The Gallery Addon package (http://drupal.org/project/gallery_addon)

There is a growing demand on tighter integration of Gallery2 with Drupal. The gallery module (http://drupal.org/project/gallery) provides a nice and feature-rich solution for Gallery2 integration and it is well accepted by the Drupal community. However, people want to take advantage of some of the fundamental features Drupal has to offer, such as the node concept, the theming layer and they want to use quasi-standard modules like CCK, Views, Panels, etc.

After consultation with Kieran (kiz_0987) I decided to bundle additional modules in a new package – Gallery Addon – separate from the "basic" gallery module. The main reason here is that it is much easier to maintain these modules individually as we can keep gallery module stable while implementing new and advanced functionality in the add-on package. The new package will be available for Drupal 6 only. Most of the modules require concepts, i.e. the drupal_alter() hooks of Drupal core or module features, that are not available for the 5.x versions.

Over the last few weeks I got several mails from people asking for a preliminary schedule. At the moment I really can't estimate. Some of the features depend on external modules (Views, Panels, etc.) that are not available for Drupal 6 yet. Also research has/had to be done trying to make the modules as flexible and reliable as possible and there is a real risk of rewriting a bunch of code if I don't get things right in the first place.

Here is an overview of the modules I plan to work on in the next few months (status as of 2008-04-04):

- **Gallery Services** – Integration with the Services module
  provides access to G2 core functionality through web services like XMLRPC, SOAP, REST, etc.

  The module enables external applications or widgets, i.e. Java(-script), Flash/Flex, etc., to communicate with Gallery2 and to access embedded G2 features.

  Priority: low
  Complexity: simple
  Status: available from CVS, but completely untested

- **Gallery Field** – Integration with the Content Construction Kit (CCK) module
  provides a CCK field to reference Gallery2 items (similar to node reference)

  The module uses the G2 ImageBlock plugin to render referenced G2 items in the node body (comparable to the G2:x filter). However the site admin (and/or theme designer) has full control over the appearance of the item (size, frame, …) whereas for the G2 filter the user can specify optional arguments. The next version of G2Image will be optimized for GalleryField to provide a simple UI for image selection.

  GalleryField should be extended for more flexible rendering once GalleryContent module is available.

  Priority: high
  Complexity: medium

Status: development almost completed, should be available soon (we probably need to wait for G2Image modifications)

- **Gallery Test** – Integration with the [Simpletest](#) module
  provides a number of unit and functional tests

  The module does not provide any end-user features. It is designed to verify the functional integrity of the gallery_* modules and should improve the quality of the code and interoperability of the API. Visit the [Unit Testing group](#) to read about the motivation and progress on writing tests for Drupal in general.

  Priority: low
  Complexity: medium (unit tests) / difficult (functional tests)
  Status: very early implementation of some basic tests (only unit tests, functional tests are to be written)

- **Gallery OG** – Integration with the [OrganicGroups (OG)](#) module
  provides individual sub-galleries for each group

  The module creates an album for each group and uses the MultiRoot feature of Gallery2 to provide an alternative view of the gallery, showing only that album to the group. This basically emulates separate galleries (similar to the UserAlbum feature in G2) for OrganicGroups.

  Read http://drupal.org/node/187747 for discussion.

  Priority: medium
  Complexity: medium
  Status: stub code on my dev box, OG not available for Drupal 6 yet

- **Gallery Content** – Integration with the Node system of Drupal core, [Views](#) module and (probably) [Panels](#) module

  GalleryContent mirrors G2 items into Drupal nodes without duplicating the actual content (except for title and description). It allows you to create G2 image nodes from within Drupal (I originally planed to write a view-only implementation), integrates with the Views module and provides a better overall integration with the Drupal workflow, theming system, etc.
  Making G2 items nodes adds little extra code compared to the advantages we gain as we can use all features that are available out-of-the-box for nodes.

  Read http://drupal.org/node/138400#comment-545142 and http://drupal.org/node/138400#comment-545144 for some details on this module (partly outdated, but you can get an idea)

  Priority: high
  Complexity: difficult
  Status: experimental module on my dev box, waiting for Views (and Panels)