

SSI: What is it?

- **Server-side technology that allows certain processing directives**
- **Allows you to create code snippets that can be reused on multiple pages (through insertion)**

Directives

| Directive | Parameters | Description | Example |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| include | file or virtual | Allows the contents of the document to be inserted into another | <pre><!-- #include virtual="header.html"--></pre> |
| exec | cgi or cmd | Executes a program, script or shell command on the server | <pre><!--#exec cgi="/cgi-bin/foobar.cgi"--></pre> <p>Or</p> <pre><!--exec cmd="ls -l"--></pre> |
| echo | var | Displays the contents of an HTTP environment variable | <pre><!--#echo var="REMOTE_ADDR"--></pre> |
| config | timefmt, sizefmt, or errmsg | Configures display formats for date, time, filesize, or error message | <pre><!--#config timefmt="%y %m %d" --></pre> <p>or</p> <pre><!--#config sizefmt="bytes" --></pre> <p>or</p> <pre><!--#config errmsg="SSI command failed!" --></pre> |
| flastmod or fsize | file or virtual | Displays data modified or document size | <pre><!--#flastmod virtual="index.html"--></pre> <p>or</p> <pre><!--#fsize file="script.pl"--></pre> |
| printenv | | Outputs a list of all variables and their values | <pre><!--#printenv --></pre> |

How?

- Create a file which contains the reusable code with the extension .shtml (most common when no other technology being used), .asp, .php or other server side technology. You can use them only in SHTML, ASP, PHP pages, etc. - that support include files.

Caution: for confidential data (DBS connection strings or items that contain logins or passwords) use .asp/.php et cetera so that no one can open the include file and see your code (and your logins and passwords!).

- Add the following code to the page that will use the include and add the following code in the appropriate place:

SHTML or ASP: <!--#include virtual="/path/file.XXX" -->
PHP: <?php include("../path/file.XXX") ?>