

# Technical Overview

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### Purpose

This document describes the technical architecture used by PMTNM.org to syndicate public-facing content from affiliate (daughter) organization websites for display in shared banners and affiliate announcement sections.

### Architectural Model

- **Pull-based syndication:** PMTNM.org retrieves content from affiliate websites.
- **No upstream credentials:** Affiliates do not receive access to PMTNM systems.
- **Explicit intent container:** Only content within a defined HTML container is consumed.

### Content Contract (HTML Schema)

Affiliate sites may expose a public page containing:

```
<div id="pmtnm-news">
  <div class="pmtnm-news-item">
    <div class="pmtnm-news-title">Title</div>
    <div class="pmtnm-news-description">Description</div>
    
    <a class="pmtnm-news-link" href="...">Learn more</a>
  </div>
</div>
```

Rules:

- Only content inside `#pmtnm-news` is parsed
- Maximum of 4 items consumed per affiliate
- HTML sanitized on ingestion

## Source URLs

Affiliates may choose:

- Homepage
- Dedicated news page
- Custom URL stored in affiliate profile

## Fetch & Caching Strategy

- **Cron-based fetch:** Runs every 30 minutes via `scripts/fetch_affiliate_news.php`
- **Manual trigger:** Admins can trigger fetches via web interface
- **Database storage:** Content stored in MySQL, no external cache layer
- **Graceful degradation:** Homepage and news page silently handle missing content
- **No live HTTP calls:** All content served from database, not fetched during page render

## Change Detection & History

- **SHA-256 hashing:** Each item's content (title, description, image, link) is hashed
- **History table:** All fetched items stored in `affiliate_news_history` (append-only)
- **Fetch logging:** Every fetch attempt logged to `affiliate_fetch_log` with status and metrics
- **No public exposure:** Failed fetches and errors logged internally only
- **Audit trail:** Complete history available to admins for troubleshooting

## Security Considerations

- **Read-only HTTP(S):** PMTNM only reads from affiliate sites, never writes
- **No script execution:** All HTML stripped, only plain text extracted
- **URL sanitization:** javascript: URLs blocked, relative URLs resolved, validation enforced
- **No credentials required:** Pull-based model, no API keys or authentication needed
- **SSL verification:** Disabled for compatibility (can be enabled if needed)

## Accessibility & Performance

- **Responsive grid layout:** Automatically adapts to screen size

- **Lazy loading images:** Images load on demand for better performance
- **WCAG-compliant markup:** Semantic HTML, proper alt text, keyboard navigation
- **Static display:** No auto-rotating content, no JavaScript required
- **Fast rendering:** Database queries optimized with indexes

## Implementation Details

### Database Tables

- `affiliates` : Affiliate metadata and feed URLs
- `affiliate_news_items` : Current syndicated items (max 4 per affiliate)
- `affiliate_news_history` : Historical versions for audit
- `affiliate_fetch_log` : Fetch attempt logs with status and metrics

### Key Files

- `scripts/fetch_affiliate_news.php` : Fetch script (CLI/web)
- `includes/AffiliateManager.php` : CRUD operations
- `includes/components/affiliate_news_feed.php` : Display component
- `admin/affiliates/` : Admin interface for managing affiliates

### Display Locations

- **Homepage** ( `index.php` ): Shows 4 most recent items
- **Affiliate News Page** ( `affiliate-news.php` ): Shows up to 20 items

### Admin Features

- **Super Admin:** Full CRUD access, can assign affiliate admins
- **Admin:** Can view and edit affiliates
- **Affiliate Admin:** Can only edit feed URL for their assigned affiliate