

Passion Driven Development

So our yearly conference Codegarden is over, again 3 awesome days! What you'll hear from people attending is that is is the best it conference around, it doesn't compare, it's different, it's a festival... for somebody who has never been it is hard to understand. But what makes it so different, the fact that we drink a beer (or two)... that we have a festival wristband....

Same with the community, it's the friendliest community. Again hard to explain to someone else

But I think I found a pretty good way of explaining it to geeks. Passion Driven Development

What makes Umbraco, the community, codegarden so amazing it's the feeling of passion and acting on that passion. This might sound weird if you say well this software is built with passion but think about it...

For example the Lecoati guys who were the top attraction this year making awesome stuff. They acted on passion when creating the new grid, why? Because they love Umbraco and want to promote Umbraco, thinking about how can we make people other then devs also love Umbraco. And the awesome thing in Umbraco is that it's open source, we are open to suggestions, we want to add as much passion as this in the core! So they released a video mid March and that has already been including in the core, was part of the keynote and the top session.

And if you think about why do some other ideas that sound good on paper as a 'business opportunity' don't make it eventually (like the themes). It's cause they aren't created that much out of love/passion but more out of a statistical way of thinking, there are xxx number of umbraco sites, if x% buys this then I'm making money... So acting on making money rather than acting on passion/love (of course I'm not saying that all of these will fail). Also stuff that fixes frustrations is good since that again will end up in a happier workplace

Passion First

Also a nice thing about Umbraco is because it is so flexible and pluggable it allows for Passion First. So if you have been following the discussion around is Code First good or not... I think we have to stop thinking in terms of charts and hours, what is more productive ...but more on what do I love to do during my job. It's ok not to care about the latest tech features and jump on the bandwagon just because it's the new hot stuff...you aren't a bad developer because you aren't using the latest stuff. Just find something you love and that makes you happy to go to your job and you'll build awesome stuff!

Same with the xslt/razor discussion, it's not because you still use xslt that you are an bad Umbraco dev.. respect that...

Another example, code conventions, are you a bad dev by not using them? If you can deliver awesome stuff and don't care about them...

But of course we still have to move Umbraco forward and we'll always try to add new stuff if that makes it easier to get started with Umbraco,... (getting rid of frustrations)

Become an Umbraco dev and be happy?

So are you saying that all Umbraco devs are happy and you'll be too if you join the community? No.. just try to listen to your feelings and find what makes you happy

But I'm lucky that I found a place where happiness is valued and you don't have to be afraid to make mistakes!

btw for people attending the conference, you feel that boost of energy you got? That's happiness at work! Thanks [Chief Happiness Officer](#), it finally all made sense!