# Giga Creations Tools "GCTools"

Created by: J. "Giga" Murphy <giga1699@gmail.com>

**README** File

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http://www.gigacreations.net/

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### About GCTools

### **Purpose**

GCTools was designed to help web developers create dynamic, feature-rich, applications quickly. It was not intended to be a Content Management System (CMS), a web forum, a photo gallery, a login system, or anything in particular. Instead, GCTools aimed to enable developers to create anything they wanted.

This allowed GCTools to be extremely flexible, and streamlined. The developer only has to include those classes that he actually needs, not an entire library of functions that may, or may not, be needed. This is one of the reasons GCTools has been developed so extensively. The developers have put a lot of time into thinking about what it is that a developer may need, and how can we do it with the most simple implementation available.

# History

The very first code of GCTools was written in early September, 2010. The initial idea was not to create a framework, but to develop a management system for an object-oriented design class at the University of Louisville. The initial code was fairly small, and only included a few classes.

At the time, PHP had not really been developed with objects in mind. Most code was small scripts that was reminiscent of old C code. Although objects existed in PHP, they had not been utilized to a large extent. This was the aim of J. "Giga" Murphy during his class… to show his class that PHP could be used as a viable object-oriented language for web development.

Following the class, development came to a halt as other classes took priority. The code was committed to a private Git repository, and was largely forgotten about until late April, 2011. At this time development ramped up.

Within a week more than 4 new classes were created, and much of the older code was optimized. GCTools also gained another developer, M. "Beanyhead" Parker. Not only was a new developer added, but the project was released under the GPL v3 license, and pushed to a public GitHub repository for others to utilize. This also enabled people in the community to add to the project, and help to improve it.

Thus, GCTools was officially born and put into open source development.

### **Future of GCTools**

The future of GCTools at this moment is unknown. Open-source developers are still needed to help contribute to the project, and the project is still lacking some major features.

You may check on the status of GCTools at the project's website, http://www.gigacreations.net/

# **GCTools Files**

## cache.inc.php

### **Class Variables**

1.) cacheDir – This defines the directory to store cached files. It must exist, and be writable.

### **Class Functions**

- Cache(\$cacheDir)
  - (a) \$cacheDir defines the directory to store cached files
  - (b) Pre/Post Conditions:
    - i. Precondition: The \$cacheDir should be defined.
    - ii. Postcondition: The cache class is initialized.
  - (c) This function initializes the Cache class. It ensures that the cache directory exists, and is writable. If the directory does not exist, or is not writable, an exception is thrown.
- getCacheDir()
  - (a) Pre/Post Conditions:
    - i. Precondition: \$cacheDir should be set
    - ii. Postcondition: Returns the \$cacheDir, or FALSE otherwise
  - (b) This function provides the user with the location of the cache directory.
- setCacheDir(\$dir)
  - (a) \$dir defines the new location of the directory to store cached files.
  - (b) Pre/Post Conditions:
    - i. Precondition: \$dir should be set, and a writable directory
    - ii. Postcondition: Return TRUE on success, and FALSE otherwise
  - (c) This function allows the user to change the location of the cache directory after the class has already been initialized.
- 4. createCache(\$file)
  - (a) \$file defines the path to the file to be cached
  - (b) Pre/Post Conditions:
    - i. Precondition: \$file should be a valid file
    - ii. Postcondition: Create a cache of the file and return TRUE on success, or FALSE on failure
  - (c) This function allows the user to create a cache of a file.

# **Class example**

## database.inc.php

### **Class Variables**

### Database class

- 1.) dbType defines the type of database that is being used.
- 2.) dbLoc defines the location of the database. This can be an IP address, a hostname, a file location, etc
- 3.) dbUser defines the username used to connect to the database, if needed.
- 4.) dbPass defines the password used to connect to the database, if needed.
- 5.) dbName defines the name of the database to use.
- 6.) lastError defines the text of the last error that occurred, if any.

### MySQL class

1.) myCon defines the MySQL connection

### MSSQL class

This class is currently not functional

### **PGSQL** class

This class is currently not functional.

### SQLite class

This class is currently not functional.

### **Class Functions**

### Database class

- 1. (Protected) Database(\$loc, \$user, \$pass, \$name, \$type)
  - (a) \$loc defines the location of the database. This may be an IP address, a hostname or a location on the server.
  - (b) \$user defines the username used to login to the database.
  - (c) \$pass defines the password used in conjunction to the username to log into the server.
  - (d) \$name defines the default database to begin working with.
  - (e) \$type defines the type of database you will be working with.
  - (f) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: The database location, username, password, name and type should be defined.
    - ii. Postcondition: The class will set-up the variables that will be used to connect to the database, and conduct queries.

- (g) This sets up the class to perform database operations.
- 2. hasError()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: None
    - ii. Postcondition: Returns TRUE if an error has occurred, and FALSE otherwise
  - (b) This function will enable the user to check if an error has occurred during a database operation.
- 3. getLastError()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: An error should have occurred.
    - ii. Postcondition: Returns the error message the the database gave when the last error occurred.
  - (b) This function gets the last error message provided by the database.
- 4. (protected) resetError()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: None.
    - ii. Postcondition: Any error is cleared from the class.
  - (b) This function is used internally by the class to clear any previous errors that occurred.

### MySQL class

- 1. MySQL(\$loc, \$user, \$pass, \$name)
  - (a) \$loc defines the location of the MySQL server. This can be either an IP address, or a hostname.
  - (b) \$user defines the username used to log into the MySQL server.
  - (c) \$pass defines the password used in conjunction with the username to log into the database.
  - (d) \$name defines the default database to use to perform database functions.
  - (e) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: The location of the SQL server, the username, the password and the database name is given.
    - ii. Postcondition: The MySQL server is connected to
  - (f) This function connects to a MySQL server to perform MySQL functions. It will attempt to load the MySQL libraries, if they are not already loaded. It will also initialize it's parent Database class so you can use all the functionality of the abstract Database class.
- 2. (Private) connect()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: The MySQL class should be set up properly.
    - ii. Postcondition: The connection to the MySQL server is made, or errors or handled.
  - (b) This function is the one that actually makes the connection to the MySQL database.
- 3. (Protected) throwError([\$specialError])

- (a) \$specialError defines a unique error that MySQL may not handle by itself, or an error that occurs before a MySQL connection is established
- (b) Pre/Post-conditions:
  - i. Precondition: An error should have occurred
  - ii. Postcondition: The error is created in the Database class with the proper information.
- (c) This function is called internally when any error has occurred during MySQL operations.
- 4. query(\$qString)
  - (a) \$qString defines the SQL Query string to be executed.
  - (b) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: A query should be presented
    - ii. Postcondition: The class will attempt to execute the query, and handle any errors.
  - (c) SECURITY NOTE:
    - i. The user is responsible for handling any sort of SQL injection type attacks. This function DOES NOT handle this by itself.
  - (d) This function takes a SQL query, and tries to execute it on a MySQL database. It will also handle any errors that occur during the execution of the query.
- 5. changeDB(\$dbName)
  - (a) \$dbName defines the new database to use for queries.
  - (b) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: A database name is given
    - ii. Postcondition: The class attempts to change the database to use for MySQL operations. Returns TRUE on success, and FALSE on failure.
  - (c) This function changes the database that is used to execute queries.
- 6. escapeString(\$string)
  - (a) \$string defines a string to escape using MySQL
  - (b) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: A string should be given
    - ii. Postcondition: The string is escaped using the current MySQL connection.
  - (c) This function escapes a string to be safe in a MySQL query.
- 7. connected()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:
    - i. Precondition: None
    - ii. Postcondition: Returns TRUE if the MySQL connection is active, and FALSE otherwise
  - (b) This function informs the user if the MySQL connection is still active, or not.
- 8. reconnect()
  - (a) Pre/Post-conditions:

- i. Precondition: None
- ii. Postcondition: Will close any current connection, and re-establish a connection to the MySQL server
- (b) This function is used to reconnect to a MySQL server. It is used internally if the MySQL connection is lost, and can be used by the user to reconnect using the given credentials at initialization time.

### **MSSQL** class

This class is not currently functional.

# **PGSQL** class

This class is not currently functional.

### SQLite class

This class is not currently functional.

# Class example

### MySQL class

# MSSQL class

This class is not currently functional.

# PGSQL class

This class is not currently functional.

# SQLite class

This class is not currently functional.

file.inc.php

mail.inc.php

navigation.inc.php

photo.inc.php

security.inc.php

session.inc.php

user.inc.php

# **Credits**

# **Code Contributors**

- 1.) M. "Beanyhead" Parker
  - 1. E-Mail: beanyhead@gmail.com
  - 2. Website: http://www.nomits.com/
- 2.) R. Rios

# **Change Log**

This is in the works

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Version 3, 29 June 2007

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