CSS guidelines

Naming conventions

WebContent/ <component | common | business> / <feature> / css / <feature>-Functionnality.css
Webcontent/component/forms/css/*

Guidelines

▪Selectors

•Not all the selectors of the CSS 2 norm are interpreted by IE 6 as well as IE 7.

•**Selectors to use:**

```
-element:      tr{color: red;}
-class:        .selected{color: red;}
-id:           #myTable{color: red;}
-descendant: #myTable_td.selected{…}
-all combinations of the precedent
selectors
```

•**Selectors to avoid**

```
Child: E>F, adjacent: E+F,
Attributs: E[att{=.*}], pseudoClass: E:*
```

•**Use at the most 1 CSS-class per Html element in the selectors**: Even if the specification of many Classes for the same HTML element are covered by the CSS 2.0 norm, IE6 does not support it (only the last selector is interpreted).

```
td.fundDate.selected{…} WRONG
td.fundDate_selected{…}
```

▪Specificity

•In case many selector would apply to the same element, rules have been defined to specify the "specificity" of a selector. It can be seen as a mark, expressed in four parts, like : 0, 0, 0, 0.

```
For every id, add        0, 1, 0, 0
For every class, add     0, 0, 1, 0
For every element, add   0, 0, 0, 1
```

•Some examples:

```
h2.grape{color: purple}  0,0,1,1 WINS
h2{color: green}         0,0,0,1
```

•To avoid interferences between selectors, try to be as precise as possible:

```
tr.highlighted{…} WRONG
table.fundList tr.highlighted{…}
```

•Do not use the **"!important"** keyword. It should not be useful if your selectors are precise enough.

▪When do I use ID and Class ?

•**As a rule**, try to use Classes for giving a style to a component, and ID to identify a component to Javascript.

•**But**, if one single element must be skinned, or if the display of a component instance must be overloaded, then you can use the CSS ID.

▪CSS file or inline style ?

•Avoid inline style in your JSP pages. Try to use instead CSS classes (if necessary, you can use several Classes for the same HTML element).

```
<div style="color:#FF0000;
    border:1px solid black"> WRONG
<div class="myDivStyle">
```

•Exception: sometime, the style must be changed in JS or is much too specific to be reused in the application. (for instance table-cell width). In this case, you can define at the most 3 CSS properties in the "style" parameter.

```
<div style="width: 150px; color:#FF0000;
    border:1px solid black"> WRONG
<div style="width: 150px"
    class="myDivStyle">
```

▪Styleguide CSS

•**Order your CSS attributes** by alphabetical order. It will avoid all duplicates attributes.

•**Sort the selectors in a logical way**: first respect the html structure and sort from the less specific to the most (look at the first part of the example)

•Do not hesitate to **comment your CSS**.

•**Avoid adding hacks in the CSS** (to enforce a special comportment for IE or Firefox): before you do it, ask to other team-members if they know a better solution.

Example

```
/* generic part of the component */
.dataTableContainer{
    margin-top: 10px;
}
.dataTableContainer table{
    margin-bottom: 10px;
    width: 100%;
}
.dataTableContainer table td{
    background-color: #FF0000;
}
.dataTableContainer table td.hidden{
    display: none;
}

/* specialisation for the component instance */
#myDataTable.dataTableContainer table td{
    background-color: #ECECEC;
    border-bottom: 1px solid #C0C0C2;
    color: #000000;
    margin: 0px 0px 12px 0px;
}
```

Quicklinks

DOCs:

▪*http://www.w3schools.com/css/default.asp*
▪*http://www.yoyodesign.org/doc/w3c/css2/cover.html*

Example:

▪*http://www.csszengarden.com/*