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# Overview

The missing link ant http task was created due to the lack of a full featured, usable and liberally licensed ant HTTP task. This ant task is coded from scratch utilizing only core Java classes; as such it does not require any third party dependencies at runtime.

This ant task also simplifies common aspects of HTTP communication, which other libraries seem to needlessly complicate, such as: authentication, TLS/SSL and HTTP methods other then GET and POST.

# License

The missing link ant http task is licensed under the Apache 2.0 license, a copy of the license can be found with the missing link ant http task distribution or at <http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.html>.

# Features

The missing link ant http task was created with the following features in mind:

* No third party library dependencies.
* TLS/SSL support on a configuration, per-connection basis, not JVM-wide.
* Support for HTTP methods GET, POST, PUT, OPTIONS, HEAD and TRACE.
* Support for BASIC authentication.
* Support for multiple URL/URI building options.
* Support for specifying arbitrary HTTP request headers.
* Support for specifying a request entity in-line or through a file.
* Options on what information to print to the output.
* Options to govern what response status codes are expected, and what should cause a build-failing exception.

# Ant task XML elements

## <http>

### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| url | HTTP URL | Yes |  | <http://www.google.com> |
| method | HTTP method | No | GET | GET, PUT, POST etc. |
| printrequest | Print request entity | No | false | true or false |
| printresponse | Print response entity | No | false | true or false |
| printrequestheaders | Print req. headers | No | true | true or false |
| printresponseheaders | Print resp. headers | No | true | true or false |
| expected | Expected HTTP status | No | 200 | 200, 201, 404 etc. |
| failonunexpected | Fail on unexpected status | No | true | true or false |
| outfile | Write response to file | No |  | Any filename |
| statusProperty | Property to save status to | No |  | statusProperty=”http.status” |
| update | Update/overwrite outfile | No | true | true/false |
| entityProperty | Write response entity to prop | No |  | response.entity |

### example

<http url=”http://google.com” method=”GET” printrequest=”false” printresponse=”true” printrequestheaders=”true” printresponseheaders=”true” expected=”200” failonunexpected=”false” statusProperty=”http.status”/>

## <http> nested elements

### <credentials>

#### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| username | BASIC username | Yes |  | john.doe |
| password | HTTP password | No |  | Password |
| show | Print the credentials | No | false | true/false |

#### example

### <keystore>

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<credentials username=”john.doe” password=”password”/>

</http>

#### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| file | KeyStore file | Yes |  | /path/to/keystore.jks |
| password | KeyStore password | No |  | password |

#### example

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<keystore file=”/path/to/keystore.jks” password=”password”/>

</http>

### <headers>/<header>

#### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| name | Header name | Yes |  | Accept |
| value | Header value | No |  | application/xml,\*/\* |

#### example

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<headers>

<header name=”Accept” value=”application/xml,\*/\*”/>

<header name=”Content-Type” value=”application/xml”/>

</headers>

</http>

### <query>/<parameter>

#### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| name | Query parameter name | Yes |  | qp |
| value | Query parameter value | No |  | value |

#### example

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<query>

<parameter name=”qp1” value=”value1”/>

<parameter name=”qp2” value=”value2”/>

</query>

</http>

### <entity>

#### supported parameters

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Required | Default | Example |
| file | File to read entity from | No |  | request.xml |
| binary | Treat entity as binary | No | false | true/false |
| value | Value to use as entity | No |  | ${my.prop} (for property expansion) |

#### examples

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<entity file=”request.zip” binary=”true”/>

</query>

<http url=”http://google.com”>

<entity><![CDATA[Request Entity]]></entity>

</query>

# Ant configuration

The following is a basic example of how to import and use the missing link ant http task:

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<project name="ml-ant-http" basedir="." default="http-get">

<property name="ml-ant-http.jar" value="ml-ant-http-1.0.jar"/>

<fileset id="runtime.libs" dir=".">

<include name="${ml-ant-http.jar}"/>

</fileset>

<path id="runtime.classpath">

<fileset refid="runtime.libs"/>

</path>

<taskdef name="http" classname="org.missinglink.ant.task.http.HttpClientTask">

<classpath refid="runtime.classpath"/>

</taskdef>

<target name="http-get">

<http url="http://www.google.com"/>

</target>

</project>