.

The *FTP* extension is used to store local banners on the webserver. If the *FTP* extension is not present it will try to simulate the *FTP* extension, but this might not be as stable as using the actual extension.

## MySQL

phpAdsNew requires a MySQL database to store the banner inventory and statistics. If you need more information about MySQL take a look at <http://www.mysql.com>.

There are no special requirements for the MySQL database server, but it is recommended to use at least MySQL 3.23.2. phpAdsNew is compatible with all table types, but if you are going to serve a lot of banners daily it is recommended to use a table type which supports row locking, such as InnoDB. phpAdsNew is also compatible with MySQL 4.1 and 5 running in strict modes, because it automatically falls back to MySQL 4 compatibility mode.

If you want to run phpAdsNew on a PostgreSQL database, please take a look at the phpPgAds project, which is a phpAdsNew port for PostgreSQL, created by one of our developers. The phpPgAds project is actively maintained and should be up to date with the latest release of phpAdsNew.





## CONSIDERATIONS

phpAdsNew is a very flexible application and there are many different ways it can be deployed on your server. Depending on how you plan to use phpAdsNew some ways have advantages over other ways. This chapter is intended to help you decide which way to deploy phpAdsNew is the best for your specific situation.

### Running your website and phpAdsNew on one web server

This is probably the simplest way to deploy phpAdsNew and unless you have a very large number of visitors this will work very good. You can install phpAdsNew in a subdirectory on the same virtual host as your actual website. If you website is also build with PHP you can use local mode invocation to deliver the banners.

If you are using local mode invocation there are some things you might want to consider. Because phpAdsNew needs to set cookies for certain advanced features the domain name which phpAdsNew uses must be the same as the one you are using for your website. The reason for this is because only cookies set by domain name X will be readable by a script running on domain name X. If you are using more than one domain name phpAdsNew will work without any problems, it will simply set the cookie using the domain name which is currently used, but this will only work if all the domain names you are using point to the same virtual host.

If you do want to run phpAdsNew on a different virtual host with a separate domain name you can't use local mode invocation without causing problems. Other types of remote invocation will work fine. This approach also has a couple of advantages: because there is a limitation to the number of cookies you can set for a specific domain older cookies will be deleted when new cookies are set. If you are running phpAdsNew on the same domain as your website it is possible phpAdsNew will delete the cookies which are set by your own website. Running on a different domain name will prevent this.



### Running phpAdsNew on a dedicated server


If you want to install phpAdsNew on a dedicated server, you can't use local mode invocation, but all the other types of remote invocation will still work fine. Apart from the obvious speed improvements this has some other advantages. Because the ad server needs to run on a separate domain name the cookies set by phpAdsNew are kept separate from the cookies set by your website. This also means they don't share the same limitation in the number of cookies that can be set, so phpAdsNew won't delete cookies set by your website once the limit is reached.

### Running phpAdsNew on more than one server

Currently phpAdsNew does not have a client – server architecture, but it is possible to install multiple copies of phpAdsNew to distribute the load over more than one web server. There are currently still a couple of limitations to this approach, such as the lack of automatic distribution of configuration settings, no automatic distribution of uploaded banner images to the different copies and the inability to use shared memory or files for the delivery cache. Also it is still required to keep using the same MySQL database server for all the different installation of phpAdsNew, so the load of the delivery is distributed over the different servers, but the load of the database server is not. There are instances where users have tried to use MySQL replication to distribute the load over multiple MySQL servers, but to achieve this you probably need to make a couple of modifications to the phpAdsNew source code.

Within the limitations outlined above there are multiple ways to deploy phpAdsNew. Just like a single server you can install phpAdsNew on the same server as your website or on a dedicated server. For example if you are already using a simple load balancer and multiple servers to serve your website, you could install a copy of phpAdsNew on a subdirectory on all your web servers. In other cases you might want to use multiple dedicated servers running phpAdsNew and balance the load between them.

As briefly explained above, it is not possible to use shared memory or files for storing the delivery cache if you plan on using more than one server to deliver the banners. The reason for this is quite simple, the delivery cache needs to be shared between all the servers and the database method is currently the only method that supports this.



The distribution of uploaded banners is also something to consider. phpAdsNew allows you to upload banners to the MySQL database or to a web server. The first method is slow but also very user-friendly. The second method is much faster but may take some additional configuration. If you are using multiple servers and the second method you need have two options: upload the banners to a different server which serves the banner images for all the ad servers or upload the banners to a directory on one of the ad servers and create a way to synchronize the uploaded images with the other ad servers yourself. If you don't synchronize the uploaded images it is possible the images will be requested from the wrong server and the user will see a broken images instead of a banner.

phpAdsNew stores its configuration settings using two different ways. First of all, the settings which are important to the delivery engine are stored in the `config.inc.php` file for optimization reasons. The rest of the settings which are mostly used for the administrator interface are stored inside the database. The settings which are stored in the database are automatically shared between multiple servers, but the settings which are stored in the `config.inc.php` file are not! So if you change a setting which is important to the delivery engine you will need to modify this file on all the servers you are running.

Also keep in mind that if you use a load balancer it is not clear on which server the settings will be changed in the first place, so it is wise to disable the administrator interface on all but one server. Then use a different domain name which only points to the server with the administrator interface to change the settings. For example: `ad.phpadsnew.com` (192.168.1.0) points to the load balancer which forwards the requests to `adserver1.phpadsnew.com` (192.168.1.1) and `adserver2.phpadsnew.com` (192.168.1.2). The administrator interface is disabled on `ad2.phpadsnew.com`, so you have to use `adserver1.phpadsnew.com` to manage the inventory or change configuration settings.

## Making your installation secure

Most installations of phpAdsNew are installed on the regular webserver and usually are accessed through the regular insecure http protocol. If you want to increase the security of the administrator interface there are also some 'hidden' options which allow you to use SSL for encryption. The only requirements for this is that the webserver you installed phpAdsNew on is capable of serving SSL encrypted pages and you have a valid certificate. Of course you can also use a separate server just for the administrator interface.

If you want to use one server for both the delivery and a secure administrator interface you can enable the 'hidden' *ui\_forcessl* configuration setting which can be changed in the *config.inc.php* file. If this option is enabled phpAdsNew will always automatically redirect the browser to the secure pages. For example if you try to access *http://www.your-server.com/phpAdsNew*, it will redirect to *https://www.your-server.com/phpAdsNew*. In order for this to work correctly you must also set the *url\_prefix* setting to the secure URL where phpAdsNew is running, for example: *https://www.your-server.com/phpAdsNew*.

If you want to use a separate secure server for the administrator interface you have some extra 'hidden' options which you need to configure. On the secure server you can force phpAdsNew from using SSL by enabling the *ui\_forcessl* configuration setting. Please make also sure you have set the *url\_prefix* setting to the secure location where phpAdsNew is running. On the non-secure server where the delivery engine is running you need to disable the administrator interface. To do this you need to disable the *ui\_enabled* configuration setting in the *config.inc.php* file.

# INSTALLATION

Installation of phpAdsNew is pretty simple, using the installer you can simply answer a few questions and the rest will be handled automatically. No need to edit complicated configuration files and manually set up the database. Simply follow the instructions below and you should have a working setup in minutes.

## Copying phpAdsNew to the web server

Before you can run the installer you first need to place phpAdsNew on the server. First you need to extract the files from the downloaded file and copy the files to a directory on the web server. If you are using a Windows system you can use a tool like WinZip to expand the tar.gz or .zip file. On a Linux or Unix based web server you can use the tar command to expand the tar.gz file.

```
tar xvfz phpAdsNew_x.tar.gz
```

Now that the files are placed on the web server, you need to make sure the web server can change file config.inc.php which holds the basic configuration settings. If you are using a Windows web server check the properties of the file and make sure the read-only flag is not set. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the chmod command from the command prompt:

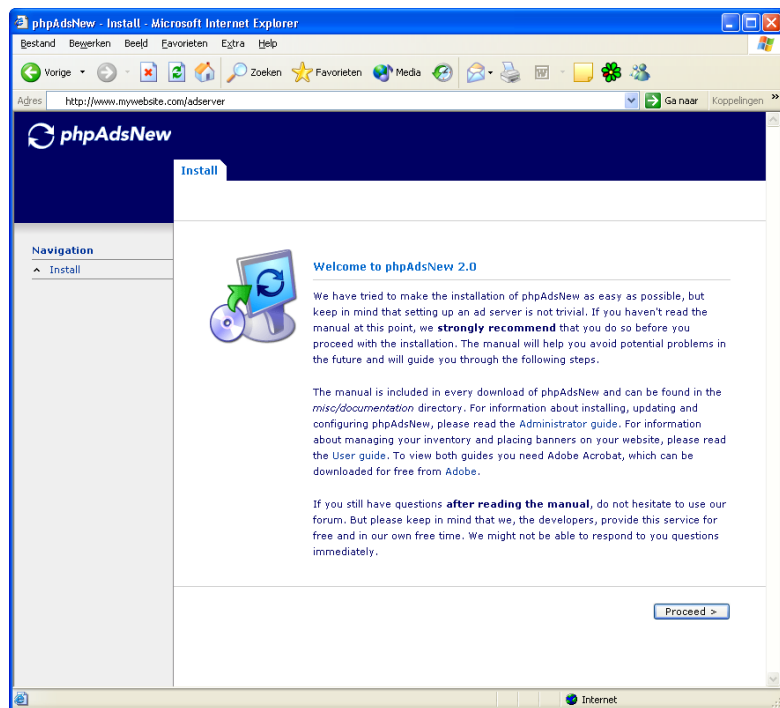
```
chmod a+w config.inc.php
```

If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

**IMPORTANT:**  
phpAdsNew contains an automatic installer which will do most of the work for you. Do not manually edit the configuration files, because that could cause problems later on. Please follow the following instructions. Installation of phpAdsNew should not take more than a couple of minutes.

## Running the installer

In step one you have copied the necessary files to the web server, now that the files are in place, you need to run the installer. To start the installer you need to open a web browser and point it to the directory in which phpAdsNew is copied. For example, if you copied the contents of the .zip or .tar.gz file to the *adserver* subdirectory of you main website, you should point your web browser to *http://www.mywebsite.com/adserver*. If this doesn't start the installer automatically your web server isn't configured to allow PHP files to be used as a directory index. If this is the case you could try to start the installer by running the *index.php* file in the admin directory manually by pointing the web browser to: *http://www.mywebsite.com/adserver/admin/index.php*.



This is the first thing you should see after pointing your web browser to the location where phpAdsNew is copied to.

If you do not see this screen, you should check if PHP is functioning correctly on your server. You can do this by placing a small text file called *phpinfo.php* in the same directory as *phpAdsNew*. The contents of the file should be `<?php phpinfo(); ?>`. If you call this file from your browser you should see an overview of the PHP configuration. If you see an empty page your server probably doesn't support PHP.

## The welcome and license page

The first thing you should see after starting the installer should be the welcome page. On this page you will find some general information regarding phpAdsNew and support. After reading this page you can proceed to the license page which will explain a bit about the license under which phpAdsNew is released. Click *Proceed* to begin the actual installation.

## Server and integrity check

The first thing the installer will do is to determine the capabilities of the web server. If all the requirements are met, the installer will continue with the next step. If one or more of the requirements fail, phpAdsNew will show an error message which should explain what changes must be made to your server before phpAdsNew can be installed.

### Before you continue, please correct these potential problems:

The following item(s) need to be corrected before you can install phpAdsNew. If you have any questions about this error message, please read the *Administrator guide*, which is part of the package you downloaded.

- The PHP configuration variable `file_uploads` needs to be turned on.
- phpAdsNew has detected that your `config.inc.php` file is not writeable by the server. You can't proceed until you change permissions on the file. Read the supplied documentation if you don't know how to do that.

If you are not able to correct the problems listed above, please contact the administrator of the server you are trying to install phpAdsNew on. The administrator of the server may be able to help you.

*If you see a similar error message during the installation of phpAdsNew, your server is not capable or running phpAdsNew without making some changes to your server.*

*A brief explanation of the changes that must be made is given below. The exact procedure on how to make these changes is beyond the scope of this manual and is considered to be common knowledge to the administrator of the server.*

phpAdsNew will also check whether the files you uploaded to the server are corrupt, changed or damaged. If phpAdsNew encounters any problems it will give you a warning and will advise you on what you need to do prevent any problems. If you intentionally modified some files before the installation you can simply ignore these warnings and proceed with the installation.

## phpAdsNew requires PHP 4.0.3 or higher to function correctly

The version of PHP which is installed on your web server is not compatible with phpAdsNew. To solve this problem you need to upgrade to PHP 4.0.3 or higher. If you need to upgrade we recommend that you upgrade to the latest release of PHP 4.

## The version of PHP you are using doesn't have support for connecting to a MySQL database server

PHP uses extensions to provide the ability to connect to external databases. The extension that is needed to connect to a MySQL database is not available on the version of PHP that is installed on your web server. Before you can continue you need to enable this extension. For more information please check the PHP manual.

### **The version of PHP you are using doesn't have support for PERL compatible regular expressions**

The ability to execute PERL compatible regular expressions is also provided by an extension (see the previous error). This extension is not available on the version of PHP that is installed on your web server. You need to enable this extension before you can continue.

### **The PHP configuration variable `file_uploads` needs to be turned on**

If you want to continue the installation of phpAdsNew you first need to make sure this setting is turned on in your PHP configuration file. Also do not forget to restart the web-server after changing this setting. For more information, please check the PHP manual.

### **The PHP configuration variable `magic_quotes_sybase` needs to be turned off**

If you want to continue the installation of phpAdsNew you first need to make sure this setting is turned off in your PHP configuration file. Also do not forget to restart the web-server after changing this setting. For more information, please check the PHP manual.

### **The PHP configuration variable `register_long_arrays` needs to be turned on**

If you want to continue the installation of phpAdsNew you first need to make sure this setting is turned on in your PHP5 configuration file. Also do not forget to restart the web-server after changing this setting. For more information, please check the PHP manual.

### **phpAdsNew has detected that your `config.inc.php` file is not writeable by the server**

If the `config.inc.php` file isn't writeable phpAdsNew can't store the configuration. You can change the file permissions on a Unix/Linux server using the `chmod` command or by using your FTP client. More information on how to unlock the `config.inc.php` file is given on the first page of this chapter.

### **The file `xxxx` is corrupt or has been modified**

phpAdsNew has detected a corrupt or modified file. If you did not modify this file yourself you are advised to re-upload the file to the server. If you did modify this file you can safely ignore this warning.

### **The file `xxxx` is older than the one that is supposed to be used with this version of phpAdsNew**

phpAdsNew has detected a file that is not supposed to be used with the version of phpAdsNew you are trying to install. Perhaps this is a left over from an old installation. Please try to re-upload the file to the server, before you continue.

### **The file `xxxx` could not be checked because it is missing**

phpAdsNew couldn't find one specific file. Please upload the missing file to the server before you continue.

### The administrator account

Once all install conditions are met the installer will ask you to setup the administrator account. You need to provide the full name of the administrator, the company name and the e-mail address of the administrator. These settings will be used by phpAdsNew in reports that are send by e-mail. You must also choose the default language which will be

#### Configure the administrator account

Full name

Company name

Email address

Language

Username

New Password

Repeat Password

#### Specify the location of phpAdsNew on the server

URL Prefix

used in phpAdsNew. The language you will select here will be used during the rest of the installation and for the administrator account. This setting is also used as the default language for all advertisers and publishers, but if needed it will be possible to manually select a different language for individual advertisers and publishers.

The next step would be to setup a username and password for the administrator. You need to enter the password twice to avoid typos. You can use this username and password from now on the log in to the administrator interface.



### Database Settings

Database hostname	<input type="text" value="localhost"/>
Database port number	<input type="text" value="3306"/>
Database username	<input type="text" value="phpads"/>
Database password	<input type="password" value="••••••"/>
Database name	<input type="text" value="phpads"/>

### Advanced Settings

Table names prefix	<input type="text" value="phpads_"/>
Table type	<input type="text" value="MyISAM"/>

In order to function correctly phpAdsNew needs to know where it is located on the web server. The installer will try to auto-detect the right location, but if this isn't correct, please supply the right location in the *url prefix* field (don't use a trailing slash).

### Setting up the database

phpAdsNew uses a MySQL database to store all of its data. On this page you need to provide the basic information on how to contact the database, this includes the hostname of the database server, the username and password to connect to the database and the name of the database itself.

Usually all table names used by phpAdsNew have the *phpAds\_* prefix, so they don't conflict with other tables used by other scripts. Unless you want to use multiple installations of phpAdsNew on the same server you can use the default value of the table prefix setting.

MySQL supports multiple table types. Each type of table has unique properties and some can speed up phpAdsNew considerable. MyISAM is the default table type and is available in all installations of MySQL. Other table types may not be available on your server. If you choose a table type which isn't supported by your database server, you will be notified after you click *Proceed*.

If you click *Proceed* after you have filled in the basic database settings, the installer will

#### IMPORTANT:

The database you want phpAdsNew to use during the installation must be created manually before the installer is started! phpAdsNew will not create this database. Also make sure the database user has enough privileges to connect to the database and to create new tables.

check if it can connect to the database and if the supplied user has enough privileges to create the database structure. A warning will be displayed when any of these checks fails. Below you will find the most common warning that happen during this part of the installation.

#### **Could not connect to database, please recheck the settings you specified**

This warning could mean three different things, first of all it is possible the installer could not determine if the hostname of the database server you specified exists and couldn't connect to it. This could be because you made a typo, or because the server currently isn't available. Please check the settings you entered and if these are correct, please make sure the database is up and running. The second reason why this message is shown is that the database you specified is not yet created on the database server. phpAdsNew can't create the database for you, it needs to exist already before you can install phpAdsNew. The third and last reason is that the username or password you specified might not be correct.

#### **The user you specified doesn't have permission to create or update the database structure**

The user you specified is a valid MySQL user and phpAdsNew was able to connect to the database with the user you specified, but when trying to create a table MySQL reported the user wasn't allowed to. Before you continue you need to make sure the user has enough privileges to alter existing tables and create new tables. If you are not sure on how to do this, please contact the administrator of the database server.

#### **Table prefix contains invalid characters**

Table names can only contain certain characters. The table prefix is used to create the name of the tables which need to be created and you used a character which isn't allowed. Make sure you use only the following characters: a - z and \_.

#### **Finishing the automatic installation**

After the installation is complete you will be able to fully configure phpAdsNew from the administrator interface. More information about all the settings can be found in the chapter *Configuration*.

**IMPORTANT:**  
Please do not forget to setup the scheduled hourly maintenance task. More information about this can be found in chapter *Automatic maintenance*.

# UPGRADING

**IMPORTANT:**  
phpAdsNew contains an automatic update script which will do all the work for you. Please follow these instructions carefully, because otherwise it will be possible that phpAdsNew will stop functioning correctly.

## Copying phpAdsNew to the web server

The first step is to backup your old installation and keep it in a safe place. If anything goes wrong during the upgrade you can simply use this backup. Also make sure to keep the old config.inc.php, you will need this file later on.

Now you have to extract the files from the downloaded file and copy the files to a directory on the web server. If you are using a Windows system you can use a tool like WinZip to expand the tar.gz or .zip file. On a Linux or Unix based web server to can use the tar command to expand the tar.gz file.

```
tar xvfz phpAdsNew_x.tar.gz
```

Copy the old config.inc.php file to the directory where the new version of phpAdsNew is installed. You need to over write the supplied config.inc.php with your old version.

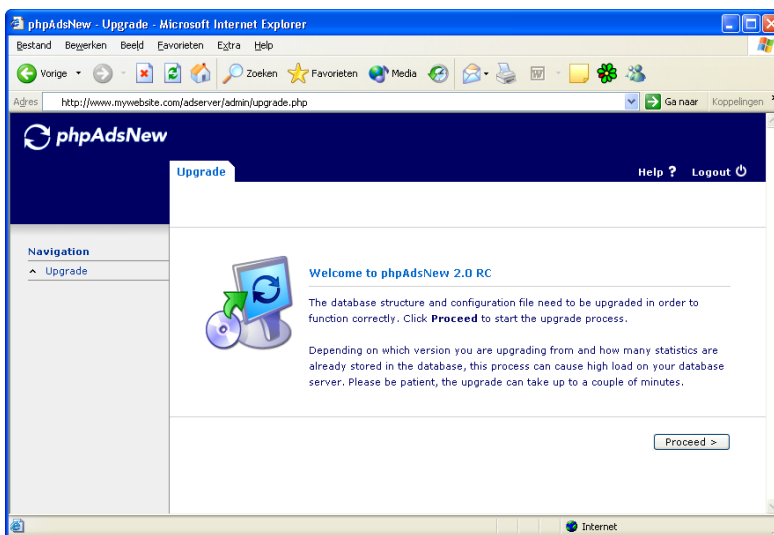
Now that the files are placed on the web server, you need to make sure the web server can change file config.inc.php which holds the basic configuration settings. If you are using a Windows web server check the properties of the file and make sure the read-only flag is not set. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the chmod command from the command prompt:

```
chmod a+w config.inc.php
```

If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

## Running the installer

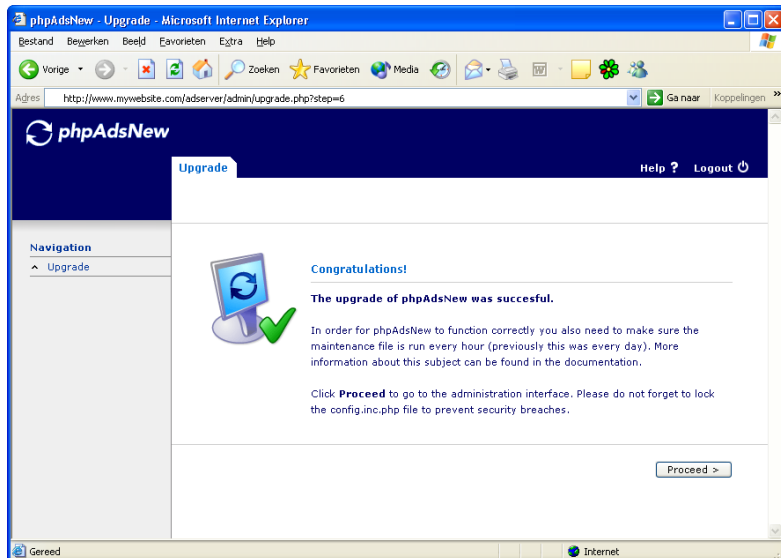
In step one you have copied the necessary files to the web server, now that the files are in place, you need to run the installer. To start the installer you need to open a web browser and point it to the directory in which phpAdsNew was copied, just like you would do when you log into the administrator interface. Before the installer can start you first need to enter your username and password.



This is the thing you should see after you login and start the installer.

After you click *Proceed*, the installer will read the old *config.inc.php* and will try to upgrade the existing database. Once the database is up-to-date, the installer will replace the old *config.inc.php* with a new one, containing the old settings.

Depending on how many days worth of statistics your old installation of phpAdsNew has and from which version you are upgrading, this process can cause a high load on the database server. Please be patient, the upgrade can take up to a couple of minutes.



After the installation is finished you should see this page. If you see an error message instead, please follow the instructions on screen.

## Congratulations

After the installer is finished your version of phpAdsNew should be up-to-date again and should be functioning immediately. There is one exception: if you are use the *Files* delivery cache you need to make the *cache* directory writable again, because otherwise phpAdsNew is not able to store or make changes to the delivery cache.

## Configuration

Now that the update of phpAdsNew is complete you may also want to look at the configuration of phpAdsNew. If you want to know more about all the different options, please read chapter *Configuration* of this guide.

After you have properly configured phpAdsNew you must not forget to lock the `config.inc.php` file again, to prevent security problems. If you are using a Windows web server check the properties of the file and make sure the read-only flag is set. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the `chmod` command from the command prompt:

```
chmod a-w config.inc.php
```

If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

### Updating your inventory (only for users of phpAdsNew 2 beta 6 or earlier)

All your existing advertisers should still be there. However if you are updating from a version of phpAdsNew which doesn't yet support campaigns you will need to create a campaign for each advertiser before you can make changes to your banners. If you look at the *Advertisers & Campaigns* page you will won't be able to see your banners, but instead there will be a line called *Banners without a campaign*. To make your existing banners usable click on the *Move banners to a new campaign* button.

If you are upgrading from a version which supports zones, but doesn't yet support publishers, you need to convert your zones. If you go to the *Publishers & Zones* page you will see a line with the following text: *Zones without a publisher*. If you click on the *Move zones to a new publisher* button a new publisher will be created, which holds all your existing zones.

Some older versions of phpAdsNew used a daily maintenance task. This is changed to an hourly scheduled task, so you might need to reconfigure your existing maintenance task. For more information about this subject, please read chapter *Automatic maintenance*.



## AUTOMATIC MAINTENANCE

**phpAdsNew uses a special maintenance script to activate campaigns, recalculate priorities, clean up statistics and send out advertiser reports. The maintenance scripts needs to run every hour for phpAdsNew to function correctly. There are many different ways to automatically schedule the maintenance script, some of which are described below.**

The most common way to schedule a task on Linux and UNIX based servers is to use the *cron* daemon. On Windows 2000 and XP servers there is a graphical interface to schedule tasks or you can use the *at* command. If for some reason you can't use these tools you could opt to use an external cron service, or use the cron emulator that came with the phpAdsNew package. The last two options are less reliable, if you can try to avoid using these.

If for some reason the scheduled task didn't run one particular hour there shouldn't be any major problems. Running without the maintenance script for longer period will have an effect on the functionality of phpAdsNew. For example, if the maintenance script isn't running, phpAdsNew won't activate new campaigns and the advertiser reports won't be send. One more very important side effect is that phpAdsNew won't recalculate the priority, which means high priority campaigns and campaigns that have both an expiration date and a fixed number of impressions will be delivered more often than is wanted. If you are having problems with the delivery of these types of campaigns always check if the maintenance script is running first.

If the maintenance script hasn't run in over 24 hours a message will be displayed as soon as you log into the administrator interface. This message cannot be disabled, the only way to prevent this message from being shown is to set up the maintenance task correctly.

## Scheduling tasks on Linux and UNIX based servers

If you are using Linux server or a Unix based server such as BSD, Sun or MacOS X you can use the cron daemon to automatically run the *maintenance.php* file. You can edit your scheduled tasks using the *crontab* utility. If you don't have permission to use *crontab*, please contact your service provider or server administrator.

In most cases you will need shell access to your server to add a new scheduled task. After using telnet or ssh to login to your server use the following command to export your existing scheduled tasks to a text file:

```
crontab -l > cron.txt
```

After exporting your existing tasks to a text file you can use any text editor you want to add tasks. Because every server or service provider is different it is not easy to provide a way to schedule tasks that will work on every server. Depending on the configuration of your server you can use one of the following tools to actually run the maintenance file: *curl*, *fetch*, *lynx* or *wget*. To find out which is supported by your server simply type the name of the tool on the command-line. If you get a message '*command not found*' the tool isn't supported on your server.

Based on which tool your server supports add **one** of the following lines to the *cron.txt* file:

```
# if your server supports curl:
0 * * * * curl -s -o /dev/null http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php

# if your server supports fetch:
0 * * * * fetch -o /dev/null http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php

# if your server supports lynx:
0 * * * * lynx > /dev/null -dump http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php

# if your server supports wget:
0 * * * * wget -q -O /dev/null http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php
```

After you changed the *cron.txt* file and added the line for the tool you want to use, you need to import the file back again into the cron daemon. To do this type the following command on the command-line:

```
crontab cron.txt
```



## Scheduling tasks on Windows 2000 and XP servers

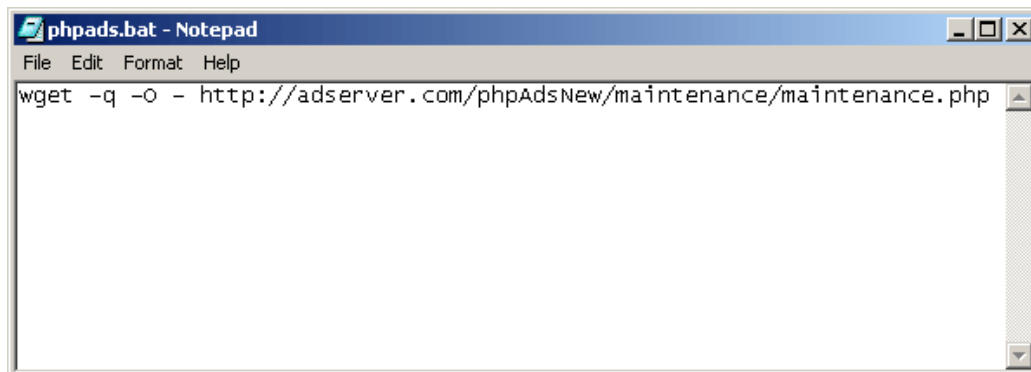
If you are using a Microsoft Windows 2000 or XP server you can use the *Scheduled Tasks* to automatically run the maintenance file. However there is no standard tool available to actually run the maintenance file.

### Downloading wget

The first thing to do is to download wget, which is a command line utility to get the contents of a file stored on a web server. Wget is available for all kinds of operating systems, including Windows. After you have downloaded the zip file you need to copy the wget.exe file to the directory where Windows is installed. Wget isn't part of phpAdsNew and needs to be downloaded separately. Up-to-date download locations are listed on the wget homepage: <http://www.gnu.org/software/wget/wget.html>

### Creating a batch file

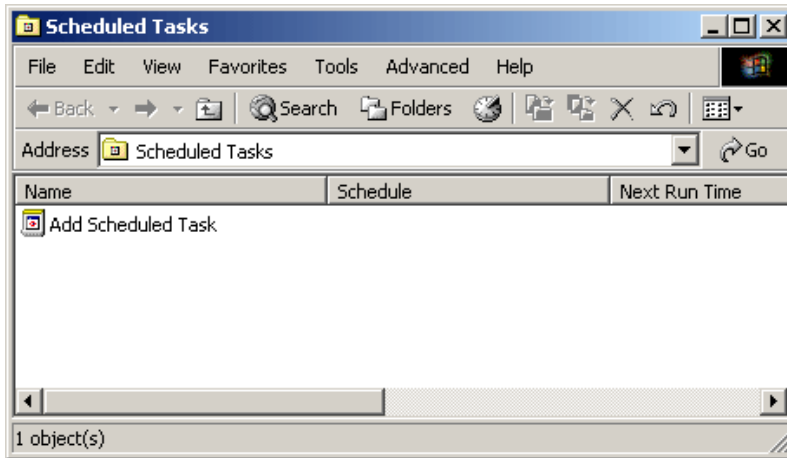
The next step is creating a small batch file which will call the wget utility with the correct parameters. This file can be executed as a Scheduled Task later on. You can use Notepad to create a new file and add the information below, then save the file as phpads.bat. You can save the file anywhere you like, but it is wise to keep it in a location that isn't going to change, and isn't accessible by the web server. Also make sure to specify the correct URL inside the batch file, the URL below is just an example.



```
phpads.bat - Notepad
File Edit Format Help
wget -q -O - http://adserver.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php
```

## Creating the scheduled task

The next step would be to actually add a new Scheduled Task. You can find all Scheduled Tasks inside a directory inside the Control Panel.



Now click on *Add Scheduled Task*. The wizard will begin and after you click on *Next* it will ask you for the program to run. Just click on *Browse...* and select the batch file you just created. Now you need to give this Scheduled Task a name and select to perform this task daily.



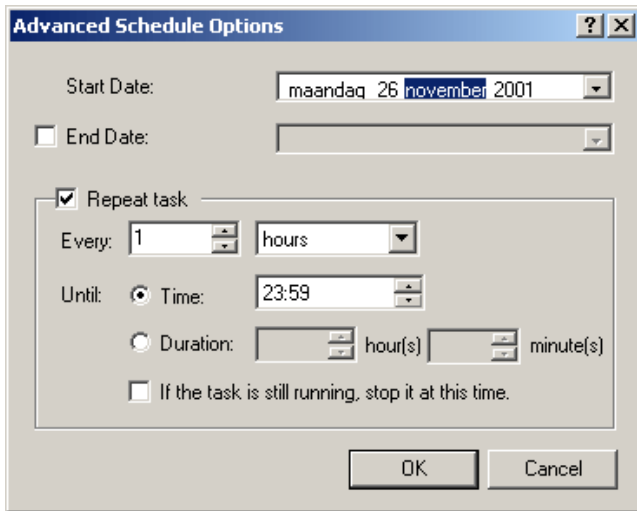
Click on *Next* and set the Start time to 0:00 and choose to perform this task every day. If you click *Next* the wizard will ask you for your username and password.



After you supplied your username and password click on *Next*. Make sure to select *Open advanced properties...*, because you will need to make some modification to this task. Now click on *Finish*.

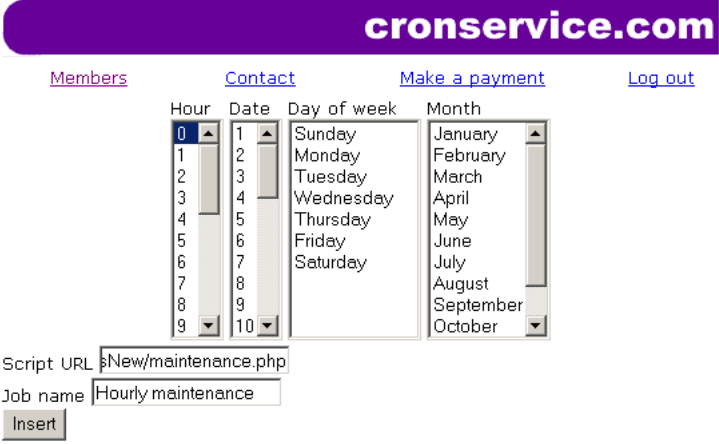


To make sure this task runs hourly you will need to go to the *Schedule* tab and select the *Advanced...* button. Now check *Repeat task* and make sure the task is repeated every hour. Also select the radio button *Time* and set the value to 23:59. Now click *OK* to close this dialogbox and click *Apply* to save all settings.



## Using an external cron server

If your server doesn't support *Scheduled Tasks* or *cron* jobs, it is still possible to run the maintenance file every hour automatically, by using an external cron server.



The screenshot shows the cronservice.com website interface. At the top, there is a purple header with the text "cronservice.com". Below the header, there are four navigation links: "Members", "Contact", "Make a payment", and "Log out". The main content area features a form with four columns: "Hour", "Date", "Day of week", and "Month". Each column has a dropdown menu. The "Hour" dropdown is set to "0", "Date" to "1", "Day of week" to "Sunday", and "Month" to "January". Below these dropdowns, there are two text input fields: "Script URL" containing "New/maintenance.php" and "Job name" containing "Hourly maintenance". An "Insert" button is located at the bottom left of the form.

### Cronservices.com

For just \$9.95 a year, cronservice.com allows you to add as many scheduled tasks as you want by using a simple web based interface. After logging in at cronservices.com, you need to specify which task you want to run by clicking the *Add new job* button.

If you want to run a job hourly you need to select all *hours*. Don't select a *date*, *day of week* or *month*. Then enter the full URL of the maintenance file in the *Script URL* field. For example: if you installed phpAdsNew on <http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew>, the full URL would be <http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/maintenance/maintenance.php>. After entering a *job name* you can click on the *Insert* button.

## Using the phpAdsNew cron emulator

As a last resort it is also possible to use the cron emulator that came with the phpAdsNew package. The cron emulator is a very small script that needs to be placed on one or more pages of your website. Everytime that page or those pages are opened by a visitor, the script will check if the scheduled task needs to run. If it hasn't run that particular hour, it will start the maintenance script.

This method is far less accurate than the other methods explained in the last couple of pages, because if your website doesn't get any visitors one hour, the maintenance script won't be called. Also, the maintenance script is most effective if it is called in the first 5 or 10 minutes of every hour, so in order to be accurate there must be at least one visitor in the first 5 or 10 minutes.

Before you can use the cron emulator, you must make the *fakecron.lastrun.php* file writable by the webserver. The file can be found in the *misc/fakecron* directory. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the `chmod` command from the command prompt. If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

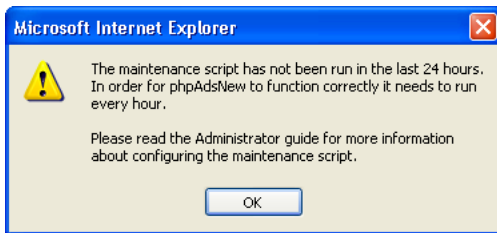
```
chmod a+w fakecron.lastrun.php
```

After you made the *fakecron.lastrun.php* file writable you need to place the following HTML code one or more of your webpages. Please do not forget to replace the name of the webserver in the example with the name of server you are actually using. Also if you installed phpAdsNew in a different directory make the necessary changes to make sure the *fakecron.php* file is called from the right directory.

```
<img src='http://www.server.com/phpAdsNew/misc/fakecron/fakecron.php' width='0' height='0'>
```

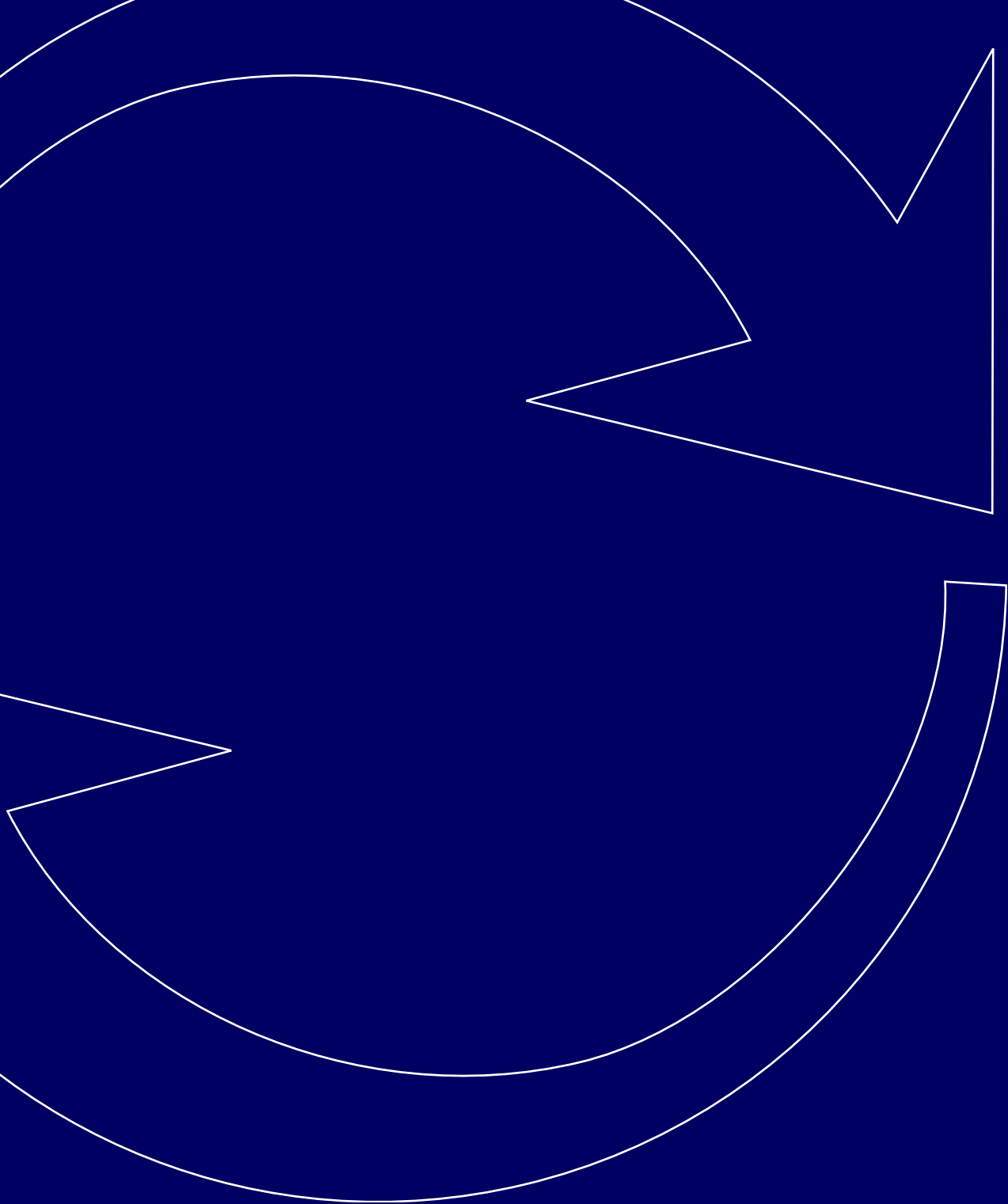
## Checking if the maintenance task is running

The maintenance task is very important for the functionality of phpAdsNew. Without running the maintenance task every hour many different problems can occur. Because of this it is important to check whether the maintenance task is running properly.



*If you log in to phpAdsNew and the maintenance task hasn't ran in 24 hours the following warning is displayed. If you see this warning dialog you should look into why the maintenance task isn't running properly.*

Apart from the warning dialog displayed above, there is another way to see if the maintenance task is running properly. If you have enabled the option *Log hourly priority calculations* on the *Administrator settings* page a log of the priority calculations will be stored in the *User log*. If this option is enabled, but there are no logs visible in the *User log* the maintenance task is probably not running correctly.



# CONFIGURATION





# INTRODUCTION



phpAdsNew can be configured by using the *Settings* tab of the Administrator interface. All configurable options are grouped into seven sections, which can be selected from a drop down menu at the top of the screen. There are currently seven sections: Database settings, Invocation and delivery settings, Banner settings, Statistics settings, Administrator settings, User interface configuration and Interface defaults

After you have made changes in one of the above sections, you need to click the *Save changes* button to store the settings. After you have clicked on this button you will be redirected to the next section.

Some settings are stored inside a small configuration file for speed improvements, other settings are stored inside the database. Only settings stored in the database can always be edited. The settings which are stored in the configuration file can only be edited if the configuration file is writeable by the web server.

## Locking and unlocking the config.inc.php file

Before you can edit the settings stored inside the *config.inc.php* file you need to unlock the file and allow the web server to make changes to it. By default the web server is not allowed to make changes to the file for security reasons. If you are finished editing the settings you need to make sure the file is locked, because otherwise it would be possible other users on the same web server would be able to edit the settings.

-  It is possible to edit all settings because the configuration file is not locked, but this could lead to security leaks. If you want to secure your system, you need to lock the config.inc.php file.
-  It is not possible to edit these settings because the configuration file is locked for security reasons. If you want to make changes, you need to unlock the config.inc.php file first.

## Unlocking the config.inc.php file

If you are using a Windows web server check the properties of the file and make sure the read-only flag is not set. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the `chmod` command from the command prompt:

```
chmod a+w config.inc.php
```

If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

## Locking the config.inc.php file

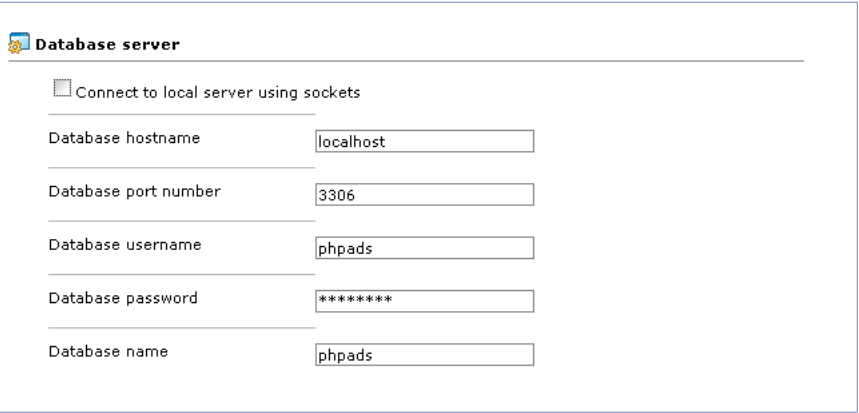
If you are using a Windows web server check the properties of the file and make sure the read-only flag is set. If you are using a Linux or Unix web server you can alter the write permissions with the `chmod` command from the command prompt:

```
chmod a-w config.inc.php
```

If you do not have command line access to your web server then your ftp client should be able to change file permissions.

# DATABASE SETTINGS

Before you can use phpAdsNew you need to tell phpAdsNew which database to use and which username and password to use. All of these settings are stored inside the configuration file, so if you want to change these settings the configuration file needs to be unlocked.



The screenshot shows a configuration form titled "Database server" with a gear icon. It contains a checkbox for "Connect to local server using sockets" which is unchecked. Below it are five input fields: "Database hostname" with "localhost", "Database port number" with "3306", "Database username" with "phpads", "Database password" with "\*\*\*\*\*", and "Database name" with "phpads".

## Connect to local server using sockets

phpAdsNew needs a MySQL database where it can store information about the banners, campaigns and clients. It can use both TCP/IP and UNIX sockets to connect to the database. Sockets are proven to be a little faster and PHP automatically tries to use them when connecting to a local server (when hostname is localhost). However there are cases where the MySQL socket isn't placed in the default location and you need to specify its path. In these case, you should mark this checkbox and write the socket path as database hostname (see below).

### Database hostname

Specify the hostname or the IP address of the database server. If you enabled the socket connection marking the previous checkbox, you will need to specify the path to a local socket e.g. “:/path/to/socket” for the localhost

### Database port number

Specify the number of the port of the MySQL database server to which you are trying to connect. The default port number for a MySQL database is 3306.

### Database username

Specify the username which phpAdsNew must use to gain access to the database server.

### Database password

Specify the password which phpAdsNew must use to gain access to the database server.

### Database name

A MySQL server usually contains a lot of different database, for all kinds of different users or projects. Each database has a unique name. You need to specify the name of the database which is used for phpAdsNew.

#### Database optimisations

- Use persistent connections
- Use delayed inserts
- Use database compatibility mode

### Use persistent connections

If you want to use persistent connections to the database server check this option. The use of a persistent connection can speed up phpAdsNew considerably and may even decrease the load on the server. There is a drawback however, on sites with a lot of visitors the load on the server can increase and become larger than when using normal connections. Whether you should use regular connections or persistent connections depends on the number of visitors and the hardware you are using. If phpAdsNew is using too many resources, you should take a look at this setting first. Persistent connections are

turned off by default.

### **Use delayed inserts**

Mysql locks the table when it is inserting a row and this is exactly what happens if an AdView is logged. If you have many visitors on your website, it is possible phpAdsNew is waiting before an AdView is logged, because the database is still locked. When you use delayed inserts, phpAdsNew doesn't have to wait and the row will be inserted at a later time when the table is not in use by any other thread. Another major benefit of using delayed inserts is that inserts from many users are bundled together and written by the database in one large block. This is much faster than doing many separate inserts, but could cause data corruption when the database server should crash. This option is turned off by default.

### **Use database compatibility mode**

If you are having problem integrating phpAdsNew with another third party product it might help to turn on the database compatibility mode. If you are using local mode invocation (inserting a few PHP commands inside a PHP script to serve the banners) phpAdsNew can affect already opened database connections. This should only happen if the third party product uses a connection to another database on the same database server as phpAdsNew. If the database compatibility is turned on phpAdsNew should leave the state of the database connection exactly the same as it was before phpAdsNew ran. This option is a bit slower (only slightly) and therefore turned off by default.

# INVOCATION AND DELIVERY

This setting deals with all options which are related to the invocation and delivery engine. All of these settings are stored inside the configuration file, so if you want to change these settings the configuration file needs to be unlocked.

## Delivery settings

Delivery cache type

Evaluate delivery limitations during delivery

Allow logical operators when using direct selection

Allow multiple keywords when using direct selection

### Delivery cache type

To help speed up the delivery phpAdsNew uses a cache which includes all the information needed to deliver the banner to the visitor of your websites. The delivery cache is stored by default in the database, but to increase the speed even more it is also possible to store the cache inside a file or inside shared memory.

If you want to store the cache inside a file you will need to make the *cache* directory inside the phpAdsNew directory writeable. If this isn't the case this option will not be listed in the drop down menu.

If you want to use shared memory to store the cache you will need the *sysvshm* or the *shmop* extension for PHP. In some cases you will need to manually configure additional settings in the delivery cache plug in, which is stored in the *libraries/deliverycache* directory.

### Evaluate delivery limitations during delivery

Delivery limitations help you deliver the banners more targeted to your visitors. If you are not using delivery limitations you can disable the evaluations of the limitation altogether with this setting. Disabling the delivery limitations will reduce the load phpAdsNew is generating a bit. If you have disabled delivery limitations with this parameter you can't modify any existing limitations from the admin interface.

### Allow logical operators when using direct selection

If you are using direct selection to retrieve banners from the inventory you can use logical operators to create a more complex query. If this option is disabled the load phpAdsNew is generating will be reduced a little, but you will also lose the ability to create complex and powerful queries. For more information, please read the *User guide*. This is turned on by default.

### Allow multiple keywords when using direct selection

For each banner, you can specify one or more keywords. This option is needed if you want to specify more than one keyword. This is turned on by default.

#### Allowed invocation types

- Allow Remote Invocation
- Allow Remote Invocation for Javascript
- Allow Remote Invocation for Frames
- Allow Remote Invocation using XML-RPC
- Allow Local mode

---

- Allow Interstitials

---

- Allow Popups

### Allow ....

If you want to prevent publishers from using particular invocation types, you can disable any of the available types here. Even if certain types of invocation are disabled, existing banner codes of that type will still continue to function. Only generation of new banner codes of that type is not allowed. If you disable interstitials or Popups, this will also disable the corresponding zone types.

#### P3P Privacy Policies

Use P3P Policies

P3P Compact Policy

P3P Policy Location

### Use P3P Policies

Internet Explorer 6 is the first browser to implement the w3c P3P standard. The P3P standard is created to protect the privacy of your users. By default Internet Explorer will reject third party cookies, unless a valid privacy policy header is also sent, together with the cookies. These setting will allow you send these privacy policies headers together with the cookies which are being sent by phpAdsNew. If you want to enable phpAdsNew' P3P Privacy Policies you must turn this option on.

### P3P Compact Policy

The compact policy which is sent together with cookies. The default setting is: 'CUR ADM OUR NOR STA NID', which will allow Internet Explorer 6 to accept the cookies used by phpAdsNew. If you want you can alter these settings to match your own privacy statement.

### P3P Policy Location

If you want to use a full privacy policy, you can specify the location of the policy.

#### Cookie settings

Pack cookies to avoid cookie overpopulation

### Pack cookies to avoid cookie overpopulations

phpAdsNew uses cookies to store informations on the visitor browser for later retrieval. This is needed to have some features like plain remote invocation and banner delivery capping. However there is a limit of 20 cookies per domain defined by the RFC 2965 that some browser enforce. This could cause some cookies to be deleted and prevent phpAdsNew and other applications from working correctly. Starting from release 2.0.6, phpAdsNew has a way to get around this cookie limit, which basically works by packing the informations in a smaller number of cookies.



# HOST INFO AND GEOTARGETING

phpAdsNew uses host information and geotargeting for different functions, such as logging and delivery limitations. This page lets you set how this information is retrieved.

Try to determine the hostname of the visitor...

## Remote host

- Try to determine the hostname of the visitor if it is not supplied by the server
- Try to determine the real IP address of the visitor if he is using a proxy server

The hostname is usually determined by the web server, but in some cases this might be turned off. If you want to use the visitors host name inside delivery limitations and/or keep statistics about this and the server doesn't provide this information you will need to turn this option on. Determining the hostname of the visitor does take some time; it will slow the delivery of banners down.

Try to determine the real IP address of the visitor...

Some visitors are using a proxy server to access the internet. In that case phpAdsNew will log the IP address or the hostname of the proxy server instead of the user. If you enable this feature phpAdsNew will try to find the IP address or hostname of the visitor's computer behind the proxy server. If it is not possible to find the exact address of the visitor it will use the address of the proxy server instead. This option is not enabled by default, because it will slow the delivery of banners down considerably.

#### Geotargeting

Type of geotargeting database

Geotargeting database location

Store the result in a cookie for future reference

Geotargeting allows phpAdsNew to convert the IP address of the visitor to geographical information. Based on this information you can set delivery limitations or you could store this information to see which country is generation the most impressions or click-thrus, or limit and target banner delivery.

phpAdsNew currently supports different types of geotargeting databases, from two different vendors, MaxMind (both mod\_geoip and stand-alone database) and IP2Country. Almost all of the databases supported by phpAdsNew allow you to target based on continent and country. Many will be able to find the US or CA state, and some will provide further details, such as city, area and DMA codes (US only), and regions for non US states. There are also specialized databases that do not provide geographic information, but can be used to target banners to different ISPs or organizations owning the IP address, or limit banner delivery by connection speed (dial-up, broadband or corporate).

A free country database is provided from MaxMind, but if you need a more accurate database, or want a database with more informations, we suggest buying one from MaxMind, following the link on the right. Upon every purchase MixMind will guarantee a small donation to the phpAdsNew project.

You will find more information and a compatibility chart here:  
<http://phpadsnew.com/two/features-geo.html>

#### **Type of geotargeting database**

If you want to enable geotargeting you need to choose which type of database you have. phpAdsNew currently supports the GeoIP and IP2Country database. The GeoIP database is supported as an Apache module and directly by phpAdsNew.

#### **Geotargeting database location**

Unless you are the GeoIP Apache module, you should tell phpAdsNew the path to the geotargeting database. It is always recommended to place the database outside of the web

**GeoIP**  
by MaxMind

*For more information about the GeoIP database, please go to <http://www.maxmind.com/?rld=phpadsnew2>*

*A free try-out version of the GeoIP database is available from MaxMind*



servers document root, because otherwise people are able to download the database.

**Store the result in a cookie for future reference**

Converting the IP address in geographical information takes time. To prevent phpAdsNew from having to do this every time a banner is delivered the result can be stored in a cookie. If this cookie is present phpAdsNew will use this information instead of converting the IP address. The cookie used for storing the geographical information is valid for 15 minutes.

# STATISTICS

All options which are related to the gathering of statistics, mailed reports are grouped into this section. Most of these settings are stored in the configuration file, which needs to be unlocked to be able to change these settings.

## Statistics format

Statistics format

Verbose

- Log an AdView everytime a banner is delivered
- Log an AdClick everytime a visitor clicks on a banner

---

- Log the source parameter specified during invocation
- Log the country of the visitor in the statistics
- Log the hostname or IP address of the visitor
  - Only log the IP address of the visitor even if the hostname is known

---

- Use a small beacon image to log AdViews to ensure only delivered banners are logged

### Statistics format

Traditionally phpAdsNew used rather extensive logging now called *verbose statistics*, which was very detailed but was also very demanding on the database server. This could be a big problem on sites with a lot of visitors. phpAdsNew can also use a new kind of statistics called *compact statistics*, which is less demanding on the database server, but also less detailed. The compact statistics collects AdViews and AdClicks for each hour. Individual AdClicks and AdViews are not separately stored inside the database any more. Depending on the choice you make here phpAdsNew will store more or less information about impressions and click-thru's.

### **Log an AdView everytime a banner is delivered**

Usually all AdViews are logged, but if for some reason you don't want to gather statistics about AdViews you can turn this off.

### **Log an AdClick everytime a visitor clicks on a banner**

Usually all AdClicks are logged, but if for some reason you don't want to gather statistics about AdClicks you can turn this off. If you turn both logging of AdViews and logging of AdClicks off, phpAdsNew won't store any information about your visitors.

### **Log the source parameter specified during invocation**

If you are using the source parameter in the invocation code you can also store this information in the database so you will be able to see statistics about how the different source parameters are performing. If you are not using the source parameter, or if you don't want to store information about this parameter you can safely turn this option off.

### **Log the country of the visitor in the statistics**

If you are using a geotargeting database you can also store the geographical information in the database. If you have enabled this option you will be able to see statistics about the location of your visitors and how each banner is performing in the different countries. This option will only be available to you if you are using verbose statistics.

### **Log the hostname or IP address of the visitor**

If you want to store the hostname or IP address of each visitor in the statistics you can enable this feature. Storing this information will allow you to see which hosts are retrieving the most banners. This option is only available if you are using verbose statistics.

### **Only log the IP address of the visitor even if the hostname is known**

Storing the hostname of the visitor takes a lot of space inside the database. If you enable this feature phpAdsNew will still store information about the host, but it will store the less space consuming IP address only. This option isn't available if the hostname isn't provided by the server or phpAdsNew, because in that case the IP address will always be stored.

### Use a small beacon image to log AdViews...

Beacons are small invisible images which are placed on the page where the banner also is displayed. If you turn this feature on phpAdsNew will use this beacon image to count the number of impressions the banner has received. If you turn this feature off the impression will be counted during delivery, but this is not entirely accurate, because a delivered banner doesn't always have to be displayed on the screen. For example: if you want to display a banner on the bottom of a large page it is possible the user moves to another page before the banner is actually displayed. If this feature is turned on the impression will not be counted, if this feature is turned off the impression will be counted. The IAB recommends using beacon images for logging, because of its accuracy.

Enabling this feature also has an important side effect. If you want to use delivery capping phpAdsNew must be able to store cookies, which is only possible if this feature is enabled. Simply put: if this option is disabled, delivery capping will not work.

**Prevent logging**

Don't store statistics for visitors using one of the following IP addresses or hostnames

127.0.1.2  
127.0.1.3  
192.168.0.\*

Don't log AdViews if the visitor already seen the same banner within the specified number of seconds

10

Don't log AdClicks if the visitor already clicked on the same banner within the specified number of seconds

10

### Don't store statistics for visitors using one of the following....

If you don't want to keep track of click-thru's and impressions from certain computer you can add these to this setting. For example: you can add your own IP address to prevent yourself from influencing the statistics every time you visit your own website. You need to place each hostname or IP address on a new line. Important: you can only use hostnames if they are provided by the server or by phpAdsNew. For more information about this please read the previous chapter. If the hostname isn't available you can only use IP addresses. Instead of using the full hostname or IP address you can also use wild cards (i.e. *\*.altavista.com* or *192.168.\**).

### Don't log AdViews if the visitor....

If a visitor reloads a page an AdView will be logged by phpAdsNew every time. This feature is used to make sure that only one AdView is logged for each unique banner for the number of seconds you specify. For example: if you set this value to 300 seconds, phpAds

New will only log AdViews if the same banner isn't already shown to the same visitor in the last 5 minutes. This feature only works if you are using beacon images to log AdViews and if the browser accepts cookies.

### Don't log AdClicks if the visitor....

If a visitor clicks multiple times on a banner an AdClick will be logged by phpAdsNew every time. This feature is used to make sure that only one AdClick is logged for each unique banner for the number of seconds you specify. For example: if you set this value to 300 seconds, phpAdsNew will only log AdClicks if the visitor didn't click on the same banner in the last 5 minutes. This feature only works when the browser accepts cookies.

**E-mail warnings**

Send a warning to the administrator every time a campaign is almost expired

Send a warning to the advertiser every time a campaign is almost expired

Send a warning when the number of impressions left are less than specified here

Add the following headers to each e-mail message sent by phpAdsNew

Enable qmail patch

### Send a warning to the administrator...

Every time a campaign is almost expired phpAdsNew can send you a warning by e-mail. The number of impressions on which the warning is sent is specified below. This feature is turned on by default.

### Send a warning to the advertiser...

Apart from sending a warning to the administrator, phpAdsNew can also send the same warning to the advertiser. This will allow the advertiser to order new impressions before the campaign is fully deactivated. This feature is turned on by default.

### Send a warning when the number of impressions...

Because some sites deliver more banners than others it is possible to set the exact number of impressions when the advertiser and/or administrator will be sent a warning. By default the warning will be sent when there are only 100 impressions left for a campaign.

### Add the following headers to each e-mail message send by phpAdsNew

You can add custom headers to the e-mail message send by phpAdsNew. For example if you want message from phpAdsNew to be urgent you could use the following headers: *X-Priority: 1 (Highest)*, *X-MSMail-Priority: High* and *Importance: High*. The headers you want to use must be specified on separate lines.

### Enable qmail patch

Some versions of qmail are a bit picky when it comes to parsing the e-mail headers, which causes e-mail sent by phpAdsNew to show the headers inside the body of the e-mail. If you enable this setting, phpAdsNew will send e-mail in a qmail compatible format. This isn't enabled by default because sending e-mail in this format can cause problems when using other servers.

#### Database pruning

Prune statistics

Maximum age of statistics  
(3 weeks minimum)

Prune user log

Maximum age of user log  
(3 weeks minimum)

### Prune statistics

If you enable this feature, the gathered statistics will be automatically deleted after the period you specify below this checkbox is passed. For example, if you set this to 5 weeks, statistics older than 5 weeks will be automatically deleted.

### Prune userlog

This feature will automatically delete entries from the userlog which are older than the number of weeks specified below this checkbox.



# BANNER SETTINGS

This section allows you to configure all options which are related to banners, such as default banners, allowed banner types and storage settings.

## Default banners

Default image URL	<input type="text" value="http://www.phpadsnew.com/default.gif"/>
Default destination URL	<input type="text" value="http://www.phpadsnew.com"/>

### Default image URL and Default destination URL

If phpAdsNew can't connect to the database server, or can't find any matching banners at all, for example when the database crashed or was deleted, it won't display anything. Some users may want to specify a default banner, which will be displayed in these situations. The default banner specified here will not be logged and won't be used if there are still active banners left in the database. Be aware this default banner should only be used as a fail-safe, not as a regular banner. This is turned off by default.

#### Allowed banner types

- Allow local banners (SQL)
- Allow local banners (Webserver)
- Allow external banners
- Allow HTML banners
- Allow Text ads

### Allow local banners (SQL), Allow local banners (Webserver), Allow external banners and Allow HTML banners, Allow Text ads

phpAdsNew can use different types of banners and store them in different ways. The first two options are used for local storage of banners. You can use the admin interface to upload a banner and phpAdsNew will store the banner in the SQL database or on a web server. You can also use a banner stored on a different external web server or use HTML to generate a banner. You can disable any one of these types by altering these settings. By default all banner types are turned on.

If you disable a certain banner type while there are still banners available of the this type, phpAdsNew will allow the use of these banners, but will not allow the creation of new banners of this type.

#### Local banner (Webserver) configuration

Storing method	<input type="text" value="Local directory"/>
Public URL	<input type="text" value="http://www.phpadsnew.com/banners"/>
Local directory	<input type="text" value="\home\users\phpadsnew\banners"/>
FTP Host	<input type="text"/>
Host directory	<input type="text"/>
Login	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="text"/>

### Storing method

If you want to use local banners which are stored on the web server, you need to configure this setting. If you want to store the banners in a local directory set this option to *Local directory*. If you want to store the banner on an external FTP server set this option to *External FTP server*. On certain web servers you may want to use the FTP option even on the local web server.

### Public URL

If you store banners on a web server, phpAdsNew needs to know which public URL corresponds with the local directory or directory on the web server. Do not specify a trailing slash (/).

### Local directory

Specify the directory where phpAdsNew needs to copy the uploaded banners to. This directory needs to be writeable by PHP, this could mean you need to modify the unix permissions for this directory (*chmod*). The directory you specify here needs to be in the web server's document root, the web server must be able to serve the files directly.

Do not specify a trailing slash (/). You only need to configure this option if you have set the storing method to *Local directory*.

### FTP Host, Host directory, Login and Password

Specify the FTP server where phpAdsNew needs to copy the uploaded banners to. The directory you specify here needs to be in the web server's document root, the web server must be able to serve the files directly. If you don't specify a directory phpAdsNew will upload the banner to the root directory of the ftp server. If you don't specify a username and password phpAdsNew will try to login as an anonymous user with the administrators e-mail address. It is not recommended to store your banners on an FTP server, which can be accessed by anonymous users!!! Do not specify a trailing slash (/). You only need to configure this option if you have set the storing method to *External FTP server*.

#### HTML banner options

- Automatically alter HTML banners in order to force click tracking
- Allow PHP expressions to be executed from within a HTML banner

### Automatically alter HTML banners in order to force click tracking

If this option is turned on phpAdsNew will automatically alter HTML banners in order to allow the clicks to be tracked. However even if this option is turned on it will be possible to disable this feature on a per banner basis.

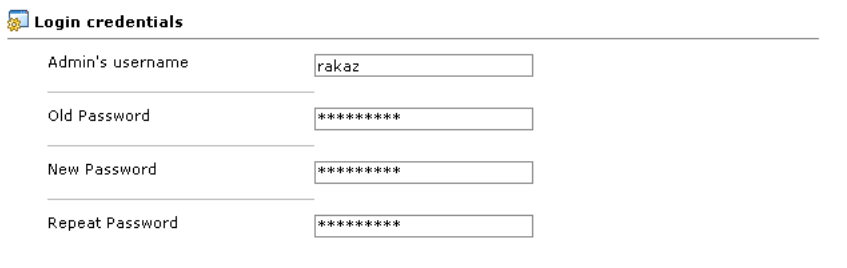
### Allow PHP expressions to be executed from within a HTML banner

It is possible to let phpAdsNew execute PHP code embedded inside HTML banners. Running PHP code is always a security risk, unless you are the only one using this system. This feature is turned off by default.

# ADMINISTRATOR

In this section you are able to change the configuration of the administrator. This includes changing the username and password and the user interface preferences.

## Admin's username



Login credentials	
Admin's username	<input type="text" value="rakaz"/>
Old Password	<input type="password" value="*****"/>
New Password	<input type="password" value="*****"/>
Repeat Password	<input type="password" value="*****"/>

The administrator username, you can specify the username that you can use to log into the administrator interface.

## Password

The administrator password, you can specify the password that you can use to log into the administrator interface. If you want to change the password you need to enter the old password first and then enter the new password twice to avoid typos.

### Basic information

Admin's full name	<input type="text" value="Niels Leenheer"/>
Admin's email address	<input type="text" value="niels@creatype.nl"/>
Company Name	<input type="text"/>

#### Admin's full name

Specify the administrator's full name. This used when sending statistics via email.

#### Admin's email address

The administrator's e-mail address. This is used as from-address when sending statistics via email.

#### Company Name

This name is used in the e-mail sent by phpAdsNew.

### Preferences

Language	<input type="text" value="English (International)"/>
Check for updates	<input type="text" value="Weekly"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Prompt for newly released development versions	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admin's delete actions need confirmation for safety	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Log all outgoing email messages	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Log hourly priority calculations	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Log automatic cleaning of database	

#### Language

Specify the default language phpAdsNew should use. This language will be used as a default for the admin and client interface. Please note: you can set a different language for each advertiser or publisher from the admin interface and allow clients to change their language themselves. phpAdsNew currently supports a large number of languages, including: chinese (gb2312), dutch, english, french, hebrew, italian, korean, polish, portuguese, russian (cp1251), russian (koi8r) and spanish.

### **Check for updates**

If you want to check for new versions of phpAdsNew you can enable this feature. It is possible to specify the interval in which phpAdsNew makes a connection to the update server. If a new version is found a dialog box will pop up with additional information about the update.

### **Prompt for newly released development versions**

If you enabled the previous feature, it is possible to choose whether to be alerted when beta and/or development builds are released. This feature is disabled by default, because those versions are not declared stable and could not work as expected. If you want to try the newly added features and help beta testing, enable this feature and you will be prompted when you login to the admin panel and a development build has been released.

### **Admin's delete actions need confirmation for safety**

If you want to receive a warning before deleting advertisers, campaigns, banners, publishers and zones; enable this option.

### **Log all outgoing email messages**

If you want to keep a copy of all outgoing e-mail messages sent by phpAdsNew you can enable this feature. The e-mail messages are stored in the userlog.

### **Log hourly priority calculations**

To ensure the priority calculation ran correct, you can save a report about the hourly calculation. This report includes the predicted profile and how much priority is assigned to all banners. This information might be useful if you want to submit a bug report about the priority calculations. The reports are stored inside the userlog.

### **Log automatic cleaning of database**

To ensure the database was pruned correctly, you can save a report about what exactly happened during the pruning. This information will be stored in the userlog.

# USER INTERFACE

## General settings

Application Name

Header file location

Footer file location

Use GZIP content compression



**Advertiser interface**

Enable advertiser welcome message

Welcome text  
(HTML tags allowed)

This section deals with all options which are related to the user interface. This includes the application name, headers, footers and welcome message. These settings are stored inside the database, so it isn't necessary to unlock the configuration file.

### Application Name

Specify the name you want to use for this application. This string will be displayed on all pages in the admin and client interface. If you leave this setting empty (default) a logo of phpAdsNew will be displayed instead.

### My header and My Footer

You should put here the path to the header files (e.g.: /home/login/www/header.htm) to have a header and/or footer on each page in the admin interface. You can put either text or html in these files (if you want to use html in one or both of these files do not use tags like <body> or <html>)

### Use GZIP content compression

By enabling GZIP content compression you will get a big decrease of the data which is sent to the browser each time a page of the administrator interface is opened. To enable this feature you need to have at least PHP 4.0.5 with the GZIP extension installed.

### Enable advertiser welcome message

If you turn this feature on a welcome message will be displayed on the first page an advertiser will see after logging in. You can personalize this message by editing the *welcome.html* file location in the *admin/templates* directory. Things you might want to include are for example: Your company name, contact information, your company logo, a link a page with advertising rates, etc..

### Welcome text

Instead of editing the *welcome.html* file you can also specify a small text here. If you enter a text here, the *welcome.html* file will be ignored. It is allowed to use html tags.



# INTERFACE DEFAULTS

This section allows you to specify default values for the administrator interface, this includes the default banner and campaign weight.

## Inventory

- Show extra campaign info on *Campaign overview* page
- Show extra banner info on *Banner overview* page
- Show preview of all banners on *Banner overview* page

---

- Show actual banner instead of plain HTML code for HTML banner preview
- Show banner preview at the top of pages which deals with banners

---

- Hide inactive items from all overview pages

---

- Show matching banners on the *Linked banner* pages
- Show parent campaigns on the *Linked banner* pages

Hide non-linked campaigns or banners on the *Linked banner* pages when there are more than

### Show extra campaign info on Campaign overview page

If this option is enabled extra information about each campaign will be shown on the *Campaign overview* page. The extra information includes the number of AdViews remaining, the number of AdClicks remaining, activation date, expiration date and the priority settings.

### Show extra banner info on Banner overview page

If this option is enabled extra information about each banner will be shown on the *Banner overview* page. The extra information includes the destination URL, keywords, size and the banner weight.

### **Show preview of all banner on Banner overview page**

If this option is enabled a preview of all banners will be shown on the *Banner overview* page. If this option is disabled it is still possible to show a preview of each banner by click on the triangle next to each banner on the *Banner overview* page.

### **Show actual banner instead of plain HTML code for HTML banner preview**

If this option is enabled the actual HTML banner will be shown instead of the HTML code. This option is disabled by default, because the HTML banners might conflict with the user interface. If this option is disabled it is still possible to view the actual HTML banner, by clicking on the *Show banner* button next to the HTML code.

### **Show banner preview at the top of pages which deals banners**

If this option is enabled a preview will be shown at the top of the *Banner properties*, *Delivery options* and *Linked zones* pages. If this option is disabled it is still possible to view the banner, by clicking on the *Show banner* button at the top of the pages.

### **Hide inactive items from all overview pages**

If this option is enabled all inactive banners, campaigns and advertisers will be hidden from the *Advertisers & Campaigns* and *Campaign overview* pages. If this option is enabled it is still possible to view the hidden items, by clicking on the *Show all* button.

### **Show matching banner on the Linked banner pages**

If this option is enabled the matching banner will be shown on the *Linked banners* page, if the *Campaign selection* method is chosen. This will allow you see exactly which banners are considered for delivery if the campaign is linked. It will also be possible to look at a preview of the matching banners.

### **Show parent campaign on the Linked banner pages**

If this option is enabled the parent campaigns of the banners will be shown on the *Linked banners* page, if the *Banner selection* method is chosen. This will allow you to see which banner belongs to which campaign before the banner is linked. This also means that the banners are grouped by the parent campaigns and are no longer sorted alphabetically.

### **Hide non-linked campaigns or banners on the Linked banner pages...**

By default all of the available banners or campaigns are displayed on the *Linked banners* page. Because of this the page can become very long if there are a lot of different banners available in the inventory. This option will allow you to set the maximum number of items that are shown on the page. If there are more items and different way to link banners will be shown which will take much less space.

### Statistics

Begin of Week	<input type="text" value="Monday"/>
Percentage Decimals	<input type="text" value="2"/>

#### **Begin of Week**

For most people a week starts on a Monday, but if you want to start each week on a Sunday you can.

#### **Percentage Decimals**

Specifies how many decimal places are used to display a percentage on statistics pages.

### Default weight

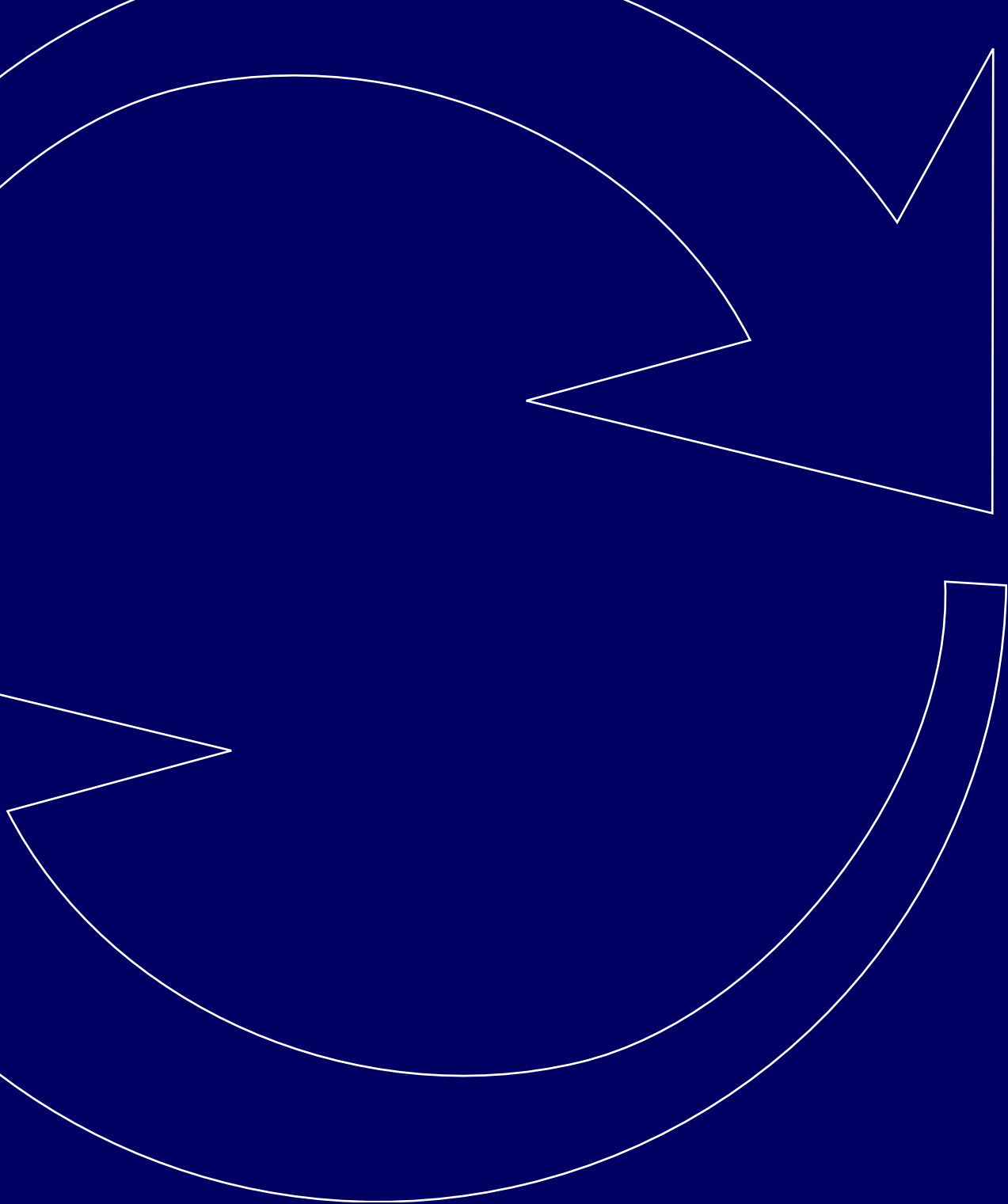
Default banner weight	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Default campaign weight	<input type="text" value="1"/>

#### **Default banner weight**

If you want to use a higher default banner weight you can specify the desired weight here. This settings is 1 by default.

#### **Default campaign weight**

If you want to use a higher default campaign weight you can specify the desired weight here. This settings is 1 by default.



# UNDER THE HOOD



# INTRODUCTION

Lately we received a couple of questions about how phpAdsNew works. This chapter will try to explain the different parts of phpAdsNew and how they interact.

phpAdsNew is split into three different parts, each responsible for a specific task. The most visible part for administrators is the administration interface, which allows you do manage your banner inventory and make decisions on which banner is delivered to what zone. The delivery engine is the part that actually does most of the work. Whenever phpAdsNew is called to deliver a banner, this engine will get the banner you need and insert it into the web page. The third part of phpAdsNew is the one that is often forgotten, the Maintenance task. The Maintenance task is responsible for sending e-mail reports, recalculating priorities and updating caches.



## THE DELIVERY ENGINE

The delivery engine can be called in many different ways, but its job is mostly the same. Most of the time only the output to the browser is dependent on the way the delivery engine is called. The first thing, the delivery engine does after being called is make a connection to the database. Because all the data is stored inside the database this is a very important step.

After the connection is made, it will try to figure out which banner must be shown. Because banners are linked to zones and the id of the zone is specified during the call to the delivery engine phpAdsNew will first get all the information available about that particular zone. This information will contain a list of all banners linked to the zone.

The next step is a bit more complicated, because it is cached for optimization reasons. Apart from a list of banners, the zone information also includes a cache of the contents of the linked banners. If that cache is not present, or if it is expired, the delivery engine will retrieve all matching banners from the database and store it in the cache for use next time the zone is called. The reason why this step is caches is a simple one. Because the zone information needs to be fetched anyway, it is relatively 'cheap' to include a cache of all banners. If the cache would not be used, the delivery engine would need to build and run an 'expensive' query to the database. Because the query is always the same for each zone, it is much better to run it only once and store the result.

So now we have the contents of the linked banners, including the priority of each banner. The first thing to do now is to make a choice about which banner to deliver. The priorities of all available banners is added up and a random number with a maximum of the sum of the priorities is generated. The banner which matches the random number is then checked for delivery limitations and capping. If the banner is allowed to be displayed it will be send to the next step, otherwise the initially selected banner will be deleted from the list, the priority of the initially selected banner will be substracted from the sum of the priorities and a new random number is generated from the sum of the priorities.

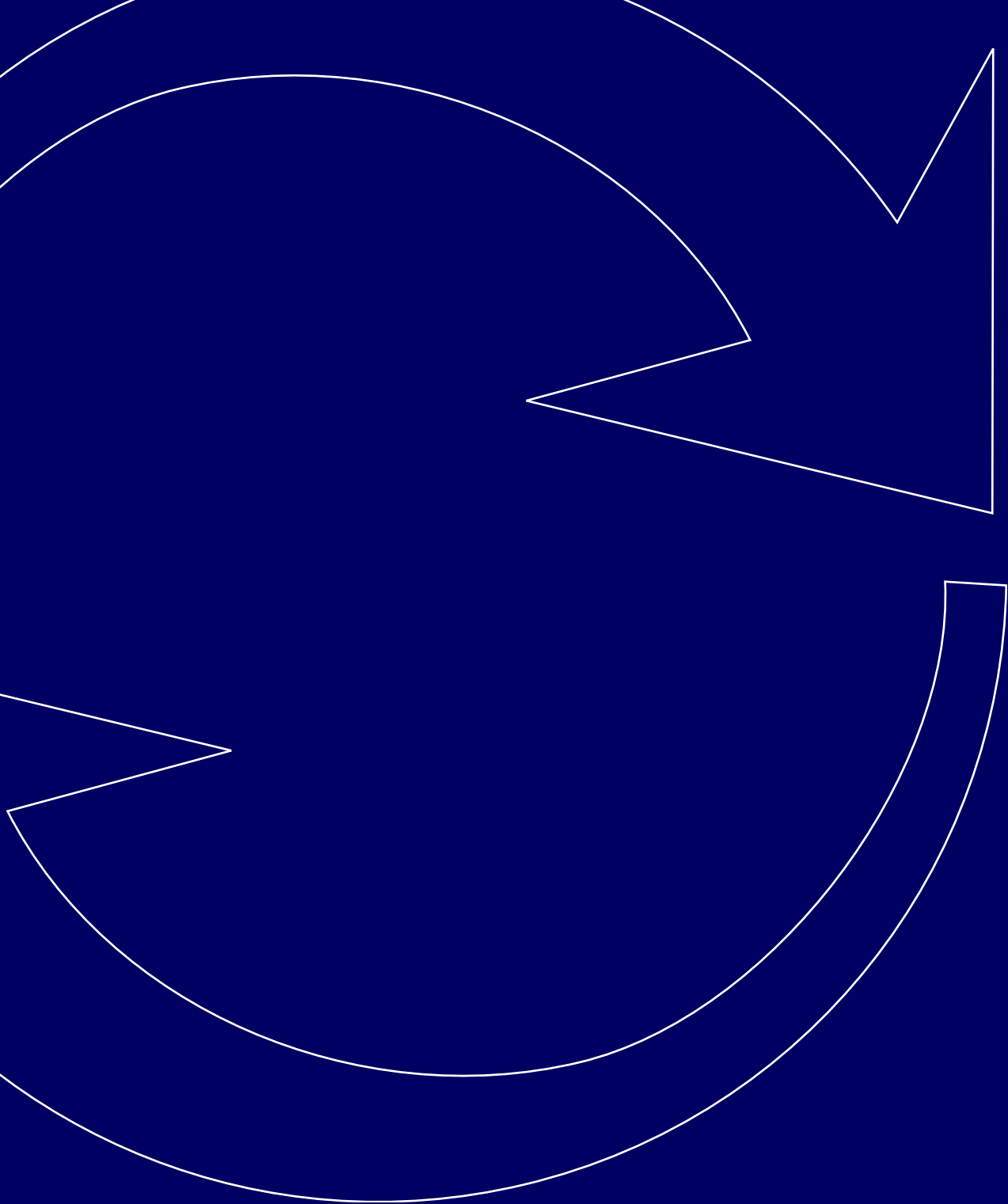
This will happen until a banner which is allowed to be delivered is found. If there isn't a banner which is allowed to be delivered, the zone holds information about how to proceed. Based on this information the delivery engine will either stop the delivery process, or select a different zone and go back to the second step.

Because the delivery limitations are dependent on external factors, which could change for every call to the delivery engine, the results of the limitations cannot be cached and need to be executed every time a banner is called. phpAdsNew does partially cache the steps needed to calculate if a banner is allowed or not. Thanks to this cache the delivery engine doesn't need to execute an additional query to the database to fetch information from the table holding the delivery limitations. Every time the delivery limitations are changed in the administrator interface, the cache is also updated.

If a banner is found, the HTML code needed to display the banner will be prepared for the actual delivery. Even if you use non-HTML banners, the HTML code needed to display the banner will always be part of the already existing banner information. Because the HTML code is always the same for that particular banner, the HTML code will be generated when the banner is created or changed. This prevents the delivery engine from having to generate the same HTML code for each time the banner is called. Only information that isn't available during the generation of the HTML code will be added in this stage of the delivery. This usually includes the domainname from which the banner was called, the id of the zone which was used to deliver the banner, etc..

If 'beacon' logging is turned off, the delivery engine orders the database to add one additional Advview to the statistics. This isn't completely reliable, because at this stage, the banner isn't actually delivered yet and there may be reasons why the selected banner never will be displayed. Adding an Advview to the statistics might be a bit premature. So if 'beacon logging' is turned on the above will simply not happen, instead a link to a invisible image will be appended to the HTML. Only if the invisible image is actually called from the browser, the number of AdViews will be increased. Because the banner is loaded before the invisible image is called you can be pretty certain the banner was actually delivered.

Now there is only one step left, the delivery engine needs to send the HTML code to the browser. This step is usually different for each invocation type. For example: if you are using local mode invocation the HTML is just printed as-is to the browser. If you are using JavaScript invocation, the HTML code is converted to a JavaScript variable and send to the browser. The browser will then be able to use the JavaScript variable and print it to the screen by itself.



## APPENDICES



# TROUBLESHOOTING

Below you will find solutions for the most common problems people seem to have when using phpAdsNew. If you run into a problem which isn't described below, please do not hesitate to post a message about your problem on our forums.

## **I forgot my password, how can I retrieve it?**

The username and password of the administrator are stored inside the database and is encrypted using a one-way MD5 hash. This means it is impossible to retrieve a lost password. However it is possible to set the password to a default value which you then can use to login. After using the default password to log into the administrator interface you need to change the password again. To set the password to the default you need to access the database directly using the mysql commandline interface or another tool such as phpMyAdmin and execute the following SQL query:

```
UPDATE phpads_config SET admin_pw = '5ebe2294ecd0e0f08eab7690d2a6ee69';
```

If you used a different table prefix during the installation of phpAdsNew, please make sure you use the correct table name. After executing this query you can log into the admin interface using your old username and the password 'secret' (without the quotes).

## **I just upgraded to the latest version of phpAdsNew, but I can't log in anymore**

The most likely reason you can't login is because the upgrade script couldn't upgrade your password to a MD5 hash. The most common reason for this to happen is if your version of MySQL is older than the version required by phpAdsNew. Please read the instruction above to reset the the password to a default password.

### **I get all kinds of PHP warnings when using phpAdsNew**

Some versions of phpAdsNew display warnings when *error\_reporting* is set to E\_ALL inside your PHP configuration file. Try to set the *error\_reporting* to E\_ALL & ~E\_NOTICE.

### **When I try to view statistics I get the error ‘Got error xxx from table handler’**

The statistics table probably got corrupted and needs to be repaired. You can use the MySQL *REPAIR* command for this. More information about repairing corrupted tables can be found in the MySQL documentation, available from [www.mysql.com](http://www.mysql.com).

### **When I try to upload a banner I get the error ‘Could not access uploaded file, probably due to safemode or open\_basedir restrictions’**

This error is displayed when phpAdsNew can't access the uploaded file. The most common reason for this is a misconfiguration of your server in combination with either *safemode* or *open\_basedir* restrictions being enabled in your PHP configuration. If you see this error please check your php.ini file to make sure if the *upload\_tmp\_dir* variable is set to the correct directory. If for some reason you are not able to make changes to the php.ini file there is a possible work around by creating a new directory called *tmp* in phpAdsNew' *misc* directory. After you created this directory you also have to make sure it is writeable by PHP.



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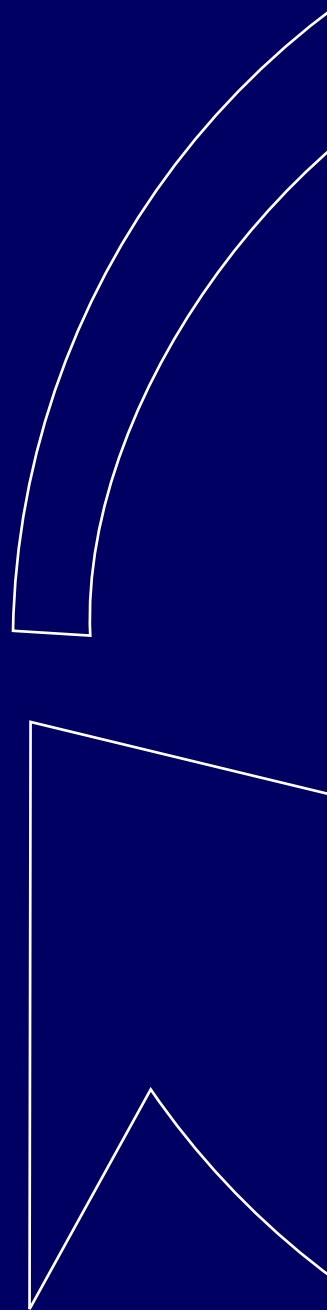
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