

## Resource Studio

Ruby on Rails 'Show and Talk'  
meeting.

Resource Studio  
Schermlaan 39a  
3021 KH Rotterdam  
The Netherlands  
+31(0)104776550  
Info@resourcestudio.nl  
<http://www.resourcestudio.nl>

Resource Studio designs and develops wonderful  
websites and webapplications.

Resource Studio was born in 2000 and is a small, dedicated and creative web development agency based in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. We focus on projects that bring visual information to the web, and so work, more often than not, for artists, photographers, designers, architects and other creative companies. We are also rather good at creating online identities and making dynamic and effective web applications.

## Resource Studio

## 'Show and Tell' contents

1. How we used to work (with PHP)
2. A framework, why and which one?
3. How we use Rails / Baseframe CMS
4. What I like most about Rails
5. Questions

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## How we used to work

We build our own CMS based on PEAR DB\_DataObject (ORM) and Quickform.

It worked ok. I never had to write SQL anymore.

But building new features/modules was always the same boring work and took too much time.

So I wrote a generator to publish the basic CRUD files.

But it was never solid enough.

### Problems I faced with web development (in PHP)

1. Why do simple things take so much time (“This can be done easier”)?
2. Every PHP programmer has it’s own style. And most want to build their own Frameworks from scratch.
3. I was managing projects with different freelancers and my company did not grow ‘technically’.
4. I was stressed about implementing new ‘features’. I did not like the work anymore.

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A framework

I guess we needed a Framework.

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## A framework

A framework to:

1. Have something solid and of quality.
2. Make collaboration easier (a process).
3. Make webdevelopment more fun.

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A framework

But which one?

I could not figure it out. There were too many options, and none\* fitted. How strange...

\*php frameworks

Then something called Ruby on Rails came along.

Showing that building webapplications can be cool, and nice to do.

That it is not the framework itself that is most important, But being able to make nice user friendly applications.

Design(ers) were involved here. A broad and clear vision.

This fits to what we want!

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## How we use Rails / Baseframe CMS

We've developed a CMS called Baseframe in Rails.

It's a basic CMS, a good start. If more is needed we extend it, add features to it, etc. Whatever is needed for the client (not visa versa).

Because adding new things is easy with Rails.

Don't try to build the 'Ultimate CMS'. It does not exist.

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How we use Rails /  
Baseframe CMS

A short demonstration of Baseframe...

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More specific things I like  
about Rails and Ruby

1. Routes: It is clear and so simple

`http://site.com/weblog/show/1`

```
class Weblogcontroller < ActionController::Base
  def show
    @post = Post.find(params[:id])
  end
end
```

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More specific things I like  
about Rails and Ruby

2. ActiveRecord: `act_as_tree`, for menus, breadcrumbs and view logic

```
def display_breadcrumb(group)
  breadcrumb = ""
  group.ancestors.reverse.each do |ancestor|
    breadcrumb += link_to(ancestor.name, :action =>
      "list", :id => ancestor.id)+"/"
  end
  breadcrumb
end
```

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More specific things I like  
about Rails and Ruby

3. :symbols, do things intuitively

```
link_to(menu_item.name, {:name => menu_item.name,  
  :controller => "site"},  
  :id => id,  
  :onmouseover => "do('a')",  
  :onmouseout=> "do('b')",  
  :class => "nav")
```

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More specific things I like  
about Rails and Ruby

### 4. Modules, plugin methods into classes

```
class myClass < ApplicationController
  include Calendar
end
```

```
module Calendar
  def browse_month(data, direction, month, year)
    #code
  end
end
```

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More specific things I like  
about Rails and Ruby

### 5. Objectness and simple methods of Ruby

I.want.this.to.do.that

```
group.ancestors.reverse.each do |ancestor|  
  #do stuff  
end
```

```
Post.find(1).comments.search "rails"
```

```
string[0..-3].downcase.insert(0, ">")
```

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That's it

Thank you.  
Questions?

[rien@resourcestudio.nl](mailto:rien@resourcestudio.nl)

PS. We have a job open for a Rails developer!