

## IBM Web Content Management Syndication Health-check

Often customers want to monitor WCM syndication from a point-to-point viewpoint. The WCM API provides many ways to do this but in this scenario the requirement is to validate that content created on the authoring server can be displayed on rendering server's web site. The design for this implementation is to periodically update a content item on the authoring server and verify that the update appears on the rendering server.

### Deployment

On the Authoring server create a WCM Text Component. You can put it in whichever library makes sense to you. You could put one in each library if you want. I created a Text component in my "Web Content" library and named it "HeathCheck". The EAR should be deployed on the authoring server only. There is a security role associated for the update so that need to be set when you deploy it. You can use any user for "HealthCheckUser" role as long as that user has access to the edit the "HeathCheck" Text component.

### Updating

The item should be updated on the Authoring server on a regular basis. Probably you want to run this as a cron job on the server something like this:

```
*/15 * * * * wget --user wpsadmin --password wpsadmin -O /dev/null
http://example.com:10039/wcm-syndication-healthcheck/update.jsp >/dev/null 2>&1
```

### Checking

On the authoring server you can look at /wcm-syndication-healthcheck/check.jsp to see the latest updated time for the "HeathCheck" item. Like this:

```
wget -O check.html http://example.com:10039/wcm-syndication-healthcheck/check.jsp
```

On the production rendering nodes you can use the REST service to see the latest version. Use the check.jsp on the Authoring to get REST URL. So for instance if the REST URL is:  
http://authoring.example.com:10039/wps/mycontenthandler/  
ut/p/wcmrest/LibraryTextComponent/6819407a-2063-43ad-af4e-31b3a5fc16b5

Then on the rendering nodes you can check the item like this:

```
wget --user wpsadmin --password wpsadmin -O check.xml
http://rendering.example.com:10039/wps/mycontenthandler/!
ut/p/wcmrest/LibraryTextComponent/6819407a-2063-43ad-af4e-31b3a5fc16b5
```

Output from the rest service will be something like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<entry xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom"
xmlns:wcm="http://www.ibm.com/xmlns/wcm/8.0">
  <id>wcmrest:6819407a-2063-43ad-af4e-31b3a5fc16b5</id>
  <title xml:lang="en">HealthCheck</title>
  ...
  <content type="text/plain">11/16/13 2:45 PM</content>
</entry>
```

### Customizing to Your Environment

Have a look at the check.jsp and update.jsp. You just need to customize to set the name of the library and the name of the WCM Text item. By default the check.jsp and update.jsp look for "HeathCheckItem" in the "Web Content" library in the base portal.

To change these defaults you can edit those jsp files or pass query parameters like this:  
wcm-syndication-healthcheck/check.jsp?  
library=MyContentLib&textItem=MyTextItem&vpContext=myvp