Advanced Store Locator documentation

Created by Yougapi Technology - May 2011
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Thank you for purchasing our product. This is the documentation to help you getting the product working. You can contact us if you need assistance and we'll do our best to help you.

Introduction

This advanced store locator is using **an API to fetch and display all the stores information**. that makes it a very powerful and flexible application. It enables users to views your stores on a Google Map, view a Google Street view of a specific location, search by address, search the closest stores to their current location.

The API make it super easy to use this application with other products, including our Mobile Store Locator. It enables you to display on Mobile devices (iPhone, Android, iPad...) the stores that you have added on this web application.

This application also comes with a **fully featured back-end interface** where you can add/edit/delete all your stores information and manage their categories. This admin section is independent from this application. The connection between the 2 is made through the API.

In one sentence, you have three things here:

1/ One fully featured Store Locator web application.
2/ One fully featured admin interface to manage your stores and categories.
3/ The API system that creates the link between the front-end and the back-end.

Installation & configuration

The installation and configuration can be done in 2 easy steps. Just follow the next instructions and you should be good setting up your application in minutes !

1/ Setup the font-end of the application

One the app package copied on your FTP server, open the file “config.php” situated in the folder “include” and update the variables with your custom data.

You need to define **2 mandatory values**. The “app_url” that is the full URL of your application (without a slash at the end) and the “api_url” that is the full URL to the API from where the app will fetch all the stores information.

Example:

```
$GLOBALS['app_url'] = 'http://yougapi.com/products/mobile/store_locator';
$GLOBALS['api_url'] = 'http://yougapi.com/products/mobile/store_locator/api/';
```

You can also define the “api_url” like this:

```
$GLOBALS['api_url'] = $GLOBALS['app_url'].'/api/';
```

The other variables included in this file are optional and can be used to customize your display. They will be defined in the next sections.

2/ Setup of the API and back-end interface

a) **Step1**
You need to execute the dump file (situated in “/api/include/dump.sql”) in your database to create the table required and that will be used to store your stores information.

b) **Step2**
In the folder “/api/include/” open the file called “config.php”. You need to set all the variable to your actual data (path to your API folder from the root of your website, database access and database table names).

Example:

```
$GLOBALS['app_base_path'] = '/products/advanced_store_locator/api/';

//database access
$GLOBALS['db_host'] = 'your_db_host';
$GLOBALS['db_name'] = 'your_db_name';
$GLOBALS['db_user'] = 'your_db_user';
$GLOBALS['db_password'] = 'your_db_password';

//database table name
$GLOBALS['db_table_name'] = 'store_locator';
$GLOBALS['db_table_name_category'] = 'store_locator_category';
```

Optional application customizations

The “config.php” file that you can find in the “/include/” folder contain several optional variables that you can set with your own values to apply some customizations to the application display and functionalities.

Let’s review them one by one.

$GLOBALS['nb_display']
In this variable you can define a number to represent how many stores you want to display per page. A recommended value is 10 but you can chose to display as many stores as you want.

$GLOBALS['distance_unit']
The distance unit that you want to use. You can use “km” to have the application calculating the distances in kilometers, or using “miles” to use the miles system.

$GLOBALS['categories_filter']
Whether or no you want to activate the categories filters. Set it to “1” to activate it, and “0” to not activate the categories filter.

$GLOBALS['max_distance']
You can decide to set a max distance for stores to be searched around a specific location. The value should be a number.

$GLOBALS['max_distance_filter']
Whether or no to activate the max distance filter.

$GLOBALS['marker_icon']
The Google Maps uses a default red icon used as a marker. With this variable you can define your own icon URL to have your custom icon be used in the Google Maps.

$GLOBALS['marker_icon_current']
It’s the custom marker icon used for the current location.

$GLOBALS['autodetect_location']
Whether or no detect the user’s locations. Set it to 1 is recommended.

$GLOBALS['streetview_display']
Whether or no activate the street view display. The street view is displayed as an overlay on the Map, and can be activated from a link in the info window, appearing when a marker is clicked.

Files used by the application

You don’t need to read this section. It’s more to give some information about what files and/or libraries are used by the application. Please refer to the working example files included for more detailed information of how the applications works.

1/ Javascript files

The jQuery framework need to be included.

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.4.2/jquery.min.js"></script>
```

The Google Map API also needs to be included:

```
<script src="http://maps.google.com/maps/api/js?sensor=false"></script>
```

We also need to declare the Javascript files related to the application:

```
<script src="include/js/json2.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
<script src="include/js/script.js" type="text/javascript"></script>
```

2/ CSS files

We have to include 1 CSS file related to our app.

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="<?=$GLOBALS['app_url'];?>/include/css/style.css" />
```

3/ PHP files

The needed PHP files (containing functions and classes declarations) are included through the “webzone.php” file, that is declared in the “index.php” file, and anywhere where needed.

Credits

Thanks for jQuery library.
Google for the Google MAP API.

Contact us

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