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## Wowbagger

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Cc: Louis Tatta <louis@cppalliance.org>

Sat, Jul 6, 2024 at 5:07 PM

Wowbagger

The current [boost.org](https://boost.org) web server is a CentOS Linux 6.10 cloud instance hosted at Rackspace. In general, the software packages and operating system are out-of-date and so it's important to consider the upgrade path.

To review specific details:

Costs: around \$200/month total, including 3 instances: ftp server, monitoring server, wowbagger webserver.

Web Server OS: CentOS 6    Release Date July 10, 2011    End of Life November 30, 2020

The operating system has been unsupported for nearly 4 years. No security fixes. There are progressively more difficulties with SSL certificates, because in order to process certs the latest CA (certificate authority) certs need to be available locally and they are not. The version of SSH is quite old. This can prevent logins to/from newer machines. It would not be easily possible to re-install the same server since CentOS 6 depends on remote yum repositories that are offline in 2024.

Website [boost.org](https://boost.org):

The website is based on PHP5, an outdated version of PHP that can't be installed on newer servers. Therefore, a direct migration to move the website onto Ubuntu 24.04 or similar is blocked. The website needs to be revised using PHP8. Since the codebase is a complex object-oriented system with dependencies, that requires careful development and testing. It's not impossible to upgrade to PHP8, but would take many weeks, may be error prone, and the appearance of the site would still be the same.

Mailman2 mailing list:

Mailman2 is no longer supported on the latest releases of RedHat and Debian/Ubuntu. Meaning, the Boost mailing list cannot be simply migrated or reinstalled on a newer server. Rather, the replacement is mailman3, a complete rewrite of the software using Django. Mailman3 is comprised of multiple components: mailman-core, Postorius, and Hyperkitty.

Rackspace: In the last few months, wowbagger has experienced two disk outages caused by a faulty NIC card (connecting to Network attached storage). Although recovery was successful each time, there is cause for concern since this server is not redundant (web1 + web2). If it crashes the boost website would go offline.

As can be seen, the current system is obsolete to the extent that it is not possible to simply upgrade a few packages and/or move the current services to another server. Everything requires a significant upgrade. That is what the C++ Alliance has been moving towards, with the work on [boost.io](https://boost.io), and testing of mailman3.

On Sat, Jul 6, 2024 at 3:07 PM Vinnie Falco <vinnie@cppalliance.org> wrote:

Sam:

Can you please tell me exactly what is going on with wowbagger? Does it have a failing disk? Can it be cloned or otherwise replicated? Why can't it be upgraded or split up into multiple services? How much does it cost to run?

Thanks