

# Status of the Planets.nu Documentation

By Whisperer

# Starting Point

**Before December 31, 2014:**

- **107 pages of documentation**
- **Most pages were based on VGAP3/THOST**
- **No index**
- **No local search capability**

# Joshua's Directives

- **Improve and add to the Documentation**
- **Remove references to shareware/registered software**
- **Address both the Beginner and the Experienced player**
- **Don't take Documentation from offsite sources without permission**

# Editor's Directives

- **Improve and add to the Documentation**
- **Address both the Beginner and the Experienced player**
- **Don't take Documentation from offsite sources**
- **Prioritization of tasks based on user impact and complexity**

# Editor's Policies

- **The Reference Documentation is objective**
- **Tactics and other subjective information belong in Guides or other non-Reference Documentation**
- **Each page should have only one parent page**
- **Each concept should only be written once**

# Editor's Policies

- **What we document:**
  - **The meta-game is documented**
  - **The “normal” in-game process is documented**
  - **Exceptions to the “normal” in-game process is documented**
  - **We will not document that certain states/missions have no effect on the “normal” process**
  - **<http://planets.nu/#/howtoplay/how-documentation-works>**

# Where We Are Now

- **Over 330 pages of documentation**
- **All pages are specific to Planets.nu**
- **Most of the basic features are properly documented**

# Where We Are Now

- **Automatic creation of an Index**
- **Automatic verification of links**
- **Automatic update of local search data**
- **Database of over 300M system-generated messages to aid in research**



# What's Next

## We're working on:

- Adding narrative color to existing documentation
- Routine spelling/grammar checks of existing documents
- Corner cases
- Low-level details
- Campaign Advantages
- Some simple guides
- An MvM Mentor guide

# Documentation Change Requests

- Originally requests for changes to documentation were in a thread
  - Any user could make a request
  - All requests visible to all users
  - Requests could “fall off” the list (get so far back that they’d be lost)
  - Each poster would receive all new posts
  - Easy for a single user to abuse

# Documentation Change Requests

- **New system being implemented**
  - <https://trac.edgewall.org/>
- **Requests for changes to documentation will create tickets**
  - **Any user can make a request**
  - **All requests visible to all Editors**
  - **Requests can't fall off the list**
  - **Each user will receive updates on their requests through PM**
  - **Difficult to abuse**

# How to Make Requests

- To make a request for a change to the documentation, send a PM to the user “editors”
  - <http://planets.nu/#/account/editors>
- The system notifies the user of any changes to the status of the ticket
- If you don't receive Planets.nu messages, you won't receive ticket updates

# New System Status

- **These features are being implemented offsite**
  - Joshua chose to focus on the software and on supporting users
- **Current Editors are now using this system**
- **Joshua and Big Beefer have full access to this system**
- **Inactive editors may request access**

# The Next Steps

We are working on the ability for users to:

- Add comments to, and/or close, tickets they create
- Get reports on their tickets
- Block or request notifications on specific open tickets
- Block all notification messages

# Where We Are Headed

We are working on implementing a GIT system to manage the documentation

- Better access to previous versions, with tracking
- Ability for multiple Editors to edit a document at the same time
- Ability to use modern editing tools
- Automated validation
- Distributed historical backups

# Additional Projects

## For Players

- We worked with Big Beefer to improve the RaceSheet page
- Horwasp
  - On hold until they become more stable
- Ability, Advantage and Mission pages separated



# Additional Projects

## For Players

- **Several complex questions have been researched, mostly by Challengespaceyard**
  - **Differences between VGAP3 and Planets.nu**
  - **Host Order**
  - **Cloaking**
  - **Glory device damage**

# Additional Projects

## For game Hosts:

- Gnerphk and Whisperer are working on a page containing a Host's policies for their Custom games.

<http://planets.nu/#/howtoplay/contrib-pause-policy>

- Whisperer has a service that informs a Host when new players join a game, and does some research on their history.

# Additional Projects

## For script writers:

- The API calls are being documented, mostly by Singularity.
- The Addons page is being updated by Singularity. If you write scripts, and would like to have them listed there, please send him a PM.
- Whisperer tracks changes to the Client. To receive a PM when Client is changed, so you can test, please send him a PM.

**Thank you  
for  
your time.**