

# **Customizing an Open Source Electronic Commerce for Davao City Merchant**



**By**

**Paulo, Cindy Mae**

**Abrasaldo, Alisa Joy**

**Tejada, Jzel Ivy**

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**ATENEODE DAVAO UNIVERSITY**

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# **Customizing an Open Source Electronic Commerce for Davao City Merchant**

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**By**

**Paulo, Cindy Mae**

**Abrasaldo, Alisa Joy**

**Tejada, Jzel Ivy**

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## **Abstract**

Nowadays, a lot of people use internet for different purposes and most of these purposes are money making. With this reason, the group has decided to customize a live store using osCommerce for Davao City merchants. This would enable merchants to sell their products online. Any products will do depending on the interested clients as long as it is not perishable.

### ***Keywords:***

osCommerce, Paypal, Ecommerce

# **Chapter 1**

## **Introduction**

### **1.1 Background of the study**

Internet nowadays plays a big role in one's life. It is one of the major sources of knowledge and current global information. A communication tool that allows humans to connect with each other wherever they are in the globe and best of all it could be a way to invest, purchase and transact payment.

Internet supplies almost everything. With the help of Electronic Commerce or eCommerce, people could buy and sell their products or services over electronic systems such as the internet and other computer networks.

There are a lot of resources such as Open Source software that could be used and modified freely. osCommerce is an Open source e-commerce solution. It specifically developed for store administrators who would like to experience online selling. It is designed to meet the importance of electronic commerce technology. Electronic commerce is generally considered to be the sales aspect of e-business. It also consists of the exchange of data to facilitate the financing and payment aspects of the business transactions.

### **1.2 Technology Application Context (IT)**

Current study seeks to answer the following general problem:

- **How to Customize an Open Source Electronic Commerce for local merchants?**

**Specifically it seeks to answer the following questions:**

- **What is Electronic Commerce and What does it do?**
- **What is an Open Source?**
- **What are the components of electronic commerce?**
  - **Catalogs / Products / Shipping / Organized Layout**
  - **Payment Scheme**
- **What kind of open Source software to be used?**
- **What are the things needed to customize an Open Source E-Commerce?**
- **How to provide financial and data security for the online customers and for the business itself?**

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

**This research aims to meet the following objectives:**

- **To be able to customize a live store for local merchant using osCommerce**
- **To be able to know what osCommerce is all about**
- **To be able to know how to use osCommerce and identify its features and limitations.**

- To be able to integrate Paypal to osCommerce as a means of payment transactions.
- To be able to learn the available components of osCommerce.
  - Learn how to add catalogs/products, customize style sheets, shipping agreements, and payment schemes.

#### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

The significance of this study will be the following:

- It provides opportunities for store owners and companies to sell their products to any customers that are interested in online shopping not just here in Davao City but also in other places like Manila, Cebu, and the like.
- To promote e-business stores here in Davao City. This could be used by businesses to promote innovative technical solutions and gain profit easily.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitations of the Study**

This study will only cover and discuss what is relevant to the proposed project. The scope of this project will include the following:

- Customizing osCommerce
  - Cascading Style Sheets and PHP
- Features
  - Catalogs/Products Presentations

- Quick Find Environment
- Shopping Cart
- Shipping Module
- Payment Scheme (Pay pal)
- Database Backup and Restore
- Compatible with all major browsers
- Web based administration module
- Multi-lingual English, German and Spanish by default.  
(But we will only consider English language since it is the most common language being used in the country).

**Other topics that are not relevant will not be included.**

## **Chapter 2**

### **Review of Related Works**

**These are some of those existing Open Source softwares who are capable of handling Electronic Commerce as well as related web sites that use osCommerce for their Electronic selling of products.**

Name of work	Capabilities	Limitations
Click A Deal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers electronic devices such as computers, laptops, hard disk, connectors, TV, and other electronic hardwares, softwares and bags.</li> <li>• Accepts payments from their credited banks.</li> <li>• It allows searching of products</li> <li>• Customers can shop by categories.</li> <li>• It allows return request</li> <li>• It allows wish lists</li> <li>• Customers can select manufacturers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment shall be due before the delivery date</li> <li>• There will be no delivery until cleared funds are received.</li> </ul>
Velvet Ego	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers shipping</li> <li>• free shipping when a purchase is made equal to or exceeding \$100 (Canada and US only)</li> <li>• customers can specify colors and model of the product</li> <li>• Secure customer section</li> <li>• It has email notification after completing the order.</li> <li>• Customer can shop by price, designer, Unisex type, men's glasses, women's glasses, or by new arrival</li> <li>• It allows searching for a particular products</li> <li>• 15 days allowance of returning a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The company only sells sunglasses</li> </ul>

	product	
C&L Floral Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has advanced search</li> <li>• Allows online payment</li> <li>• Customers' can search by category</li> <li>• It allows wish lists</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For wedding only</li> <li>• Returns are allowed within only 7 days</li> <li>• Will not refund postage cost</li> </ul>
Pet Street Ethereal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Online live store</b></li> <li>• <b>Multi currency support</b></li> <li>• ecommerce payment systems</li> <li>• Support dynamic images</li> <li>• Multi-lingual (English, German, Spanish)</li> <li>• Compatible with all major browsers.</li> <li>• shopping carts</li> <li>• Advanced search of products</li> <li>• Secure transactions with SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) support</li> <li>• Shop by category and manufacturers</li> <li>• Allows quick find</li> <li>• Allows shipping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sells local and international products</li> <li>• Pay first before the delivery of the product</li> <li>• Will use only Paypal for payment scheme</li> </ul>

Reviews on the different kinds of existing Open Source Electronic Commerce

Name of work	Capabilities	Limitations
Zencart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multiple language support</li> <li>• multiple customer modes</li> <li>• unlimited category depth</li> <li>• multiple sales and discounts</li> <li>• multiple display modes</li> <li>• XHTML 1.0 compliant template system</li> <li>• extra pages</li> <li>• multiple ad banner controller</li> <li>• multiple shipping options</li> <li>• multiple payment options</li> <li>• newsletter manager</li> <li>• discount coupons</li> <li>• gift certificates</li> <li>• featured products</li> <li>• quantity discounts</li> <li>• phpBB integration through external module</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• editing core files for customizing is often required (no real modular structure)</li> <li>• for heavy customizing, software is complicated to maintain and update</li> </ul>
Cubecart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully template-driven layout</li> <li>• Search Engine Friendly URL and content generation</li> <li>• Gift Certificates</li> <li>• Plug &amp; Play Shipping/Gateway/Affiliate Modules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 day free trial</li> <li>• Not open source</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax by State/Zone or Country</li> <li>• Multi Currency Support</li> <li>• Email Marketing</li> <li>• Inventory Stock Control</li> <li>• Digital Content delivery system</li> </ul>	
FreeWebshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• get a 'Personal page' which holds quicklinks to their profile, orders, etc</li> <li>• Shop settings are divided in smart categories</li> <li>• Support for Paypal payments PayPal support for iDeal payments iDeal</li> <li>• Supports multiple languages</li> <li>• Product pictures supported, including auto generation of thumbnails</li> <li>• Uses 100% CSS as a template which can easily be edited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple Input Validation Vulnerabilities</li> <li>• Security bypass vulnerability</li> </ul>
osCommerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compatible with PHP 4 and MySQL</li> <li>• Compatible with all major browsers.</li> <li>• Multi-lingual English, German and Spanish by default.</li> <li>• Automatic web-based installation.</li> <li>• Unlimited number of products and categories.</li> <li>• Automatic setup of e-commerce payment systems: Authorize.net, 2Checkout.com, iPayment.de, PayPal.com, PsiGate.com, SECPay.com, and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Downloadable products are not fully secure but can be secured.</li> <li>• Image thumbnails are in fact full size images reduced for display which impacts bandwidth.</li> <li>• The PSI Gate module is no longer operable and needs to be replaced with an XML version.</li> <li>• The lack of a plug-in system makes add-ons difficult, since each add-on modifies the core application.</li> </ul>

	<p>TrustCommerce.com; Many other add-on ecommerce payment systems, off-line (manual) credit card payments) and on-line payment processing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-currency support via manual update from exchange rate server.</li> <li>• Support for dynamic images (one image per product).</li> <li>• Supports physical products as well as product downloads.</li> <li>• Web-based administration module.</li> <li>• Database backup and restore.</li> <li>• Temporary and permanent shopping carts.</li> <li>• Secure transactions with SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) support.</li> <li>• Many shipping options including by weight, price, or destination.</li> <li>• Real-time shipping quote integration with UPS, USPS.</li> <li>• Zone-based shipping options as well as a free shipping option as part of Order Totals Module.</li> <li>• Full tax functionality, included compounded taxes, different zones for different products.</li> </ul>	
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