Tramline, big files are fun!

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We at Pareto have created a streaming video Portal on top of Plone. It is created utilizing Plone's CMS capabilities combined with other open source packages.

Because large binary data (like videos) can hurt the performance of the Zope database (ZODB) we set up Tramline. Tramline is a mod_python program which filters incoming post data. When it notices a file upload it extracts the data from it and puts that into a file. Then it replaces the post body with an id matching the filename.

Upon a get it filters the response headers to see if the body is a Tramline id. In case it is it will replace the response body with the contents of the file stored on disk.

This way Tramline ensures all binary file data is kept on disk instead of in the database. Yet it makes development and testing without it no different than you would normally.

In my talk I would like to explain the principles and usage of Tramline. I will do this using our use case as a backdrop.

Author: Mr VLOOTHUIS, Jeroen (Pareto)

Presenter: Mr VLOOTHUIS, Jeroen (Pareto)

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