

Roadmap : *FrontPage*

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Welcome to b2b2dot0's Product Roadmap Workspace

b2b2dot0 is constantly evolving our service. In order to provide some controls for, and visibility into, our Product Management process, we've created this workspace. We're basically eating our own dog food. We're telling you to open your kimono to your customers, so I figure it's only fair that we open ours to you.

In this workspace you'll be able to find answers to questions like:

- What features/improvements are being worked on this quarter by b2b2dot0.
- What features/improvements are in the plan for next quarter?
- I would like to see all of the feature/improvements that have been put into production already.
- What is the source of a particular feature request? If it was a client, which client was it?
- When was this feature first requested?
- I would like to see all of the features requested by Client X?
- Show me all of the feature requests that were rejected by b2b2dot0.

A few disclaimers about the data:

1. The historical data (past releases and rejected items) may not be as clean as we would like. Because we were only keeping track of our features requests for internal purposes until today, we used a "shorthand" when documenting them. Moving forward we'll try our best to make the data more presentable.
2. If a feature request has a size estimate, it's only that, a [rough size estimate](#).
3. Sometimes features are requested by multiple clients. We attribute the feature to the client that asked for it first.

And now for a few definitions:

Release - Typically a quarter's worth of work that is bundled together. We try and focus our efforts by "themes" for a quarter. Sometimes we'll focus on a certain subsystem (Order Status, Order Entry, Analytics etc.), sometimes we'll focus just on usability related requests.

Backlog - The entire database of feature requests is called our backlog. We try not to spend a lot of time managing individual items until they are slated to be worked on in a release. From a development perspective, we only actively manage two "Releases" at a time. The current quarter release and next quarter's release. Everything else goes on the backlog.

Unassigned - Equivalent to the backlog. All items that are in the pool to be worked on.

Value - Every feature is graded with regard to it's value. This is the value that we think, you our client...or your customers...will derive from having this feature. It ain't science, but it helps us in prioritizing our work. If you think we've misjudged an item, please tell us.

Size - These are relative estimates of the effort required to implement the feature. The units roughly correspond to days, but what is more important is how they allow us to sort requests when we're planning our releases. Once slated for a release, that's when we do our detail estimating.

Rejected - Unfortunately, not every idea can make it into our product. As painful as it is, after reviewing each feature from an engineering, marketing and financial perspective, b2b2dot0's management team makes the call.

YYQQ - That's the format that our Release dates (and workspace tabs) take. 09Q4 is the fourth quarter release in 2009. etc.

Lastly, our intent is that as we're ready to launch a Release, this workspace is the place to come to to learn all about it.

There you have it. We've opened our kimono. I don't think we look too bad, but I'm certain that now that we have opened our kimono, we're going to take our product management processes to a much higher level.

Sam Bayer
Budapest
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