

# WebSphere Application Server Version 6.1 Sales and Technical Enablement Workshop Lab 03 – Portlet applications

## Introduction

The Application Server Toolkit (AST) provides basic support for the creation of new applications targeting WebSphere Application Server V6.1. This includes wizards and tools for creating new Web applications, Web services, portlets, and EJBs, as well as annotation based programming support, new administration tools for the creation and maintenance of wsadmin Jython files, and tools to edit WebSphere-specific bindings and extensions.

## **Lab Requirements**

This lab assumes that the following setup is complete prior to starting the lab:

- VMware Player 1.0.x or VMware Workstation v5.5.x installed on your machine. A free VMware player is available from <a href="http://www.vmware.com/products/player/">http://www.vmware.com/products/player/</a>
- A machine with 2 GB is RAM is preferred.

## **Overview**

In this exercise you will explore the Application Server Toolkit by developing a simple portlet application.

Portlets are reusable Web modules that provide access to Web-based content, applications, and other resources. Portlets can run on WebSphere Application Server because it has an embedded JSR168 Portlet Container. You can assemble portlets into a larger portal page, with multiple instances of the same portlet displaying different data for each user.

From a user's perspective, a portlet is a window on a portal site that provides a specific service or information, for example, a calendar or news feed. From an application development perspective, portlets are pluggable Web modules that are designed to run inside a portlet container of any portal framework. You can either create your own portlets or select portlets from a catalog of third-party portlets.

Each portlet on the page is responsible for providing its output in the form of markup fragments to be integrated into the portal page. The portal is responsible for providing the markup surrounding each portlet. In HTML, for example, the portal can provide markup that gives each portlet a title bar with minimize, maximize, help, and edit icons.

You can also include portlets as fragments into servlets or JavaServer Pages files. This provides better communication between portlets and the J2EE Web technologies provided by the application server.

# Part 1: Start the Application Server Toolkit

As an introduction to the Application Server Toolkit, start the Workbench and begin developing portlets.

\_\_\_\_\_1. From the SLES Desktop, locate the KDE Panel at the bottom of the workspace. Click on the 'N' icon.



\_\_\_\_\_2. In the menu, select IBM WebSphere→ Application Server Toolkit V6.1 → Application Server Toolkit V6.1. This will start the AST. Alternatively, you can start the AST from the command line using /opt/IBM/AST61/ast



When the Workbench is launched the first thing you see is a dialog that allows you to select where the workspace should be located. The workspace is the directory where your work will be stored. Enter a workspace of /root/AST/Lab03-workspace and click OK to continue.



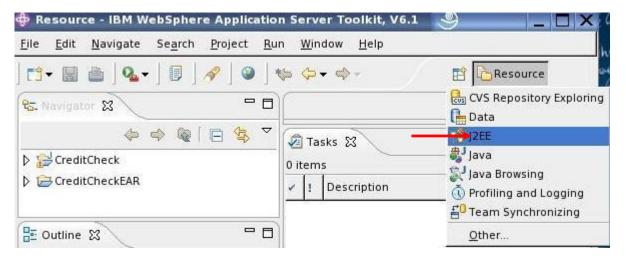
4. From the Application Server Toolkit Welcome page, click on Workbench – Go to the workbench



- 5. Initially, in the first Workbench window that is opened, the Resource perspective is displayed. A shortcut bar appears in the top right corner of the window that allows the user to open new perspectives and switch between ones already open. Open a Data perspective.
  - 1) From the toolbar, click on the Open Perspective button



2) Select J2EE



# Part 2: Create a portlet project and application

Create portlet projects as a foundation for developing portlet applications in the product workbench.

- \_\_\_\_\_1. Create a new portlet application using the New Portlet Project wizard
  - \_\_ a. From the AST menubar, select File → New → Project.

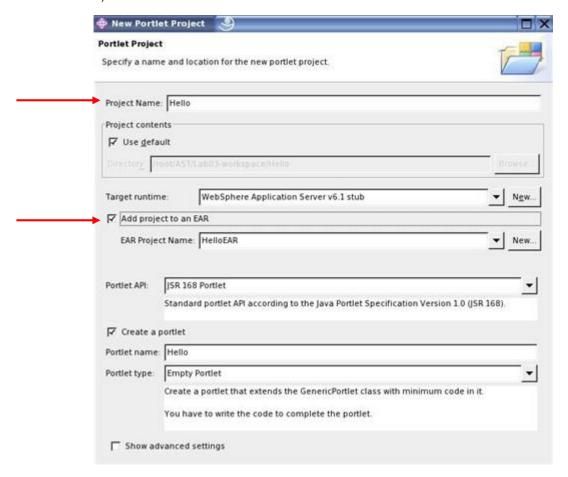


\_\_ b. In the Select a Wizard panel, locate and expand Portal. Select Portlet Project. Click Next





- \_\_ c. In the **Portlet Project** window --
  - 1) Enter a Project Name of Hello
  - Select Add project to an EAR
  - 3) Click Next

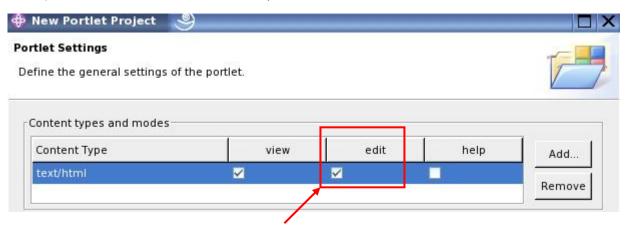


By default, portlets that you develop in this tool will follow the JSR 168 (Standard) portlet API according to the Java™ Portlet Specification Version 1.0 (JSR 168).

You will create an initial portlet named **Hello**. An Empty Portlet creation type will perform the following tasks:

- 1) Generate a skeleton class extending GenericPortlet
- 2) Add the necessary elements to the portlet.xml for the new portlet definition
- 3) Generate default resource bundles

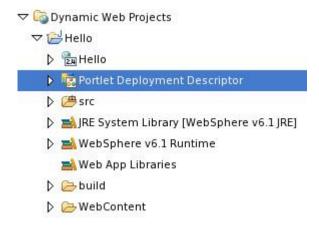
- \_\_ d. In the Portlet Settings window --
  - 1) In the Content types and modes section, select edit
  - 2) Click **Finish** and wait for the workspace to build.



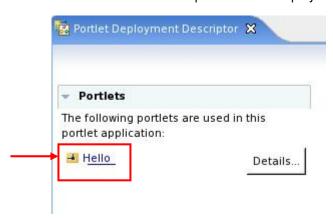
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Examine the Hello Dynamic Web Project
  - \_\_ a. Close the **HelloPortlet.java** editor. You will return to this file shortly.



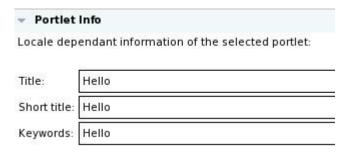
- \_\_ b. From the **Project Explorer** view, expand the **Hello** web project
- \_\_ c. Select the **Portlet Deployment Descriptor** and **double-click**



\_\_ d. From the **Overview** section of the Portlet Deployment Descriptor, you can see the new portlet wizard created a Hello portlet and automatically added it to the Portlet Deployment Descriptor. Click on the **Hello** portlet link to display additional information about the Hello portlet.



\_\_ e. From the details section, you can configure additional properties of the portlet. For example, you could change the Title from the Portlet Info section.



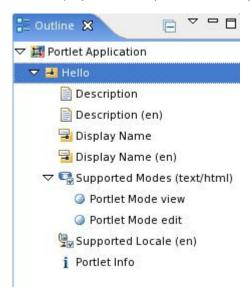
\_\_ f. Locate the tabs at the bottom of the Portlet Deployment Descriptor and click on Extensions



\_\_ g. With Portlet serving enabled you can request a portlet directly through a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) to display its content without portal aggregation. The PortletServingServlet servlet registers each Web application that contains portlets. It is similar to the FileServingServlet servlet of the Web container that serves resources. The PortletServingServlet servlet allows you to directly render a portlet into a full browser page by a URL request.

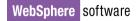


h. Locate the Outline view to the right of the graphical Portlet Deployment Descriptor. The Outline view allows you to quickly see the entire contents of the Portlet Deployment Descriptor. Expand Portlet Application. Clicking on entries in the Outline view will adjust to Portlet Deployment Descriptor view accordingly. For example, click on Supported Locale (en) and the Portlet Deployment Descriptor view will adjust to display this section.

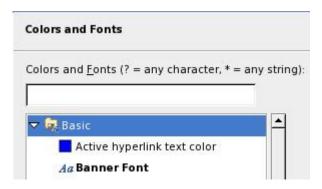


- i. Close the **Portlet Deployment Descriptor** view.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Before working with the Hello portlet source code, change the default text font size
  - \_\_ a. From the AST menubar, select Window > Preferences
  - \_\_ b. Expand General → Appearance. Select Colors and Fonts

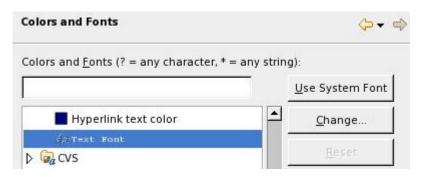




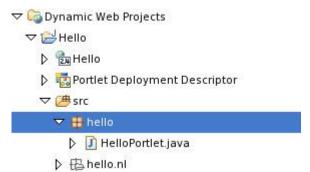
\_\_ c. In the Colors and Fonts workspace, expand Basic



\_\_ d. Locate and select Text Font



- \_\_ e. Click Use System Font or Change...
- \_\_ f. Click Apply
- \_\_ g. Click **OK** to close the Preferences Window
- \_\_\_\_ 4. Modify the Hello portlet.
  - \_\_ a. From the **Hello** web project, expand the **src** folder. Expand **hello**.



b. Select **HelloPortlet.java** and **double-click** to open it in the Java editor.



### **Portlet Modes**

Portlets perform different tasks and create content according to their current function. A portlet mode indicates the function a portlet is performing, at a point in time. A portlet mode specifies the kind of task the portlet should perform and what content it should generate. When invoking a portlet, the portlet container provides the mode for the current request to the portlet. Portlets can programmatically change their portlet mode while processing an action request.

JSR 168 defines three categories of portlet modes.

#### **View**

Display the portlet output.

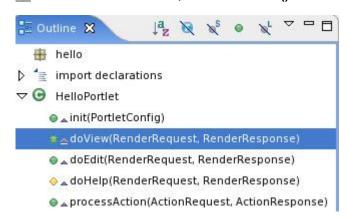
#### Edit

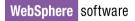
Display one or more views that let the user personalize portlet settings.

## Help

Display help views.

\_\_ c. From the Outline view, click on doView()





\_\_ d. In the doView() method, locate the line

```
// response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
```

```
public void doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response)
    // Set the MIME type for the render response
    response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());

//
    // TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes
    //
    // Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name
    //PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcl
    //rd.include(request,response);

// or write to the response directly
// response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
}
```

\_\_\_ e. Remove the two forward slashes from beginning of this line – i.e. uncomment this line.

```
public void doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response)
    // Set the MIME type for the render response
    response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());

//
// TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes
//
// Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name
//PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatc
//rd.include(request,response);

// or write to the response directly
response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
}
```

\_\_ f. This simple change is all that is needed to have a functional portlet. The portlet wizard automatically generates this standard code as a quick starting point. You will now make similar changes the doEdit() method of the Hello portlet.

```
g. In the doView() method, locate and highlight the line
          response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
        public void doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws
          // Set the MIME type for the render response
         response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
          // TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes
          // Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name
          //PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcher("/He
          //rd.include(request,response);
          // or write to the response directly
          // response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
    __ h. Use CTRL+C to copy this line.
    __ i. From the Outline view, click on doEdit()
    __ j. In the doEdit method, locate the line.
        // TODO: auto-generated method stub
     k. Position your cursor at the end of this line.
public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException {
 // TODO: auto-generated method stub
  }
    __ I. Press Enter to create a new line.
public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException {
  // TODO: auto-generated method stub
```

```
m. Use CTRL+V to paste
public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException {
  // TODO: auto-generated method stub
  response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
__ n. Return to the doView() method. Use the mouse to select the line
     response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
public void doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response)
  // Set the MIME type for the render response
  response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
  // TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes
  // Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name
  //PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatc
  //rd.include(request,response);
  // or write to the response directly
response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
7
__ o. Use CTRL+C to copy this line.
__ p. Returning to the doEdit() method, use CTRL+V to paste below
     response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response)
  // TODO: auto-generated method stub
  response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
 response.getWriter().println("Hello#doView()");
1
__ q. Change the new line to read: response.getWriter().println("Hello#doEdit()");
      public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException {
        // TODO: auto-generated method stub
        response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());
        response.getWriter().println("Hello#doEdit()");
      7
r. Use CTRL+S to save this file.
_ s. Close the HelloPortlet.java editor
```

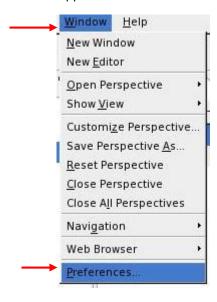
# Part 3: Configuring the WebSphere test environment

The WebSphere® test environment is a runtime environment that is integrated into the workbench for testing applications that are targeted for WebSphere Application Server.

The test environment for WebSphere Application Server v6.1 requires a <u>full</u> installation of the WebSphere Application Server and is enabled through a **Run server with resources within the workspace** publishing setting.

For this lab, WebSphere Application Server v6.1 is already installed on your machine and there is no need to install a test environment.

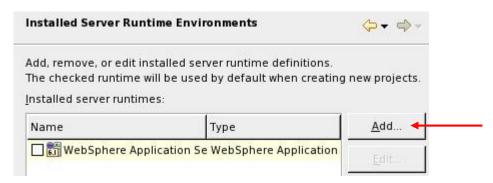
- \_\_\_\_ 1. Configure and set the WebSphere test environment
  - a. From the Application Server Toolkit menubar, select Window → Preferences...

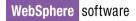


b. On the left-hand menu, expand Server, select Installed Runtimes



\_\_ c. In the Installed Server Runtime Environments panel, click Add...





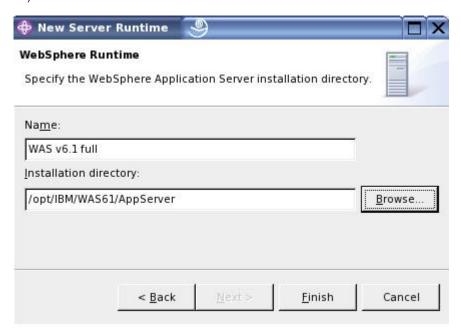
\_\_ d. In the **New Server Runtime** dialog, accept the default server runtime of WebSphere Application Server v6.1 and click **Next.** 

#### **New Server Runtime**

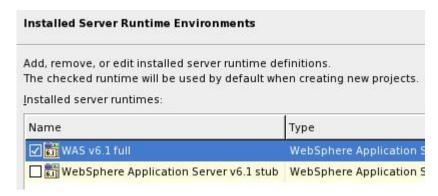
Define a new installed server runtime environment



- \_\_ e. In the WebSphere Runtime panel -
  - 1) Enter a Name of WAS v6.1 full
  - 2) Set the installation directory to /opt/IBM/WAS61/AppServer use the **Browse**... button
  - 3) Click Finish



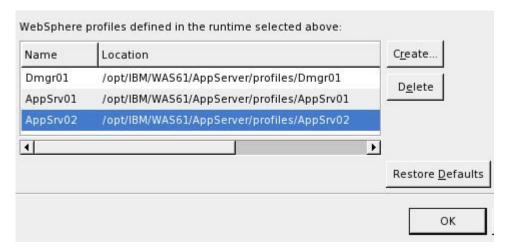
f. In the Installed Server Runtime Environments panel, select WAS v6.1 full as the default runtime



- \_\_ g. If you have already created WebSphere profiles in the previous labs, skip to the next page and begin with 2) Add a new WebSphere Application Server v6.1 test server
- \_\_ h. If you do not have any existing WebSphere profiles, return to the left-hand side preferences and select **Server** → **WebSphere**

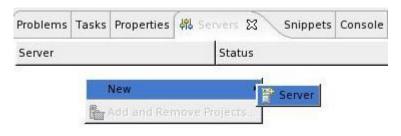


\_\_ i. On the right-hand side of the view, the configured WebSphere runtimes and profiles are shown. Click on the Create... button. Create a new Application Server profile, with the Typical Profile options. When finished, click OK to return to the J2EE perspective.

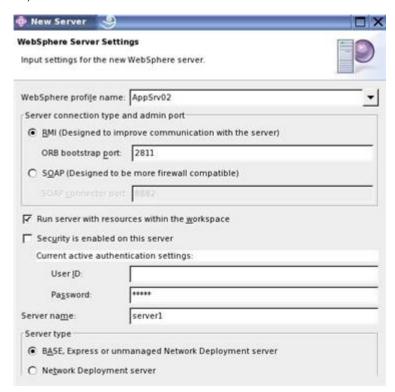


## 2. Add a new WebSphere Application Server v6.1 test server

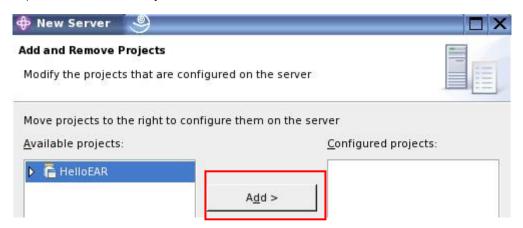
- \_\_ a. Locate and select the **Servers** view. The Servers view allows you to manage the servers. This view displays a list of all your servers and configurations that are associated with that server. You can use this view to start, start in debug mode, start in profile mode, restart, or stop the servers.
- \_\_ b. Right-click in the Servers view and select New → Server



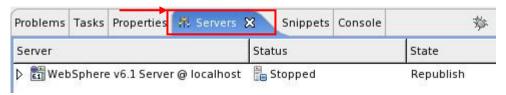
- \_\_ c. In the **Define a New Server** panel, ensure the server type is **WebSphere v6.1 Server** and the Server Runtime is **WAS v6.1 full**. Click **Next**.
- d. In the WebSphere Server Settings:
  - Select a WebSphere profile name of AppSrv02 (or another profile you have created). Notice the tool automatically determines the correct WebSphere Administration port of 2811.
  - Uncheck 'Security is enabled on this server'. Also notice that the tool is designed to work with Base and Express servers, as well as a Network Deployment topology.
  - 3) Click Next



- \_\_ e. In the Add and Remove Projects panel
  - 1) Select **HelloEAR**
  - 2) Click **Add** > to add the **HelloEAR** project to the server.
  - 3) Click **Finish** when you are done.

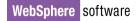


\_\_ f. In the **Servers** view, you should now have a WebSphere v6.1 Server in the Stopped state.



\_\_ g. Highlight WebSphere v6.1 Server @ localhost. Click the Start icon.





## Part 4: Testing the Hello portlet

You can invoke each portlet by its context root and name with the URL mapping /<portlet-name> that is created for each portlet. The context root and name has the following format:

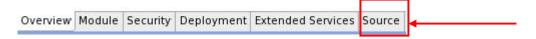
http://<host>:<port>/<context-root>/<portlet-name>

For example, http://localhost:9080/portlets/TestPortlet1

- 1. Determine the context root for the **Hello** Web Application
  - \_\_ a. From the Project Explorer view, expand **Enterprise Applications** → **HelloEAR** and select the **HelloEAR** Application Deployment Descriptor.



- \_\_ b. Double-click on the **HelloEAR** Application Deployment Descriptor to open the graphical editor
- \_\_ c. Locate the tabs at the bottom of the view and click on **Source**



\_\_ d. Locate the <context-root> section of the file. Notice the context root is .Hello (with a leading period). This is the standard naming convention for portlet applications.

\_\_\_ e. Close the Application Deployment Descriptor editor

- f. **Start** a browser.
- \_\_g. Enter a URL of <a href="http://localhost:9081/.Hello/Hello">http://localhost:9081/.Hello/Hello</a>



You have just displayed a portlet using the PortletServingServlet. You can only display one portlet at a time using the PortletServingServlet servlet. If you want to aggregate multiple portlets on the page, you need to use the aggregation tag library.

- 2. Create a portlet using Java Server Pages
  - \_\_ a. From the Project Explorer view, select the **Hello** web project

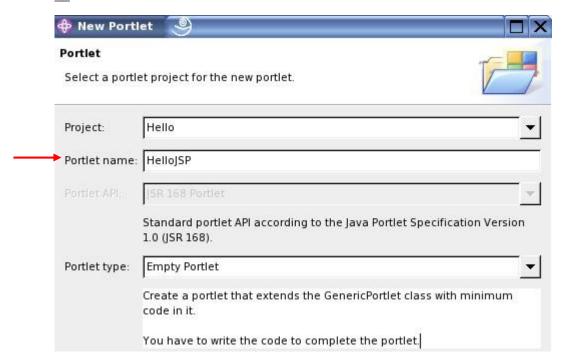


- \_\_ b. Use the **CTRL+N** key to open the new creation wizard.
- \_\_ c. Locate and expand Portal. Select Portlet. Click Next

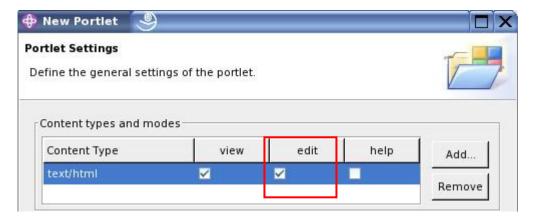




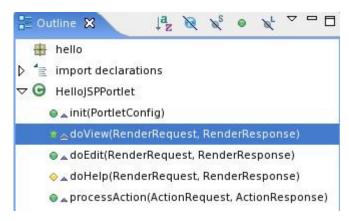
\_ d. Enter a Portlet name of HelloJSP. Click Next



- \_\_ e. In the Portlet Settings window --
  - 1) In the Content types and modes section, select edit
  - 2) Click Finish



\_\_ f. The **HelloJSPPortlet.java** file will now be opened in the editor. In the **Outline** view, select the **doView()** method



\_\_ g. In the doView() method of the HelloJSPPortlet.java file, locate the lines

```
// PortletRequestDispatcher rd =
getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcher("/HelloJSP/...");
// rd.include(request, response);
```

**public void** doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) **throws** PortletException, IOException {
// Set the MIME type for the render response

response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType());

```
//
// TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes
//
```

// Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name

//PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcher("/HelloJSP/jsp/html/HelloJSPPortletView.jsp");
//rd.include(request,response);

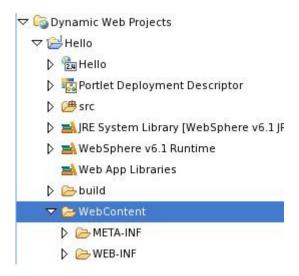
```
// or write to the response directly
//response.getWriter().println("HelloJSP#doView()");
}
```

- \_\_ h. Perform the following actions
  - 1) Remove the two forward slashes from beginning of these lines i.e. uncomment these lines.
  - 2) Change ("/HelloJSP/jsp/html/HelloJSPPortletView.jsp") to ("/HelloJSPPortletView.jsp")

public void doView(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException { // Set the MIME type for the render response response.setContentType(request.getResponseContentType()); 11 // TODO: auto-generated method stub for demonstration purposes // Invoke the JSP to render, replace with the actual jsp name PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcher("/HelloJSPPortletView.jsp"); rd.include(request,response); // or write to the response directly //response.getWriter().println("HelloJSP#doView()"); } \_\_ i. Using the mouse, select the these two lines. j. Use CTRL+C to copy these two lines. k. From the Outline view, click on doEdit() I. In the doEdit method, locate the line // TODO: auto-generated method stub \_\_ m. Use CTRL+V to paste in the additional lines below // TODO: auto-generated method stub \_\_n. Change ("/HelloJSPPortletView.jsp") to ("/HelloJSPPortletEdit.jsp") public void doEdit(RenderRequest request, RenderResponse response) throws PortletException, IOException { // TODO: auto-generated method stub PortletRequestDispatcher rd = getPortletContext().getRequestDispatcher("/HelloJSPPortletEdit.jsp"); rd.include(request,response); } Use CTRL+S to save this file.

\_\_ p. Close the HelloJSPPortlet.java editor

\_\_ q. Returning the **Project Explorer** view, select the **WebContent** folder



\_\_ r. Right-click and select New -> File



- \_\_ s. Enter a file name of HelloJSPPortletView.jsp and click Finish
- \_\_ t. In the HelloJSPPortletView.jsp editor, enter the following code

<portlet:defineObjects/>

HelloJSP#doView

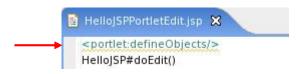


- \_\_ u. Use CTRL+S to save the file
- \_\_\_ v. Close the **HelloJSPPortletView.jsp** editor

\_\_ w. Follow the same steps above to create a **HelloJSPPortletEdit.jsp** file. The content of the file is:

<portlet:defineObjects/>

HelloJSP#doEdit



- \_\_ x. Use CTRL+S to save your changes and close the HelloJSPPortletEdit.jsp file
- \_\_ y. From a browser enter a URL of <a href="http://localhost:9081/.Hello/HelloJSP">http://localhost:9081/.Hello/HelloJSP</a>



HelloJSP#doView()

You have finished developing a second simple portlet, this time using JSPs for rendering the output.

# Part 5: Portlet aggregation using Java Server Pages

The aggregation tag library generates a portlet aggregation framework to address one or more portlets on one page. If you write JavaServer Pages, you can aggregate multiple portlets on one page using the aggregation tag library. This tag library does not provide full featured portal aggregation implementation, but provides a good migration scenario if you already have aggregating servlets and JavaServer Pages and want to switch to portlets.

To allow the customer to create a simple portal aggregation, the aggregation tag library also provides the following features.

- Invoke a portlet's action method
- Render multiple portlets on one page
- Provide links to change the portlet's mode or window state
- Display the portlet's title
- Retain the portlet cookie state

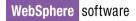
The aggregation tag library and JavaServer Pages that use the aggregation tag library will only work with the WebSphere Application Server portlet container implementation because the protocol between the tags and the container is not standardized.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Developing a portlet aggregation JSP is beyond the scope of this lab, so you will import a completed version.
  - 1) From the SLES Desktop, locate the KDE Panel at the bottom of the workspace. Click on the 'Personal Files' icon.



2) Navigate to /root/WAS61STEW/hands-on/Lab03-Portlet. You should see two files.

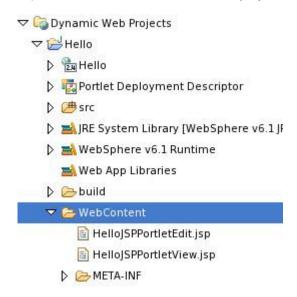




3) Right-click on index.jsp and select Copy.



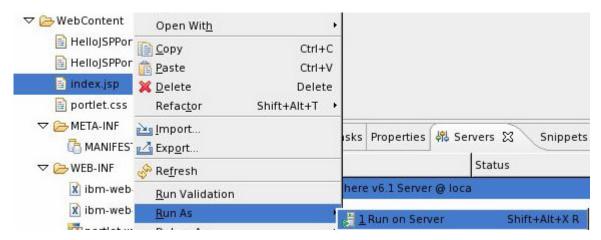
4) Return to the **AST**. In the **Hello** project, select the **WebContent** folder.



- 5) Enter CTRL+V (paste) to copy the file
- 6) Follow a similar procedure to copy and paste the **portlet.css** file into the **WebContent** folder
- 7) When finished, you will have two new files in the WebContent folder



- 2. Testing portlet aggregation using Java Server Pages
  - a. From the Web Content folder, select index.jsp
  - \_\_ b. Right-click and select Run As → Run on Server



- \_\_ c. Accept the server defaults and click **Finish**.
- \_\_ d. From the browser, you should now see both portlets aggregated on the page. Note: If you are not using port 9081, edit **index.jsp** and modify the PortletURLPrefix.



- \_\_ e. Click on the view and edit locations in each portlet. This calls the doView() and doEdit() methods you developed previously. In this simple example, use the browser's back button to return to the index.jsp page.
- \_\_ f. For additional information on developing with the Portlet aggregation tag library, refer to the WebSphere Application Server v6.1 InfoCenter.

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