



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Integration

**VISION**<sup>TM</sup>

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# Introduction

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There are a number of ways to integrate a 3rd party product and you will want to use different methods depending on what 3rd party application you are trying to integrate. Due to the fact that all third party products are different and have different layout limitations one of the following methods may be a better fit than others. Often times you may want to get the feedback of your Project or Account manager to understand which method would fit best for any given 3rd party application.

It is important to note that Vision cannot modify the code of the 3rd party applications, but we can advise you on the best way to integrate a 3rd party product into your site. You will still want to contact your 3rd party provider to find out what their suggested implementation setup is, as that may narrow your options of integration down.

The 6 most common methods of integrating 3rd party applications are...

1. iFrame
2. HTML Template
3. Direct Linking
4. Embedding Code
5. Vision API
6. External Data Source

# iFrame

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An iFrame is an HTML strip of code that will allow you to "frame" another webpage within the body area of your site. This will force your 3rd party applications to appear as an embedded application within your website design.

Using an iFrame is a very useful tool, but it will have its limitations. Below are a few things to look out for when deciding whether or not you should use an iFrame.

- 1. Percentage Based Width:** Because of the fixed width of the Body area you will be framing within, you want to make sure that the 3rd Party application uses a "percentage" based width. These means that when you reduce the size of the viewing area, the page width will adjust along with you. If it does not, than it is probably a "fixed" width will force the user to scroll sideways within the framed area if the content is larger than the frame itself. In this case it would probably not the best application to use an iFrame with.
- 2. Sensitive information:** Any time a 3rd party application is asking for sensitive information (like a Social Security number) it typically should not be framed in within another page. Most of the time these pages will have SSL or some other form of Security on their page, but when you iFrame the display for these secure pages are not visible (they would still be secure, but the end user may not be able to see that and may not fill out the form because of it).
- 3. Design/ Color:** If you are going to "frame in" another page, it should have matching fonts and a similar color palette to your main site. Otherwise it will not feel like it has continuity with the rest of the website (which is the whole reason you would want to use an iFrame in the first place). In some cases, the 3rd party does not have the ability to modify their products look or feel at all, and in these cases, you should probably not iFrame the page into your site.

## iFrame (cont.)

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Once you have decided that you DO want to use an iFrame take the following steps to implement it.

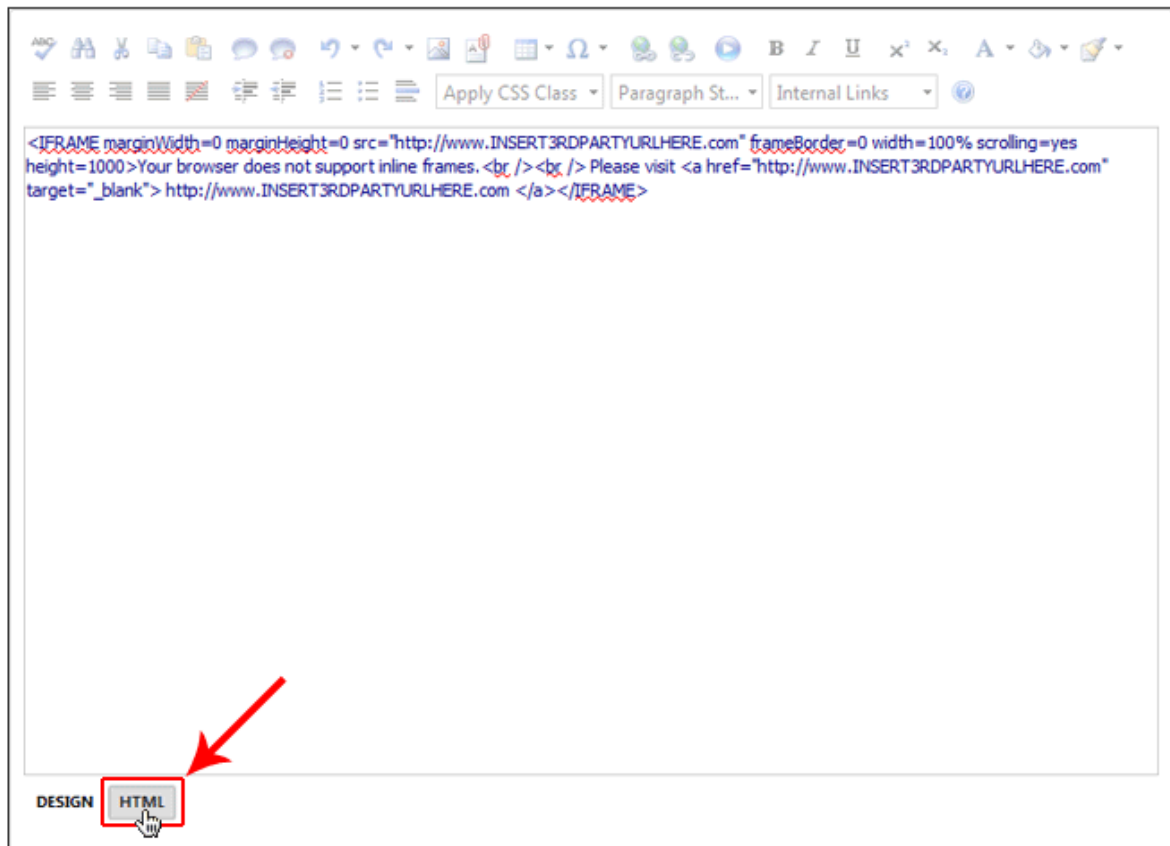
- 1. Choose Page Template:** First decide what the general space should be for the frame you will create. There are varying page templates already created that you can use, or you can create your own. Perhaps the content should take up the full width of the page area, or maybe just the right column. Once you have an idea for how large the frame should be you can select an existing page, or create a new one using the page template that you desire. Please read our Page Templates guide for more information.
- 2. Paste in Code:** Once you have created your page, instead of inserting content into the content area, you will want to paste the following code into the "HTML View" (see image below). You will also need to replace the RED URL with the 3rd Party URL you are trying to integrate in addition to the desired title of the iFrame. Lastly, you may need to adjust the "height" value highlighted in red below to accommodate the size of the integrated frame.

Code:

```
<IFRAME title="This is the title" style="width: 100%;  
height: 1000px; margin: 0; outline: none"  
src="http://www.INSERT3RDPARTYURLHERE.com"  
>Your browser does not support inline frames.<br /><br  
</> Please visit <a  
href="http://www.INSERT3RDPARTYURLHERE.com"  
target="_blank"> http://www.INSERT3RDPARTYURLHER  
E.com </a></IFRAME>
```

## iFrame (cont.)

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**3. Save:** Scroll to the bottom and Save and approve your page.

It is important that you paste the code in using the HTML view as seen in the image above. Otherwise you may not get the correct results.

# HTML Template

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The HTML Template is a series of files that were used to create your webpage. This template will provide a single HTML file for an internal page, the images, and CSS files that were used to develop that page. Due to the nature of using HTML templates and the setup of our system; we will remove the dropdown menu, Shortcut Links, and Footer Links from the template before providing it to you. We will also have to create "Absolute" (or permanent) links for the main navigation. The HTML Template will be provided to you upon request.

In this implementation method, the 3rd party provider would use this template to make their product look as much like our site as possible. Functionally, you would link directly off to that provider's URL and if setup correctly (aside from a few slight aesthetic changes) you would only see the URL change. It will be important using this method to link to the 3rd Party provider's URL in the same window (NOT a new window). If the 3rd party provider can allow it, the main navigation and other items will return you to the primary website. regard is provide the HTML files for them to utilize.

Many companies will not be able to provide this customization on their product, so you will have to confirm it with your third party provider. It is important to note that **Vision cannot edit the code of the 3rd party provider, the most that we will do in this regard is provide the HTML files for them to utilize.**

# Direct Linking

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In cases where using an **iFrame** is not suggested, or where having the 3rd Party provider use the **HTML Template** is not a possibility, you will probably want to directly link to the 3rd Party application. For more information on how to setup a redirect, please review the **Optional Page Settings** section of the Show All Page Options online reference .



# Embedding Code

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Embedded Code refers to the process of implementing a 3rd party application directly into your webpage by copying and pasting the provided HTML strip of code into the HTML editor in the CMS (see below). Often times, you will have to slightly edit values on the code to get your page to look the way you want it. For example, you may need to edit the height, width, or location of where your application is located.

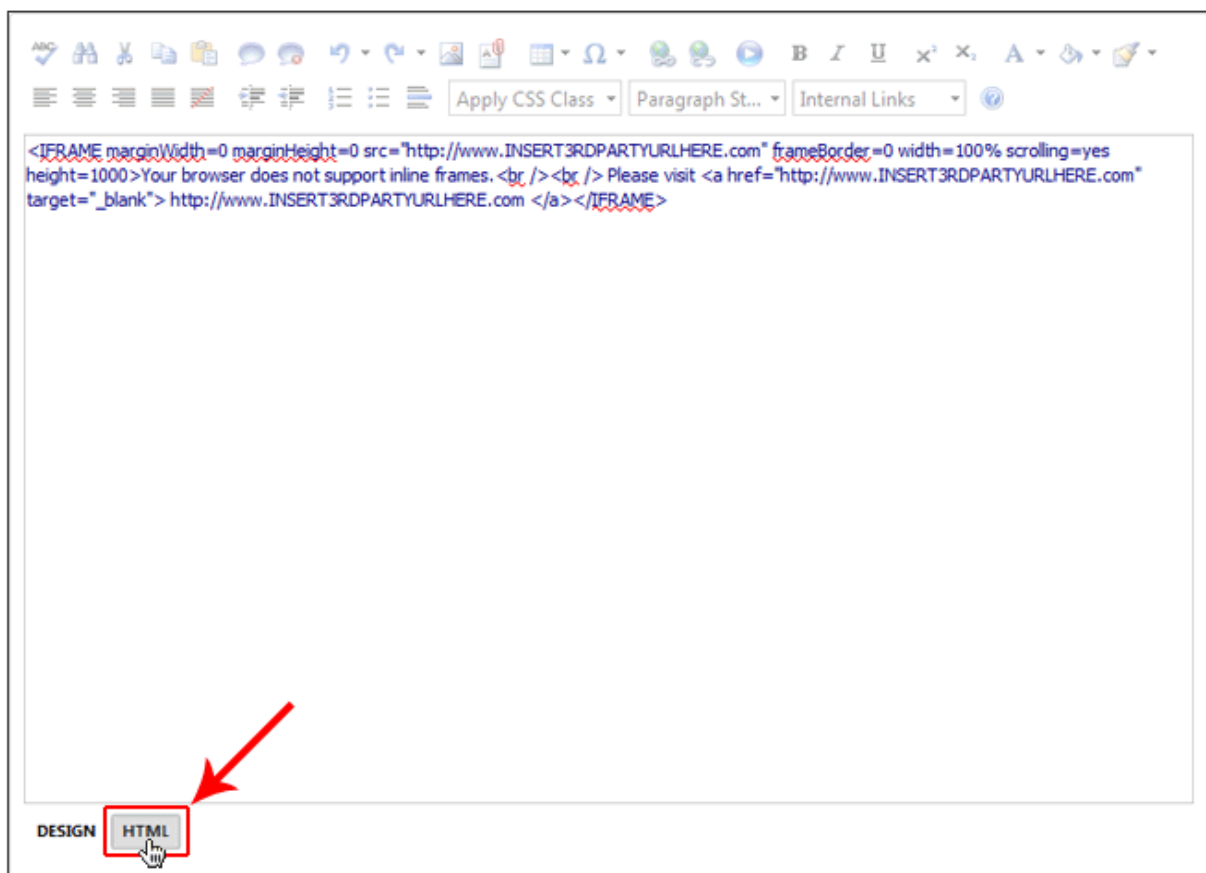
Embedding Code into a page is not always an option, as many 3rd party providers do not support or provide code that can be embedded. Please contact your 3rd Party provider to see if they have an “embed script” to paste into an HTML editor. Due to the unique nature of embedded scripts and the discrepancies that arise with each product, the Vision Internet CMS cannot support all embedded scripts, so please also contact your Project or Account Manager for specifics on compatibility.

Below are a few examples of different embedded scripts you may utilize:

- Video Player (eg. YouTube, Vimeo)
- Windows Media Video (eg. WMV)
- Quicktime Video (eg. MOV, MP4)
- Java Applets
- Other Embedded Methods

## Embedding Code (cont.)

All Embedded Scripts will share similar methods of application. First you will have to Copy the provided Script code from the 3rd party application. You will need to paste the script into the "Code View" area of the HTML editor (see image below).



After pasting the code into the HTML view, you will be able to modify the code to your specifications. If using our example codes below, you will need to replace the URL in red with the location of your 3rd Party application. If applicable, you can also edit the Height and Width values.

## Embedding Code (cont.)

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### Video Player:

Using the Editor's default Insert External Video feature, you can easily embed Youtube and Vimeo videos without using embed code at the HTML view.

Online video players will generally be either HTML5 or Flash in formatting these methods will provide you with a wider range of people who can view the video over Windows or Apple specific platforms. Each video vendor will provide their own embed code to use which may have slight variance, the below code serves as an example that you can copy, then paste it into the HTML VIEW of the editor (image above) and replace the URL in red ...

```
<embed src=http://www.VIDEOURL.com width=425  
height=344 type=application/x-shockwave-flash  
wmode="transparent" allowfullscreen="true"  
allowscriptaccess="always"></embed>
```

Whether you use our embed code or another, you **must** insert the following bit of code in red into the script they provided { **wmode="transparent"** } location in script is irrelevant. If you do not, the Drop down menu may will tuck behind the element you are embedding.

## Embedding Code (cont.)

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### **Windows Media Video:**

To embed a WMV file into your webpage you must copy the code below and paste it into the HTML VIEW of the editor (image above). You must then replace the URL in red with the location of where the WMV file is hosted.

```
<embed src=http://www.VIDEOURLHERE.wmv  
autostart="True" uimode="full" volume="100"mute="false"  
width="320" height="240"></embed>
```

The Windows Media Player is generally installed on computers that uses Microsoft Windows. However, Linux users and Apple users will not be able to see the video as they do not meet the software requirements. Additionally, at this time the drop down menu of the website will tuck behind the Video Player, so we would suggest inserting the player a little further down on the page.

# Embedding Code (cont.)

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## Quicktime Video

To Embed a MOV / MP4 file into your webpage you must copy the code below and paste it into the CODE VIEW of the HTML editor (image above). You must then replace the URL in red with the location of where the MOV / MP4 file is hosted.

```
<embed src=http://www.VIDEOURLHERE.mov width="480" height="272" autoplay="true"></embed>
```

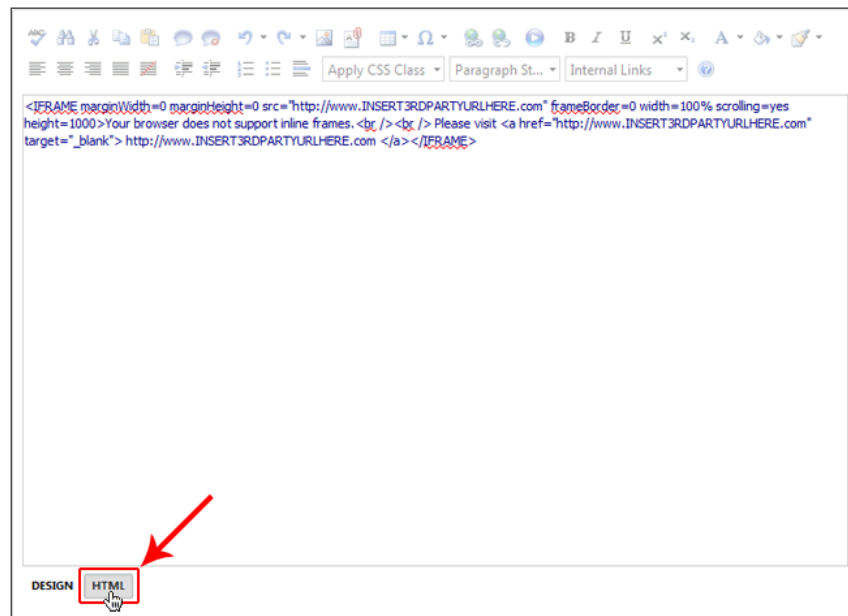
The Quicktime Video Player is installed on every Apple computer, and other computers that have installed Quicktime. Generally there will be a wide number of people that will not meet the software requirements to view this video file. Additionally, at this time the drop down menu of the website will tuck behind the Video Player, so we would suggest inserting the player a little further down on the page.

# Embedding Code (cont.)

## Java Applets:

There are a wide range of different Java Applets out there to provide different functions to the end user. Not all Java Applets will be compatible with the Vision CMS, so contact your Project or Account manager if you have any questions (or give it a try). It is important to note, that JavaScript generally does NOT work inside the editor, where Java Applets generally do.

The method of implementation will be the same as all the above methods. You will copy the 3rd party provided Applet code and paste it into the HTML VIEW area of the editor (image below).



## Other Embedded Method:

There are many other application types that can possibly be embedded into the HTML editor. However the system will generally not run Javascript, ASP, or other Server Side Scripts. Please contact your Project or Account manager for questions about embedding other applications into the HTML editor of the Vision CMS.

## Customization by external resources

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There are many extra features we can integrate to visionCMS from external resources.

The data can be from:

- CSV file, XML file
- RSS feed
- Client API
- or even from client Database

Current implementation EXAMPLES

1. DATABASE: <http://www.abington.org/about-us/advanced-components/tax-lookup>
2. CSV file: <http://www.barrington-il.gov/businesses/available-properties>
3. JSON/ XML: <http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov/>

Please contact your Project or Account manger for solution consulting.