Lab 12: Implementing Multilingual Sites Using Variations

**Lab Time:** 30 minutes

**Lab Overview:** In this lab you will practice setting up and configuring variations which will be used within a multilingual site. Variations can be used for multilingual solutions as well as multidevice solutions and even used for delivering content in different vehicles.

Exercise 1: Configuring Variations for a Multilingual Site

In this exercise you will create a new variation container and a handful of labels. These labels will then be used to create a multilingual site.

1. Before you begin, create a new subsite within the **http://wcm.litwareinc.com** site collection that will be used as the variation container. Open a browser and navigate to **http://wcm.litwareinc.com**, then select **Site Actions » Create Site**.
2. On the **New SharePoint Site** page, use the following information to complete the page and then click **Create**:
   * **Title:** Variation Root
   * **Web Site Address:** http://wcm.litwareinc.com/VariationRoot
   * **Template Selection:** Publishing site with Workflow
   * **Permissions:** Use same permissions as parent site
   * **Navigation Inheritance:** Yes
3. In order to implement variations on a Publishing site, you need to first configure the site's variation settings. Open a browser and navigate to **http://wcm.litwareinc.com**, then select **Site Actions » Site Settings » Modify All site Settings** and then select **Variations** under the **Site Collection Administration** section.
4. On the **Variations Settings** page, use the following information to configure variations for the **http://wcm.litwareinc.com** site collection:
   * **Variation Home:** http://wcm.litwareinc.com/VariationRoot
   * **Automatic Creation:** Automatically create site and page variations
   * **Recreate Deleted Target Page:** Recreate a new target page when the source page is republished
   * **Update Target Page Web Parts:** Do not update Web Part changes to target pages when variation source page is propagated
   * **Notification:** Uncheck Send e-email notification when a  new site or page is created or a page is updated by the variations system.
   * **Resources:** Copy Resources
5. At this point, you have now configured variations for the **http://wcm1.litwareinc.com** site collection. The next step is to create labels for each variation flavor.

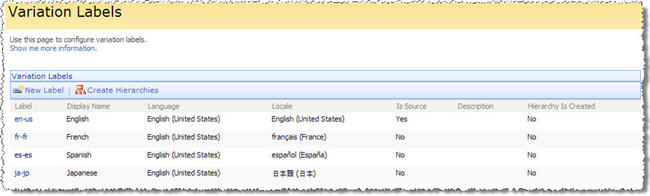
Exercise 2: Creating Variation Labels

In this exercise you will create a few variation labels that will represent a few different languages within your site collection for the subsite **Variations Root**.

1. Navigate to the root of the **http://wcm.litwareinc.com** site collection and select **Site Actions » Site Settings » Modify All Site Settings** and then select **Variation Labels** under the **Site Collection Administration** section.
2. You will now create three new variations for three different languages. On the **Variation Labels** page, select **New Label**.
3. On the **Create Variation Label** page, use the following information to create a new label and click **OK**:
   * **Label Name:** en-us
   * **Display Name:** English
   * **Locale:** English (United States)
   * **Hierarchy Creation:** Publishing Sites and All Pages
   * **Source Variation:** Check **Set** **this variation to be the source variation**.
   * **Select the Publishing site template you want to use:** Publishing Site with Workflow
4. Now, using the same process in the previous step, create three more labels using the following information:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Label #1 | Label #2 | Label #3 |
| Label Name: | fr-fr | es-es | ja-jp |
| Display Name: | French | Spanish | Japanese |
| Locale: | French (France) | Spanish (Spain) | Japanese |

1. The **Variation Labels** page should now look like the following image:



1. Now you need to create the site hierarchy with all the labels configured. Select the link **Create Hierarchies** from the **Variation Labels** page toolbar. The variation system will now create subsites for each of the labels and establish the necessary links between each.
2. When the hierarchy creation process is complete, select the **Variation Root** menu item from the top navigation bar. Unless your desktop is configured with a locale of fr-fr, es-es, or ja-jp, you will be automatically redirected to **http://wcm.litwareinc.com/VariationRoot/en-us/Pages/default.aspx**. This is because the variation system adds a special control to the default page within the **Variation Root** site that automatically redirects users to the label that is configured with the same locale configured on their desktops.

In this exercise you created four variation labels and the necessary hierarchies to make this work.

Exercise 3: Creating Content in a Multilingual Site

In this exercise you will create content in the root variation label and watch it propagate to the other labels when published.

1. Navigate to the root variation, **http://wcm.litwareinc.com/VariationRoot/en-us/Pages/default.aspx**.
2. Now, create two new content pages using the **Article Page** content type... use any of the page layouts associated with the Article Page. Do not take time entering too much content into the pages, but enter just enough. **Do not submit the pages for approval... simply check them in**.
3. Once you've created the two pages, navigate to the other labels and notice how the pages do not exist.
4. Go back to the pages you created and move them all the way through the approval process to publish them to the site.
5. Once the pages have been published, navigate to one of the other labels. Notice how the pages have been copied over (if they haven't, give it a few minutes as the propagation procedure is not always immediate), however they aren't published. At this point, content owners responsible for the different language variation labels would perform translation; optionally change the master page (as long as it was associated to the same **Article Page** content type).

In this exercise you created some content and moved them through the publishing approval process to monitor them making its way through the other labels.