

MS-395
Lab Assignment #2
Install and Config. Apache2, PHP5 and MySQL4

Date Assigned: Monday, April 10, 2006
Date Due: Thursday, April 13, 2006

Before leaving for spring break, be sure that you have a correctly operating server-side architecture consisting of the Apache 2 web server, the PHP-5 server-side scripting language, and a MySQL database that is fully operational.

To verify that all this works properly, install and configure a web site Content Management System (CMS) called PostNUKE. It is available from <http://news.postnuke.com/Downloads-req-viewdownload-cid-1.html> and comes as a .zip file that needs to be expanded into the Apache server's subdirectory that serves as the "document root" for its content (usually it's "<Apache Home Dir>/htdocs" but can vary from one Apache release to another). Then you will need to follow the installation instructions to create a postnuke database and set up your PostNUKE site on your server (localhost). Fortunately, PostNUKE has a web application (webapp) that steps you through this process! Once you've got Apache 2 running with PHP 5, just browse the URL: <http://localhost/PostNuke-0.762/html/install.php> and it will take you step-by-step through the process.

Note: Tackle the installation one step at a time. First get Apache running and test that you get it's default first page by simply browsing <http://localhost> and check the result. If you get an HTML error, reconfigure Apache until you see its start page (the colorful Apache feather logo will appear at the bottom of the page).

Once you have Apache running properly, check that PHP is running correctly. To do this, create an HTML and PHP web page that contains the following:

```
<HTML>
<?php phpinfo(); ?>
</HTML>
```

You should see the PHP logo and a long list of tables that summarizes the state of PHP on your server. If you get an error, reconfigure PHP until you get the expected result.

When you are finished, demonstrate to your instructor that you have a working system and begin exploring the PostNUKE code (since it's written in PHP-4) for ideas to use in your own website design. Play with the PostNUKE administrator interface to customize your PostNUKE site and look at its code to see how it uses PHP to present the website to users.