

jAPS 2.0 - Rss plugin

Do It The jAPS Way

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Abstract

The aim of this document is to fully describe the structure of the Rss plugin.

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Chapter 1. Scope of the document

Introduction

The goal of this document is to fully describe the structure of the RSS(jprss) Plugin.

Target audience

This document is for those who want to know more about the RSS plugin functionalities and are considering to install it in a production or development environment with the Eclipse IDE. This document is aimed at system administrators (responsible for jAPS 2.0 installations) and Java developers (with a basic comprehension of the jAPS 2.0 framework).

Prerequisites

In order to take maximum advantage from the present document, it is necessary to have a basic knowledge about: the Java platform, the Eclipse IDE, the Apache Tomcat servlet container, the PostgreSQL DBMS and the jAPS 2.0 framework.

Resources

Additional informations may be obtained through the following mailing-lists:

- <japs-devs@lists.sourceforge.net>, focused on developers
- <japs-users@lists.sourceforge.net>, focused on final users

Chapter 2. Caratteristiche del Plugin

The `jprss` plugin allows to serve the portal contents through RSS channels.

Table 2.1. Characteristics overview

Code	Name	Type	Plugin version	Version of jAPS 2.0
jprss	RSS	PurePlugin	1.1	2.0.8

Prerequisites

This plugin requires the following dependencies to be satisfied:

- *jacms* version 2.0.8

As of version 2.0.8 *jacms* is bundled with jAPS2 itself, requiring no actions to be taken by the final user.

Plugin characteristics:

Functionalities:

This module offers:

- A back-end interface used by the administrator to create and manage the contents served through RSS channel. This interface adheres strictly to the pre-existing back-end graphics and settings, and it is accessible from the `Plugin` menu item.
- A showlet for the front-end designed to serve the list of the links of the active channels.

The links to RSS contents served in the Front-end always follow this pattern:

```
http://ipaddress:8080/myportal/do/jprss/Rss/Feed/show.action?id
```

where 'ipaddress' is the ip of the 'myPortal' portal and the id is the ID of the served content.

Plugin configuration

RSS channel configuration

To enter the RSS administration interface follow these steps:

1. Enter the administration area of the portal
2. Plugin
3. RSS

The following screen appears:

table

Welcome, admin!

Manage RSS Channels

New Channel

Channels List

Title	Description	Active	Contente Type	RSS Type	
First RSS channel	Channel description	Yes	Notizia	rss 2.0	

The list of the RSS channels actually defined in the portal

Press on the *New channel* link to proceed as shown in the next figure:

table

Welcome, admin!

Manage RSS Channels

Add a Channel

Contente Type:

Notizia

Continue

Choice of the content type to be served through a RSS channel (*translator note: 'notizia' means 'news'*).

Once the content type has been selected, the fields showed below must be filled to complete the creation of the RSS channel.

Manage RSS Channels

Add a Channel

Contente Type:
Notizia

Title:

Description:

☐ **Active**

RSS Type:
rss 2.0

Category:
None

Filters
No filters are currently defined
Add

Save

Fields of the RSS channel

Now the following information must be provided to complete the creation of the new channel:

- The title of the RSS channel
- A brief description of the RSS channel
- Choose if the channel must be immediately served checking the 'Active' box
- RSS compliancy standard of the channel
- Definition of the Category this channel belongs to
- Definition of the Filters (refer to the next paragraph on how to create Filters)

once the form is properly filled the RSS channel is ready to be exposed in the front-end.

Filters management: if the contents to be exposed through RSS must be filtered for any reason, just select **Add** in the filter box shown in the last picture. The following screen appears:

The screenshot shows the 'Manage RSS Channels' interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'ponents' and a list of filter boxes. The main area has a header 'Manage RSS Channels' and a button 'Add a Channel'. Below this is the 'Edit Filter' section, which includes a 'Type:' dropdown menu currently set to 'Creation Date' and a 'Continue' button.

Filter management for RSS channels

You may configure the filters depending on the attributes used in the Content Type used for the RSS channel.

Example 2.1. Example of a Date filter

This screenshot shows the 'Manage RSS Channels' interface with the 'Edit Filter' section expanded. It displays 'Filter by: Creation Date (Metadata)' and 'Order' options: 'None' (selected), 'Ascendant', and 'Descendant'. A 'Save' button is located at the bottom right of the main area.

Creation of a date filter for the RSS channel

Example 2.2. example of a Text-type filer

The screenshot shows the 'Manage RSS Channels' interface. The 'Edit Filter' section is active, showing a 'Type:' dropdown menu set to 'Attribute: Titolo' and a 'Continue' button.

Creation of a Text-type filter for a RSS channel (translator note: 'Titolo' means 'title')

Result expected if the filters shown above are added to a new RSS channel in the same way they are presented in this guide.

C.M.S.

Tools

Filters

N	Filter description	Order	
1	by Creation Date		<div>↑</div> <div>↓</div> <div>+</div>
2	by Titolo		<div>↑</div> <div>↓</div> <div>+</div>

Add

Resulting RSS channel configuration

Chapter 3. Installation and Integration

The `jprss` plugin serves the content of the portal in the RSS format.

This plugin is a *PurePlugin*, since (hence) its installation neither alters nor modifies pre existing functionalities of the system.

Package description

This package strictly adheres to the document *jAPSPlugin Pattern* so it contains all the directories expected (such as the `doc` and `src` directories as well as the `readme` file)

Moreover, the `src` is structured as follows:

- `java` directory. It contains the source files and the test suites of the plugin.
- `sql` directory. It contains the sql scripts to execute in the `port` and `serv` database, for the production, development and test environment.
- The `webapp` directory. This directory contains all the files needed by the web application. More specifically we have the `jsp` files of the user interfaces and the related configuration files, the `xml` declaring the beans of the various services (both belonging to the jAPS 2.0 business logic layer and the Struts2 presentation layer), all the required `jar` libraries (including the plugin itself!) and, finally, the static resources (`css`, `images`, `js` and so on).

Integration in a production environment

From now on we refer to the application where the plugin is going to be deployed as `myportal`. We also refer to the compressed file containing the all the plugin elements as 'package'.

To perform the installation in a production environment based on the jAPS 2.0 *compatible with this plugin*, the following steps must be taken:

- Copy the content of the `src/webapp/WEB-INF/lib` directory of the downloaded package inside the `myportal/WEB-INF/lib/` directory within the server container.
- Copy the content of the `src/webapp/WEB-INF/plugins` directory of the plugin package inside the `myportal/WEB-INF/plugins/` directory within the server container. Create the `plugins` directory if it is not present in your installation.
- Copy the content of the directory `src/webapp/resources/plugins/` of the plugin package in the `myportal/resources/plugins/`.
- Locate the SQL scripts in the `src/sql` directory inside the plugin package. Execute the script (eg. using the free program PgAdmin) to update the `port` database in production. The script has the parameter `version` set to `production`, change it accordingly to your needs. Substitute with the appropriate values the following strings: `CONTENT_TYPE`, `ATTRIBUTE_NAME` and finally `MAX_ITEMS`.
- In the `src/sql` directory, locate and execute the script `servScript.sql` to update the `serv` database in production.

The steps above must be executed *after* the server container has been stopped.

Installation in a development environment

As a convention, we call the project where the plugin is about to be installed `myproject`.

To perform the installation of jprss in an Eclipse IDE, on a version of jAPS 2.0 *compatible* with the plugin, follow these steps:

- Copy the content of the `src/webapp/WEB-INF/lib` directory of the plugin package in the `myproject/WebContent/WEB-INF/lib/` directory with the exclusion of the file `jAPSPugin-jprss-1.1.jar`.
- Copy the content of the `src/webapp/WEB-INF/plugins` directory in the `myproject/WebContent/WEB-INF/plugins/` directory. Create the `plugins` directory if needed.
- Copy the content of the directory `src/webapp/resources/plugins` of the plugin package in the `myproject/WebContent/resources/plugins/` directory.
- Execute the script `portScript.sql` (found in the `src/sql` directory of the plugin package) to update the local `port` database. The script has the version set to `production`, change it accordingly to your needs. Substitute with the appropriate values the following strings: `CONTENT_TYPE`, `ATTRIBUTE_NAME` and finally `MAX_ITEMS`.
- Execute the script `servScript.sql` (found in the `src/sql` directory of the plugin package) to update your local `serv` database.
- Execute the script `portTestScript.sql` (found in the `src/sql` directory of the plugin package) to update your local `port` database used for tests.
- Execute the script `servTestScript.sql` (found in the `src/sql` directory of the plugin package) to update your local `serv` database used for tests.
- Copy the content of the `src/java/main/com` directory of the plugin package in the `myproject/src/com` of your project.
- Copy the content of the `src/java/test/test` directory into `myproject/src/test`.
- Copy the file `src/java/main/jprss_japs-struts-plugin.xml` in `myproject/src/`. Look for a file named `japs-struts-plugin.xml` under the `src` directory of your Eclipse project: if it exists copy the content of the tag `<struts>` of the file `jprss_japs-struts-plugin.xml` inside the existing `japs-struts-plugin.xml` file, then delete `jprss_japs-struts-plugin.xml`. If the `japs-struts-plugin.xml` does not exist rename the file `jprss_japs-struts-plugin.xml` in `japs-struts-plugin.xml`.
- Delete or comment out (using a java comment) the method `getSpringConfigFilePaths()` of the class `JpRssConfigTestUtils.java` belonging to the `test.com.agiletec.plugins.jprss` package.
- Delete or comment out (using a java comment) the method `setInitParameters()` of the class `JpRssApsAdminBaseTestCase.java` belonging to the package `test.com.agiletec.plugins.jprss.apsadmin`.

Once the following steps are performed, restart your project and verify the presence of the RSS menu item under the `Plugin` menu in the back-end interface.

RSS Plugin configuration

After having successfully installed the plugin, the element `jprssConfig`, located in the `sysconfig` table of your `*Port` database, must be manually configured to meet your requirements.

This configuration determines the way your contents are converted into the RSS format.

The following record contains the mappings of various Content Types as well as one RSS which can be used to create RSS channels. Specifically:

- `typecode` is the code of the Content Type to serve.

- title is the name of the Attribute which designed to be the title of the feed.
- description is the name of the Attribute of the Content Type designed to be the description of the feed.
- maxItems is the maximum number of the feeds to serve

For example assume to have a contentType called NEW structured in this way:

Example 3.1. a possible jprssConfig configuration

```
<contenttype typecode="NEW" typedescr="Notizia" viewpage="uirnetnewviewer"
  listmodel="11" defaultmodel="10">
<attributes>
  <attribute name="Data" attributetype="Date" searcheable="true"
    required="true" />
  <attribute name="Titolo" attributetype="Text" indexingtype="text"
    searcheable="true" required="true" />
  <attribute name="Abstract" attributetype="Longtext" indexingtype="text"
    searcheable="true"/>
  <attribute name="CorpoTesto" attributetype="Hypertext"
    indexingtype="text" />
  <attribute name="Immagine" attributetype="Image"/>
  <list name="ListaLinkCorrelati" attributetype="Monolist"
    nestedtype="Link"/>
  <list name="ListaAllegati" attributetype="Monolist"
    nestedtype="Attach"/>
</attributes>
</contenttype>
```

Let's suppose you have the need of a RSS channel with a list of max 15 feeds. The mapping which corresponds to the criteria above is shown below:

Example 3.2.

```
<mapping typecode="NEW" typedescr="Notizia">
<title attributeName="Titolo" />
<description attributeName="Abstract" />
<maxItems value="15" />
</mapping>
```

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