



allarticleannounce

Version 1.6.3

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introduction

Thank you for choosing **allArticleAnnounce**.

allArticleAnnounce empowers users with the ability of tapping into two of the Internet's most powerful social media websites: **Facebook** and **Twitter**. Cut down on double handling by publishing content across three separate websites with a single click. By cross linking content across multiple websites and creating a social community, websites can expect to improve their search engine optimisation and their following.

updates / upgrading

Version 1.6.2 adds a timeout parameter for setting up Facebook and Twitter, so users can fine tune the extension for running on slower hosts.

Version 1.6.1 solves a problem with HTML character encoding for Facebook.

In version 1.6.0, allArticleAnnounce has an amazing list of new features and functions:

- Multiple Facebook pages are supported once again
- Supports personal, business and now community Facebook pages
- Posts to an unlimited number of Facebook pages simultaneously
- Choose to include a short or long url
- Ability to post the title only
- Updated more efficient Auto Publish function

To upgrade to this latest version of allArticleAnnounce, please completely uninstall any older versions of this extension and then install the latest files.

installing and configuring

Please remember that there are three pieces to this extension and **all three must be installed** for it to run correctly. They are:

1. allArticleAnnounce - Button.zip
2. allArticleAnnounce – (Content).zip
3. allArticleAnnounce.zip

installation

1. Begin by **logging into the backend** of the Joomla website that the extension will be installed in. To do this, go to website's address/URL and add the extension *administrator* to the end (for example, Joomtraders would be: <http://www.joomtraders.com/administrator/>). Login into the page using a correct username and password (figure 1.1).



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration Login page. At the top, it says "Joomla! Administration Login". Below this, there is a message: "Use a valid username and password to gain access to the Administrator Back-end." and a link "Return to site Home Page". On the left, there is a large padlock icon. On the right, there is a login form with three input fields: "Username", "Password", and "Language" (set to "Default"). Below the "Language" field is a "Login" button with a green arrow icon.

Figure 1.1

- Once there has been a successful login into the backend, click on the **Extensions dropdown** located at the top of the browser window, and select **Install/Uninstall** (figure 1.2).

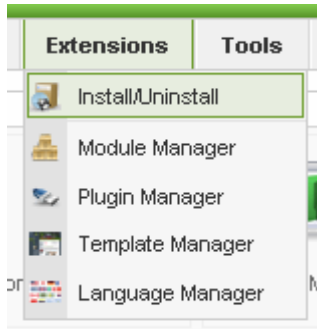


Figure 1.2

- On the next screen that appears, select **browse** from **Upload Package File** and **select allArticleAnnounce - Button.zip**. Once the file is selected, click on the **Upload File & Install** button (figure 1.3). After a successful install, repeat this process with the file **allArticleAnnounce - Content.zip**.

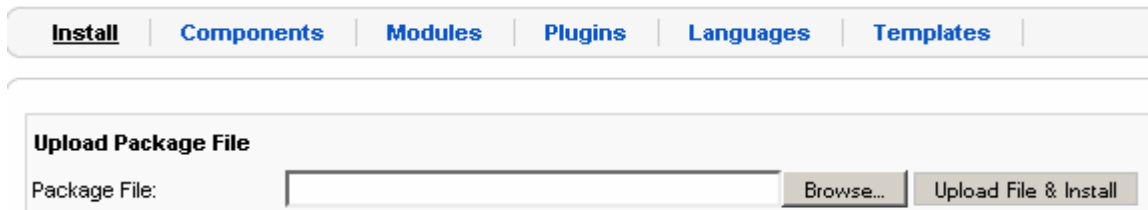


Figure 1.3

- Next, browse to **com_allarticleannounce.zip** and **upload and install** the file using the same process as step 3. When this file is successfully installed, there is a value to be set **before proceeding**; the **Starting Date Set** (figure 1.4).

This field tells allArticleAnnounce the date from which to publish to Facebook and/or Twitter. **This will restrict updates to only new articles** and will eliminate the risk of accidental publishing to the social networks when old articles are modified for the first time after the installation of allArticleAnnounce.

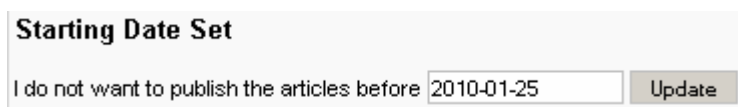


Figure 1.4

- Once the extension has been installed, make sure to publish the two plugins. To do this, go to the **Extensions** dropdown and select **Plugin Manager** (figure 1.5).

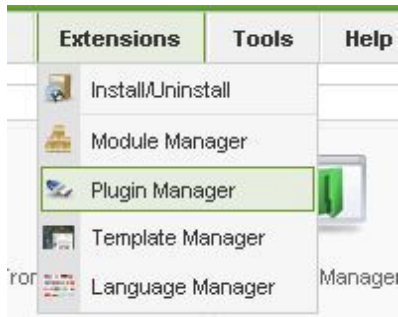


Figure 1.5

- In the **Filter**, insert the text **allarticleannounce** and press the **Go** button (figure 1.6). This will list the two plugins.

Filter:



#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plugin Name	Enabled ▲
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	allArticleAnnounce- (Button)	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	allArticleAnnounce- (Contents)	

Figure 1.6

- Select the **red circle (with a white X)** under the column **Enabled** for each to enable the plugins. **When enabled**, the circle will be replaced by a **green tick** (figure 1.7).



Figure 1.7

configuration

1. All configuration settings for this extension reside in the **component**. In order to access the configuration settings, ensure that you are logged in to the Administration backend (see installation step 1), access the **Components** dropdown and select **allArticleAnnounce** (figure 2.1).



Figure 2.1

configuration – updating facebook configuration

1. Located on the first page that appears after accessing the component through the **Administration backend**, the first set of **configuration settings** refer to Facebook (figure 2.2.1). Make sure to select **Save the Values** button at the bottom of the page after making changes. The fields for **Facebook configuration** are:

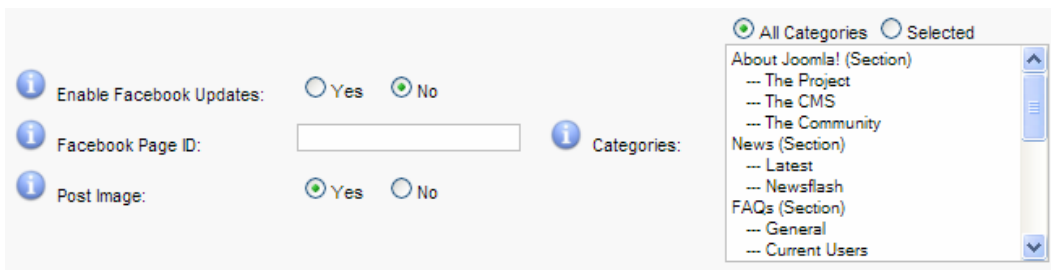


Figure 2.2.1

Enable Facebook Updates: allows you to set *globally* whether or not users can post to Facebook.

Facebook Page ID: use this area to specify what page or profile you wish to update when an article is published. Continue reading on the next page (step 2) on how to set this up.

Post Image: specifies whether or not to **include an image** from the article in the facebook post.

Categories: Use this to determine specifically what sections/categories you wish to **auto publish** from to Facebook.

2. To **update** the Facebook Account, you will require the **ID** of the page or profile you wish to update.
 - a. To find this, you will need to first **navigate** to your **page or profile** within Facebook.
 - b. Click on the **Profile picture** to take you to the picture album for your Facebook page or profile.
 - c. In the browser **address bar**, there should now be some numbers. Highlight and **copy** the numbers that appear at the **end of the url**, after &id= (figure 2.2.3).

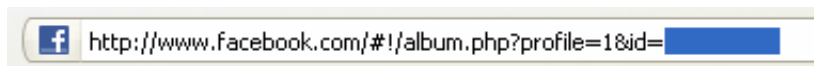


Figure 2.2.3

3. **Paste** the ID into the **Facebook Page ID** form (figure 2.2.4), and click the **Save the values** button at the bottom of the page.

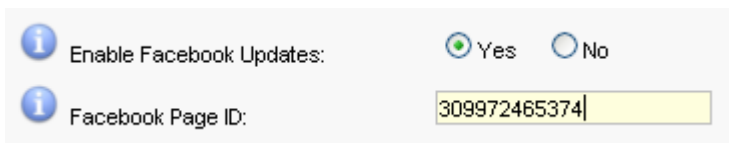

 A screenshot of a form with two sections. The first section is "Enable Facebook Updates:" with two radio buttons, "Yes" (which is selected) and "No". The second section is "Facebook Page ID:" with a text input field containing the number "309972465374".

Figure 2.2.4

4. Click the link **Set Up Application** that has now appeared under the Facebook Page ID (figure 2.2.5).


 A screenshot of the same form as in Figure 2.2.4. The "Facebook Page ID:" input field now contains the number "309972465374" and a blue link labeled "Set Up Application" has appeared directly below the input field.

Figure 2.2.5

- By clicking the **Set Up Application** link, you will be taken externally through to the **Facebook request for permission** page. Press the **Allow** button to continue (figure 2.2.6). If in the rare case that facebook comes up with an error, repeat step 4 and 5.

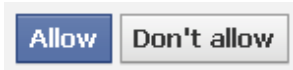
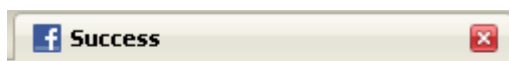


Figure 2.2.6

- If successful, the permission page will say **Success** (figure 2.2.7). You may close this web page to return to the Joomla! site and allArticleAnnounce component page.



Success

Figure 2.2.7

- Refresh** the allArticleAnnounce component page. If all complete, the **Set Up Application** link will be removed, and you will see the ID of the linked Facebook page or profile (figure 2.2.8).



Figure 2.2.8

- To **add another** Facebook page, repeat steps 2 to 7, but in step 3, paste in all the pages you want to update at the same time, with a semicolon between each Facebook Page ID. For example,
 xxxxxxxx;yyyyyyyyy;zzzzzzzzz

configuration – updating twitter configuration

1. Located on the first page that appears after **accessing** the **component** through the **Administration backend**, the second set of configuration settings that can be configured refer to Twitter (figure 2.3.1). Make sure to select **Save the values** button at the bottom of the page after making changes. The fields for **Twitter configuration** are:

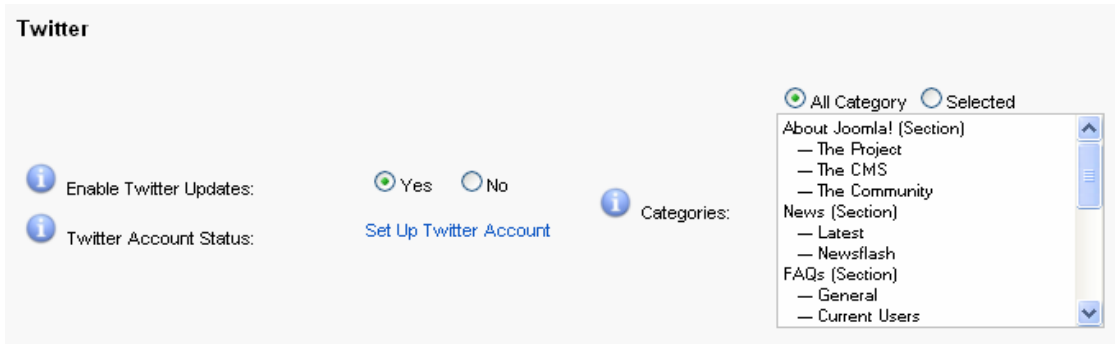


Figure 2.3.1

Enable Twitter Update: Allows you to set *globally* whether or not users can post to Twitter.

Twitter Account Status: Link to the required Twitter account.

Categories: This field allows for multiple selections of categories intended for allArticleAnnounce to update from. This is very helpful to avoid accidentally updating from categories that will never be published from, such as system messages.

2. To update the Twitter Account, please click the **Setup Twitter Account** link (figure 2.3.2). This should take you through to **api.twitter.com** to authenticate the Joomla / Twitter connection.

[Set Up Twitter Account](#)

Figure 2.3.2

Note: If your host is running a little slow, you may hit a blank page in your Joomla backend during this step. If this is the case, you will have to increase the CURL timeout. Please follow the steps on page 18 before continuing.

3. Insert your account **username** and **password** and press the **Allow** button to continue (figure 2.3.3).

Username or Email:

Password:

Figure 2.3.3

4. If successful, the browser will **redirect** back (figure 2.3.4) into the administration backend of your website, and will display the text **Information Updated** (figure 2.3.5) in a blue bar, and the Twitter Account Status should read: **Change To Different Account** (figure 2.3.6).

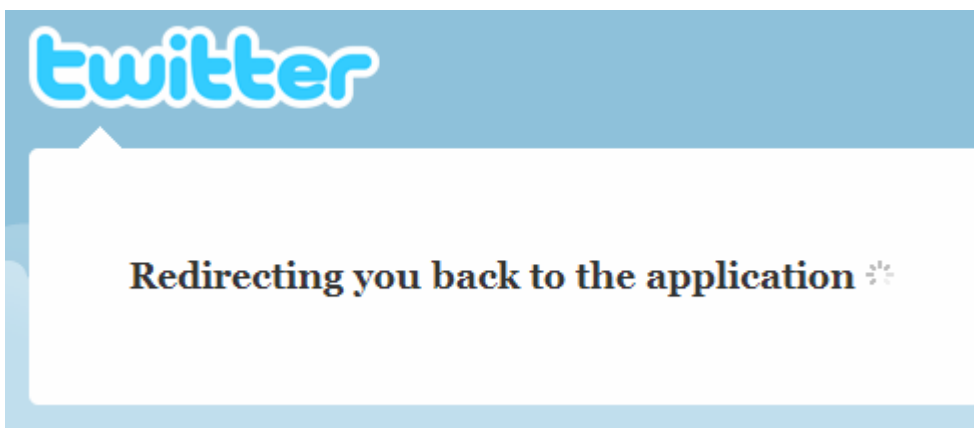


Figure 2.3.4

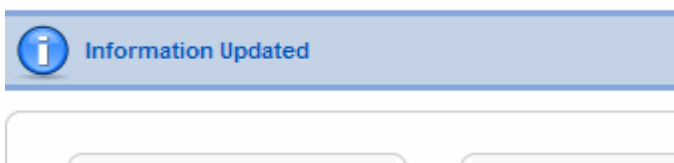


Figure 2.3.5

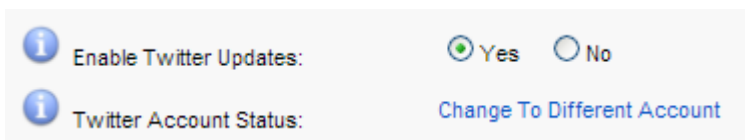
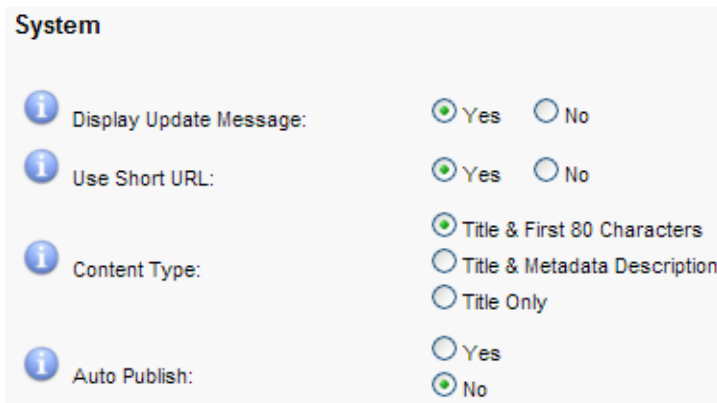


Figure 2.3.6

configuration – system configuration

1. Located on the first page that appears after **accessing** the **component** through the **Administration backend**, the third set of configuration settings that can be configured refer to the overall extension (figure 2.4). Make sure to click the **Save the Values** button at the bottom of the page after making changes. The fields for **System configuration** are:



System

Display Update Message: Yes No

Use Short URL: Yes No

Content Type: Title & First 80 Characters
 Title & Metadata Description
 Title Only

Auto Publish: Yes
 No

Figure 2.4

Display Update Message: Whether or not to display a message on the success or failure of updates to Twitter and/or Facebook when an article is published.

Use Short URL: convert long (regular) URLs automatically to short URLs.

Content Type: The choices of text to use from the article in the post: the title and the first 80 characters, the title and a metadata description of the article, or only the title.

Auto Publish: When enabled, and Twitter or Facebook is unreachable, allArticleAnnounce will retry to post any failed postings every 24 hours until they are posted. **Please note** that this can result in duplicate postings on some hosting environments, so please use this feature with care.

useful usage tips

turning on/off extension for each article

1. The extension currently has two on/off access points. The first one is the global parameters, which is set through the **allArticleAnnounce (Content)** under **Extensions > Plugin Manager**. Please see the **installation > configuration** section of this guide to find specific instructions on how to edit these global parameters.

The second on/off access point can be found within the backend of the website when editing each individual article. To access this secondary on/off switch, log into the backend of the website and access the **Content** drop down menu at the top of the screen and select **Article Manager** (figure 3.1).

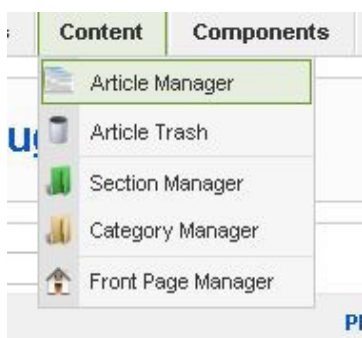


Figure 3.1

2. Create a new article by selecting the **New** button on the top right of the **Article Manager** (figure 3.2). Please note that the extension will only work with new articles as they are published and will not work with previously created articles.

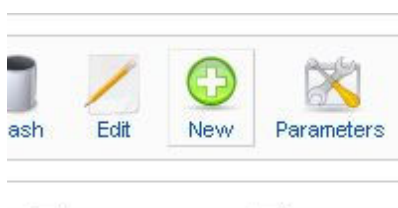


Figure 3.2

3. The secondary on/off switch for the component is located at the bottom of the article editor (figure 3.3). Click on the **allArticleAnnounce** button to access the article specific parameters.

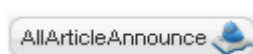


Figure 3.3

- By clicking on the **allArticleAnnounce** button, a parameter box will appear (figure 3.4). This section allows a user to turn the extension on/off for each article individually.

Click the **Save** button to when the changes have been completed.

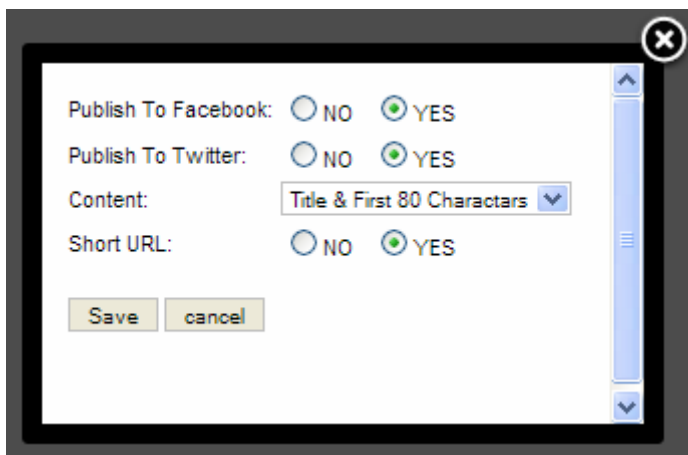


Figure 3.4

Publish To Facebook: Whether or not to post to Facebook when the article is published.

Publish To Twitter: Whether or not to post to Twitter when the article is published.

Content: The choices of text to use from the article in the post: the title and the first 80 characters, the title and a metadata description of the article, or only the title.

Short URL: convert long (regular) URLs automatically to short URLs in the post.

- An article will only ever be published to Twitter and/or Facebook when the article is **published** within the article editor itself. This means that a user can save and re-edit an article as much as they like as long as it remains unpublished. Each article will **only be published once** to Twitter and Facebook for the life of the article.

Changing the publish status from the **Article Manager** will not activate the extension, as it requires changes to the source code to enable this. Detailed instructions to enable this functionality can be found in the **Support and Help** within this article.

history logs

1. To access the history logs, head to the allArticleAnnounce component from the Administrator backend in Joomla! and select the **History** link under **Setting** in the **left hand menu** (figure 3.4).

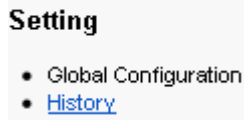


Figure 3.4

2. This will display a page with a log containing the **history of updates** made by allArticleAnnounce to Twitter and Facebook (figure 3.5). Please note that this log will display all articles set in chronological order earlier than the **Before Date** set at installation. These have not been sent to Facebook or Twitter, but have been locked out from doing so by being on this list.

History				
Article ID	To Facebook	Date	To Twitter	Date
1	Yes	2010-01-25	Yes	2010-01-25
2	Yes	2010-01-25	Yes	2010-01-25
3	Yes	2010-01-25	Yes	2010-01-25
4	Yes	2010-01-25	Yes	2010-01-25

Figure 3.5

support and help

Further support and help regarding this extension can be found using one of the following methods and by accessing the latest information on our website at <http://www.joomtraders.com>

- **Lodge a support ticket** <http://www.joomtraders.com/tickets.html>
- **Email us** support@joomtraders.com
- **Actively engage in discussions at our forums** <http://www.joomtraders.com/forum.html>
- **Check for updated documents.**

This documentation was last updated on the 24th of February 2011.

installing CURL on a local LAMP setup

If this extension is installed on a local LAMP setup, it may produce an error if CURL is not enabled on the version of PHP installed.

In most cases, CURL comes with the LAMP package, but is set by default as “off”. To enable it, follow these steps:

1. Go to the LAMP installation directory and open the **php** directory.
2. Locate and open **php.ini** using a text based editor like Notepad (not Word).
3. Using the search function (normally **edit > search**) find **CURL** and remove the # in front of it. Save and close the file.
4. Got back to the LAMP installation directory and open the **apache** directory.
5. Repeat steps 2 and 3.
6. Restart the LAMP services.

If you run into this issue on externally hosted server, the hosts will need to be communicated with to have them make the appropriate changes.

changing the CURL timeout period

If the extension is installed on a slower host (for example a shared host), you may have problems configuring the initial connection to Facebook and Twitter, where instead of being redirected to Facebook or Twitter, a blank page is shown instead.

If this is the case with your installation, you can increase the timeout period.

1. Within the allArticleAnnounce extension, click the Parameters button on the top right hand side (figure 4.1).

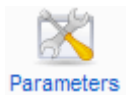


Figure 4.1

2. Increase the number by ten (eg if it's 30, replace it with 40). (figure 4.2)

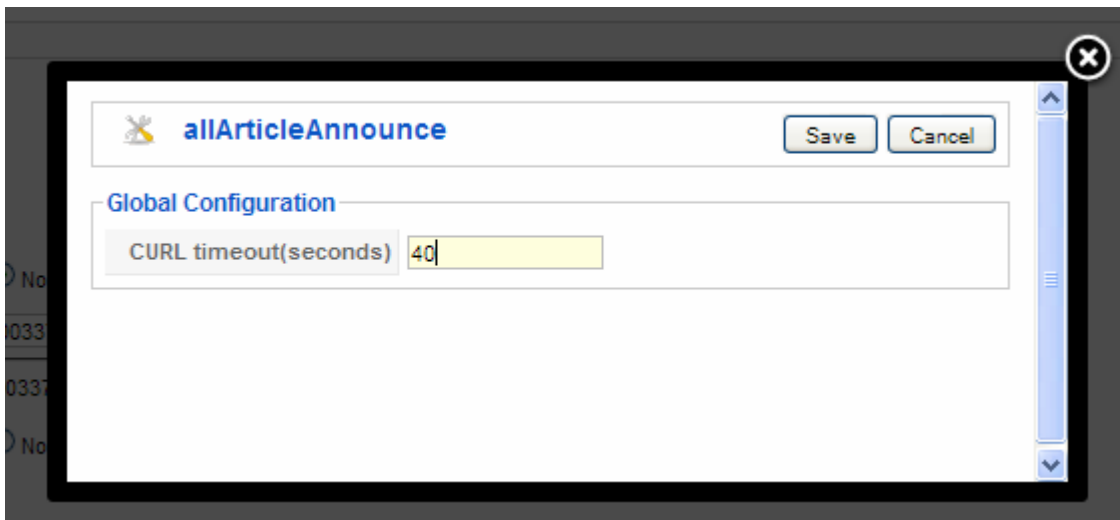


Figure 4.2

3. Try setting up the problematic Facebook / Twitter account again (see 'configuration – updating facebook configuration' or 'configuration – updating twitter configuration' earlier in this document).
4. If you still get a blank screen on connecting, repeat steps 1-3, increasing the number at step 2.
5. If there are still problems, please contact Joomtraders Support.

allowing submission to Twitter/Facebook through publishing of articles within the Article Manager

Changing the publish status from the **Article Manager** by default will not activate the extension, as to enable this functionality requires changes to the source code. If a user wishes to have this functionality, the following changes would have to be changed:

1. Go to the following directory located within the Joomla! Install:
administrator\components\com_content
2. Locate and open **controller.php** using a text based editor like Notepad (not Word).
3. After line: 835, insert the following code:

```
$dispatcher = & JDispatcher::getInstance();
JPluginHelper::importPlugin('content');
$row_update = & JTable::getInstance('content');
foreach ($cid as $id)
{
    $row_update->load($id);
    $dispatcher->trigger('onAfterContentSave', array(&$row_update, false));
}
```

licence

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- **c)** Accompany it with the information you received as to the offer to distribute corresponding source code. (This alternative is allowed only for noncommercial distribution and only if you received the program in object code or executable form with such an offer, in accord with Subsection b above.)

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