

ChiliProject - Feature # 344: Allow a plugin to specify its own load order

Status:	Open	Priority:	Normal
Author:	Holger Just	Category:	Plugin API
Created:	2011-04-18	Assignee:	
Updated:	2011-04-19	Due date:	
Remote issue URL:			
Affected version:			
Description: Sometimes its desirable for a plugin to be loaded very early or very late in the plugin load order. This is needed if a plugin e.g. modifies <code>@ApplicationController@</code> or some helpers. If prior plugins have already patched classes which are children of the mentioned classes, they won't catch up the changes as they already have loaded the class. It probably makes sense here to have a number of callbacks (accepting blocks) which allow a plugin to run certain monkey patching actions on different stages. Thus, a patch of the <code>@ApplicationController@</code> could be run at an early stage while other patches of the plugin could be run in the normal order, thus allowing other plugins to further modify <code>@ApplicationController@</code> . This could be done by wrapping <code>@Dispatcher.to_prepare@</code> and staging the code blocks according to their priority.			

History

2011-04-18 10:44 pm - Eric Davis

How is this different than `@config.plugins = [:name, :foo, :all]@` in a `config/additional_environment.rb`?

2011-04-19 10:12 am - Holger Just

Two major points:

using `@config.plugins@`, you can only change the load order of whole plugins, not parts of the plugin.

Load order, which I consider dependencies, should not need to be resolved manually, which essentially is what you do when setting `@config.plugins@`. Instead, plugins should configure it themselves. Else it becomes really confusing once you have a larger number of plugins doing complex things. Users can not be expected to track load dependencies of many plugins and find a proper resolution themselves.