Source Code Cross Reference

There are times when we wish to know right away the line number of the source code that caused a test to the fail. The Surefire Report Plugin has the capability to cross reference the source code that made the test fail. In order to activate this feature, the `maven-jxr-plugin` should be declared in the `<reporting>` section of the POM along with the `maven-surefire-report-plugin`. For more details, please read the documentation of the Maven JXR Plugin 🌐.

```
<project>
  [...]
  <reporting>
    <plugins>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
        <artifactId>maven-surefire-report-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>2.18.1</version>
        <configuration>
          <!-- place your configuration here -->
        </configuration>
      </plugin>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
        <artifactId>maven-jxr-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>2.1</version>
      </plugin>
    </plugins>
  </reporting>
  [...]
</project>
```

After executing `mvn site` for site generation, you'll notice that from the **Failure Details** section of the report, a link is available to redirect you to the source code that caused the failure.

In the figure below the code that caused the failure is *com.test.proj.AppTest:36*

The link will redirect you to the source by clicking it.

```
1    package com.test.proj;
2
3    import junit.framework.Test;
4    import junit.framework.TestCase;
5    import junit.framework.TestSuite;
6
7    /**
8     * Unit test for simple App.
9     */
10   public class AppTest
11       extends TestCase
12   {
13       /**
14        * Create the test case
15        *
16        * @param testName name of the test case
17        */
18       public AppTest( String testName )
19       {
20           super( testName );
21       }
22
23       /**
24        * @return the suite of tests being tested
25        */
26       public static Test suite()
27       {
28           return new TestSuite( AppTest.class );
29       }
30
31       /**
32        * Rigourous Test :-)
33        */
34       public void testApp()
35       {
36           assertTrue( false );
37       }
38   }
```

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Disabling the Cross Reference Link

To disable the link to the source code, the **linkXRef** property should be set to **false**. Alternatively one may simply omit the `maven-jxr-plugin` from the `<reporting>` section.