NAME

desktoptojson – Converts a .desktop file to a .json file.

SYNOPSIS

desktoptojson −−input *DESKTOP−FILE* −−output *JSON−FILE*

desktoptojson {−−version | −−help}

DESCRIPTION

The KService framework uses information contained in .desktop files to locate services, including plugins for Qt5−based applications and libraries. The Qt5 plugin system, however, uses JSON data embedded in the plugin itself. **desktoptojson** allows the information contained in a .desktop file to also be used as the embedded data for a Qt5 plugin by converting the .desktop file entries into JSON data.

The generated JSON data is a JSON object that maps the entries from the [Desktop Entry] group of the .desktop file. Any other groups are ignored. Most entries are just converted to JSON strings, but certain entries (such as Hidden and X−KDE−PluginInfo−EnabledByDefault) are known to be boolean values and converted as such, and similarly some (such as X−KDE−ServiceTypes and X−KDE−PluginInfo−Depends) are always converted to arrays of strings.

OPTIONS

−−**input** *DESKTOP−FILE*
The .desktop file to convert.

−−**output** *JSON−FILE*
The file to write the generated JSON data to.

−−**help**
Show a brief help text.

−−**version**
Show version information.

USAGE

Most users of this utility will use the CMake macro **kservice_desktop_to_json** as part of the process of building a plugin.

```
add_library(myplugin MODULE ${myplugin_SRCS})
kservice_desktop_to_json(myplugin myplugin.desktop)
```

This will produce the JSON file myplugin.json, which can be referenced from the **K_PLUGIN_FACTORY_WITH_JSON** or **Q_PLUGIN_METADATA** macros.

BUGS

Please use **KDE's bugtracker**[1] to report bugs.

AUTHORS

Scarlett Clark <scarlett@scarlettgatelyclark.com>
Wrote the original documentation.

Alex Merry <alexmerry@kde.org>
Edited the documentation.

NOTES

1. KDE's bugtracker
   https://bugs.kde.org