EXT: Feed/XML Connector Service

Extension Key: svconnector_feed

Language: en

Keywords: forDevelopers, forIntermediates

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- a GNU/GPL CMS/Framework available from www.typo3.org

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Introduction

This extension implements a specific connector service for reading XML files, be they local or remote. In particular it can be used to easily get the contents of a RSS feed.

Questions and support

If you have any questions about this extension, please ask them in the TYPO3 English mailing list, so that others can benefit from the answers. Please use the bug tracker on forge.typo3.org to report problem or suggest features (http://forge.typo3.org/projects/extension-svconnector_csv/issues).

Keeping the developer happy

It's unfortunately not possible to rate extensions anymore (maybe that will change again), so feel free to send thanks to the developers or praise the extension in general. If you really want to give something back, you may consider my Amazon wish list: http://www.amazon.co.uk/registry/wishlist/G7DI2AN99Y4F

You may also take a step back and reflect about the beauty of sharing. Think about how much you are benefiting and how much yourself is giving back to the community

Installation

Install this extension and you can start using it's API for reading XML files inside your own code. It requires extension "svconnector" which provides the base for all connector services.

Configuration

The various "fetch" methods of the connector all take the same parameters:

Parameter	Type	Description	Default
uri	string	URI of the XML fiel to read. This may be local or remote. **Examples:** http://news.typo3.org/atom.xml EXT:myext/res/some.xml fileadmin/imports/some.xml	
encoding	string	Encoding of the data found in the file. This value must match any of the encoding values or their synonyms found in class t3lib_cs. Note that this means pretty much all the usual encodings. If unsure look at array t3lib_cs::synonyms.	
useragent	string	User agent to fake. This is sometimes necessary to bypass access restrictions on some sites. Don't include the "User-Agent:" part of the header. **Example:** Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; U; Intel Mac OS X 10.6; en-US; rv:1.9.2.13) Gecko/20101203 Firefox/3.6.13	

Developer's manual

Reading a flat file using the Fedd/XML connector service is a simple task. The first step is to get the proper service object:

```
$services = t3lib_extMgm::findService('connector', 'feed');
if ($services === FALSE) {
    // Issue an error
}
else {
    $connector = t3lib_div::makeInstanceService('connector', 'feed');
}
```

On the first line, you get a list of all services that are of type "connector" and subtype "feed". If the result if false, it means no appropriate services were found and you probably want to issue an error message.

On the contrary you are assured that there's at least one valid service and you can get an instance of it by calling `t3lib_div::makeInstanceService()`.

The next step is simply to call the appropriate method from the API – with the right parameters – depending on which format you want to have in return. For example:

```
$parameters = array(
        'uri' => 'http://news.typo3.org/atom.xml',
        'encoding' => 'utf-8',
    );
$data = $connector->fetchXML($parameters);
```

This will return the XML from the feed as a string. The `fetchRaw()` will return the same.

The `fetchArray()` method returns an array version of the XML transformed using `tx_svconnector_utility::convertXmlToArray()`. The returned array has a rather complex structure, but this ensures that no information is lost.

To-Do list

There is a roadmap on Forge for the continuing development of this extension:

http://forge.typo3.org/projects/extension-svconnector_feed/roadmap