

Extend and develop other programs and services

A customizable and extensible platform enables you to build core process solutions and work with other programs. The following information provides an overview of some key features; for detailed information, see the [Windows SharePoint Services Developer Center on MSDN](#).

Enhancements to events Events are key to developing rich solutions. Events enable solution providers to take advantage of behaviors and override default behaviors. Both synchronous and asynchronous events are supported, for a rich set of event types across lists and libraries. For example, a solution that ensures that a document always has a copyright in the footer can be associated with a central content type that applies it to all document libraries associated with that type.

Developer site template improvements The Features functionality builds upon site and list definitions from the previous version of Windows SharePoint Services and extends the functionality into a single framework.

It establishes discrete portions of functionality that can be applied to a site and then individually enabled or disabled.

Features You can use Features to reduce the complexity involved in making simple site customizations. Features eliminate the need to copy large sections of code to change simple functionality, as well as reduce versioning and inconsistency issues that can arise among front-end Web servers. Features make it easier to activate or deactivate functionality in the course of a deployment, and administrators can easily transform the template or definition of a site by simply toggling a particular Feature on or off in the user interface. The Features functionality includes integrated feature verification and localization.

Extensible field types Developers can use extensible field types to create custom controls. These types can be exposed as simple fields within a list or document library. For example, someone might use a custom field type to build a ratings system that assigns stars to content based on its popularity.

Cross-list query support You can build richer and more relevant queries that span objects, sites, and site collections. This enables developers to build more efficient queries, more similar to SQL queries.

Microsoft .NET Framework support By building on the .NET Framework, third-party solution developers can build rich solutions and customize components.

Programmatically manage site migration You can use content migration APIs to export and import smaller elements while preserving security.

Enhanced Web services New methods are provided for various Web services, including content type integration, document library manipulation, search, messaging application synchronization, content publishing, and workflow. For more information, see the [Windows SharePoint Services Developer Center on MSDN](#).

Extensible site templates Designers can use the templates as a starting point and edit them in Web design or application design programs that are compatible with Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, such as Microsoft Visual Studio or Microsoft Office SharePoint Designer 2007.