The Burda content management system Thunder celebrates an important milestone: Thunder 3 is here! At first sight, Thunder 3 does not differ much from the previous version - but beneath the surface a lot has been done. With this update, the team around Kai Riecke, CTO of Burda Magazine Holding, has prepared the editorial system for the launch of Drupal 9 next year.

**Usability & performance**

The media handling system co-developed by the Thunder team was incorporated into Drupal and has thus become an integral part of the system. This means that external developers are now also participating in the further development of the module and contributing new functions. "We can now put the resources freed up in our team into optimising usability and performance," says Kai Riecke, explaining the advantages of working together on open source software.

**Safely into the future**

Burda CMS is therefore even more future-proof: The update forms the technological basis for future Drupal versions on which the system is based.
“We have already set the course for Drupal 9 so that our projects are ideally prepared for the launch in June 2020.”

Kai Riecke, CTO Burda Magazine Holding

Thunder is already used by numerous brands, including Elle, Instyle, Playboy, Bunte, Freundin, Mein Schöner Garten, Das Kochrezept and Mylife, as well as the Tribute to Bambi Foundation. As open source technology, the system is also available to other publishers - and by now, more than 900 websites worldwide run on the editorial system developed by Burda. These include the Austrian daily newspaper "Kurier" and the magazine "Jolie" published by Hamburg-based Klambt-Verlag.

Pioneering role

In 2015, Burda was among the first companies to rely on Drupal 8. With this and with the idea of sharing Thunder as open source software with other publishers and developing it further together, Burda took on a pioneering role - which the company still holds today. Four years after the launch of the Burda CMS, the Thunder team is at the forefront of the development of the underlying Drupal software: Thunder is one of five companies worldwide that contribute the most to Drupal - and thus have a great influence on the direction in which the system advances.

In addition to the preparations for Drupal 9, the Thunder team is currently focusing on further improvements that will make daily work with the editorial system easier. These include a full-text search for editors, automatic caching and a new method to integrate multi-media content more quickly.

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Category Brands, Tech
Tags Burda, Burda Magazine Holding, CMS, Thunder