

vtlib – vtiger	development	library
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## **DISCLAIMER**:

The vtlib library development is in progress and subject to change. While we make every effort to make sure modules developed using vtlib will be compatible with future versions of vtiger CRM, some incompatible changes may be required for the next release of vtiger. In which case you will have to recreate your modules with an upgraded version of vtlib for the specific version of vtiger CRM.

# **Table of Contents**

API Version History	4
About vtlib	5
vtlib API - Quick Reference	ε
Module Types	7
Entity Module	7
Extension Module	
Language Pack	
Creating a new Entity Module	8
Backend	8
<u>FrontEnd</u>	8
<u>Packaging</u>	8
About Payslip Module	8
Step 1: Creating Module	
Step 2: Creating Block (in UI Form)	10
Step 3: Adding Fields	
Entity Identifier	
Set Picklist Values.	12
Set Related Module	
Set Help Information	13
Set MassEdit property	
Step 4: Creating Filters	16
Configure fields	16
Setup Rules	
Step 5: Related Lists	17
Step 6: Sharing Access Rules	19
Step 7: Module Tools	20
Optional Step: Module Events	21
Optional Step: Module Webservices	22
Optional Step: Module Templates	23
Optional Step: Custom Links	24
Special LinkType	25
Final Completed Script (Backend)	26
Executing Module Creation Script	29
Step 8: Creating module files (Frontend)	30
Language File Preparation	31
New Module Tour	32
<u>List view</u>	32
Create view	33
<u>Detail view</u>	33

<u>List view</u>	33
Sharing Access	35
Custom Fields	35
Step 9: Packaging	36
Package Export	36
Package Structure	37
Package Import	39
Package Upgrade	40
<u>Limitations</u>	40
Extension Module	41
Language Pack	42
Adding License	43
Adding Migration Details	44
Module Manager	46
Disabling Module	47
Enabling Module	47
Exporting Module	52
Importing Module	53
Module Specific Settings	56
Module Upgrade	57
Appendix 1 - API Changes	59
Creating Module	59
Creating Block	59
Creating Field	60
Setting Entity Identifier	60
Set Picklist Values	60
Creating Filter	61
Configure Tools	61
Configure Sharing Access	61
Appendix 2 – Schema Changes	62
Appendix 3 – Using vtiger_imageurl API	63
Appendix 4 – vtlib handler Method	64
Appendix 5 – vtlib listview javascript API	65
FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions	66
1. How to write own templates?	66
2. How is module template used?	66
3. Cannot See Module Manager!	67
4. Tips for using field names.	67

# **API Version History**

Version	Release Date	Highlights
2.2	Integrated to 5.1.0	* Added special module event triggers (vtlib_handler method invocation)
2.1	2009.01.07	* Installing Language Pack, Extension module using Module Manager  * ModuleDir was re-organized to be specific to a vtiger version  * Module Manager handles License agreement before installation.  * Basic support added for module upgrades with Module Manager.  * Ability to add custom web links for a module.  * Support added to allow help information for the module fields.  * Added vtiger_imageurl API
2.0	2008-11-26	* API provided to related modules (related list) * API changes for creating fields, blocks, module * UI type 10 was added for generic popup field
1.4	2008-09-29	* Exporting and Importing was added to Module Manager
1.3	2008-09-01	* Module Manager was added for Administrators to install and enable/disable the new modules developed using vtlib. * API to setup Picklist values
1.2	2008-08-29	* Sharing Access API was added
1.1	2008-08-27	* API's to enable and disable tools like Export, Import were added
1.0	2008-08-19	* Basic API was added to created fields, blocks, module

## **About vtlib**

vtlib is a library to ease new module development for vtiger CRM. vtlib includes APIs to create or modify the backend elements for a module. These APIs help make the necessary changes to the database.

vtlib includes Module Manager which allows new modules to be packaged into zip files that other vtiger CRM installations can easily install and use.

## vtlib API - Quick Reference

vtlib includes the following APIs that can be used to create new modules. For more details please look at the API docs.

- Vtiger\_Module
  - > name
  - > addBlock()
  - > addFilter()
  - initTables()
  - > setRelatedList()
  - > setDefaultSharing()
  - > enableTools()
  - disableTools()
  - > save()
  - > addLink()
- Vtiger\_Menu
  - > addModule()
- Vtiger\_Block
  - > label
  - > addField()
- Vtiger\_Field
  - > table
  - > column
  - > columntype
  - uitype
  - > typeofdata
  - > setHelpInfo()
  - > setEntityIdentifier()
  - > setPicklistValues()
  - > setRelatedModules()
- Vtiger\_Filter
  - > name
  - > isdefault
  - > addField()
  - > addRule()
- Vtiger\_Event
  - register()

## **Module Types**

vtiger CRM modules can be classified into following types:

- 1. Entity Module
- 2. Extension Module
- 3. Language Pack

#### **Entity Module**

Modules in this category will create entity records in vtiger CRM. The module will provide Create view, Edit view, Detail view and List view. You will be able to create filters etc.

Entity modules are recommended for cases where a new type of data object, e.g. Timesheet, needs to be added into the system as part of the new module. These new data objects can be viewed and managed by administrators and users.

Leads, Contacts, Accounts, Payslip etc... are Entity Modules.

#### **Extension Module**

Modules in this category need not follow the general behavior of Entity Module. The records created by Entity module could be used to provide a extended functionality or the records creation/editing can be handled in its own way.

Extension modules can be used when add-on functionality is needed, without the need for new kinds of data objects that users view and manage.

Dashboard, Reports, Portal etc... are Extension Modules.

## Language Pack

Language Packs for vtiger CRM are also treated as another kind of module by vtlib.

NOTE: Module manager will provide the ability to install these different modules.

## **Creating a new Entity Module**

vtlib simplifies creation of new vtiger CRM modules. Developers can use vtlib to develop vtiger CRM modules that add new functionality to vtiger CRM. These modules can then be packaged for easy installation by the Module Manager.

**NOTE**: In this document we will explain the process of creating a new module by building an example 'Payslip' Module. This example code is included as part of vtlib package, and can be used as a starting point to create new modules. Please refer to the 'Using the example code provided with the vtlib API' section in this document for more information.

The following are important steps that should be followed to get a basic working module. The backend section covers database level changes for the module, and the frontend section covers the UI files.

#### **Backend**

Step 1	Create module instance, create database tables, and add it to Menu
Step 2	Add UI blocks for the module.
Step 3	Add fields and associate it to blocks. Set at-least one field as entity identifier.
Step 4	Create default list view and additional filters (make sure to create a filter named All which is the default filter)
Step 5	Create Related List (to show in the "More information" tab)
Step 6	Setting Sharing Access Rules
Step 7	Setting Module Tools options (i.e., Import/Export)

#### FrontEnd

Step 8 Creating Module directory and files

#### **Packaging**

Step 9 Packaging

#### **Additional Options**

- → Module Templates (to customize Form, List View, and Settings UI )
- → Module Settings (to allow administrators to configure your module)
- → Module Events (only available in vtiger CRM version 5.1)
- → Module Webservices (only available in vtiger CRM version 5.1)

These steps are explained in detail in the course of this section.

We are using the example module 'Payslip' to explain the use of vtlib APIs.

## **About Payslip Module**

It will have the ability to create, edit, delete payslip records. You can create Custom Filters for the Listview, which displays the list of payslip instances.

We shall associate this module with the Tools menu.

## **Step 1: Creating Module**

Class Vtiger\_Module provides an API to work with vtiger CRM modules.

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$moduleInstance = new Vtiger_Module();
$moduleInstance->name = 'Payslip';
$moduleInstance->save();

$moduleInstance->initTables();

$menuInstance = Vtiger_Menu::getInstance('Tools');
$menuInstance->addModule($moduleInstance);
```

Vtiger\_Module->initTables() API will initialize (create) the 3 necessary tables a module should have as explained below:

Table	Naming convention	Description
Basetable	vtiger_ <modulename></modulename>	Contains the default fields for the new module
Customtable	vtiger_ <modulename>cf</modulename>	Contains custom fields of the module
Grouptable	vtiger_ <modulename>grouprel</modulename>	Used when records are assigned to a group

Vtiger\_Menu->addModule(<ModuleInstance>) API will create menu item which serves as UI
entry point for the module.

## Step 2: Creating Block (in UI Form)

Class Vtiger\_Block provides API to work with a Module block, the container which holds the fields together.

The example given below describes the way of creating new blocks for the module created earlier:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$blockInstance = new Vtiger_Block();
$blockInstance->label = 'LBL_PAYSLIP_INFORMATION';
$moduleInstance->addBlock($blockInstance);

$blockInstance2 = new Vtiger_Block();
$blockInstance2->label = 'LBL_CUSTOM_INFORMATION';
$moduleInstance->addBlock($blockInstance2);
```

**NOTE**: LBL\_CUSTOM\_INFORMATION block should always be created to support Custom Fields for a module.

## **Step 3: Adding Fields**

Class Vtiger\_Field provides API to work with a Module field, which are the basic elements that store and display the module record data.

The example given below describes the way of creating new field for the module created earlier:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$fieldInstance = new Vtiger_Field();
$fieldInstance->name = 'PayslipName';
$fieldInstance->table = 'vtiger_payslip';
$fieldInstance->column = 'payslipname';
$fieldInstance->columntype = 'VARCHAR(100)';
$fieldInstance->uitype = 2;
$fieldInstance->typeofdata = 'V~M';
$blockInstance->addField($fieldInstance);
```

**NOTE**: The fieldInstance name is a mandatory value to be set before saving / adding to block. Other values (if not set) are defaulted as explained below:

\$fieldInstance->table	Module's basetable
\$fieldInstance->column	\$fieldInstance->name in lowercase [The table will be altered by adding the column if not present]
\$fieldInstance->columntype	VARCHAR(255)
\$fieldInstance->uitype	1
\$fieldInstance->typeofdata	V~O
\$fieldInstance->label	\$fieldInstance->name [Mapping entry should be present in module language file as well]

## **Optional Settings**

\$fieldInstance->presence	0 – Always Active (Cannot be modified using Layout Editor in 5.1.0) 1 – Mark it In Active (5.1.0 onwards) 2 – Active Property can be modified using Layout Editor (5.1.0 onwards)
\$fieldInstance->quickcreate	0 – Enable field in Quick Create Form 1 – Disable field on Quick Create Form
\$fieldInstance->masseditable	0 - Permanently Disallow field for mass editing (5.1.0 onwards) 1 - Allow field for mass editing (5.1.0 onwards) 2 - Disallow field for mass editing (but can be made available using Layout Editor 5.1.0 onwards)

## **Entity Identifier**

One of the mandatory field should be set as entity identifier of module once it is created. This field will be used for showing the details in 'Last Viewed Entries' etc...

\$moduleInstance->setEntityIdentifier(\$fieldInstance);

#### **Set Picklist Values**

If the field is of Picklist type (uitype **15**, 16, 33, 55, 111) then you can configure the initial values using the following API:

\$fieldInstance->setPicklistValues( Array ('Value1', 'Value2') );

#### Set Related Module

If the field is of Popup select type (uitype=10), you can configure the related modules which could be selected via Popup using the following API:

\$fieldInstance->setRelatedModules(Array('OtherModule1', 'OtherModule2'));

To unset the related module you can use the following API:

\$fieldInstance->unsetRelatedModules(Array('OtherModule2'));

#### **Set Help Information**

Providing help information for module field will be useful to educate users.

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$fieldInstance = new Vtiger_Field();
$fieldInstance->name = 'LinkTo';
...
$fieldInstance->helpinfo = 'Relate to an existing contact';
...
$blockInstance->addField($fieldInstance);
```

You can provide set the help text for an existing field using the following API:

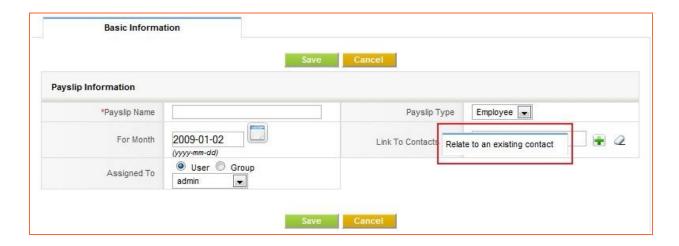
```
$fieldInstance->setHelpInfo('HELP CONTENT');
```

NOTE: HELP CONTENT can be plain or rich text. See the recommended usage below.

When a field has help information, helpicon will be shown beside the field label.

		Save Cancel		
Payslip Information				
*Payslip Name		Payslip T	ype Employee 💌	
For Month	2009-01-02 (yyyy-mm-old)	Link To Contacts		<b>+</b> 0
Assigned To	● User ○ Group			

Clicking on it will show the help content as shown:



**NOTE**: Given below is the snippet of code that should be added to EditView.php of existing module to enable Help Icon support.

```
// ...
// Gather the help information associated with fields
$smarty->assign('FIELDHELPINFO', vtlib_getFieldHelpInfo($currentModule));
// END

// ...
if($focus->mode == 'edit') $smarty->display('salesEditView.tpl');
else $smarty->display('CreateView.tpl');
```

#### Recommended:

> Provide translation mapping for the helpinfo being used for a field.

```
Example set the helpinfo as HELP_FILEDNAME_INFO and provide the contents in
the language file.

$fieldInstance->setHelpInfo('HELP_FIELDNAME_INFO');
In module/<MODULENAME>/language/en_us.lang.php

$mod_strings = Array(
...
'HELP_FIELDNAME_INFO' => 'Fieldname help contents should be here',
...);
```

- > Avoid newlines in the help content, you can use <br>> tag instead
- Preferably escape (', ", <, >) with HTML entities like (&quot;, &lt; &gt;)
- > It is good to have keep the content less, if you want to provide more details you can link to a external page as shown in the example below:

Fill your contacts name here. To know more about it<br><a href='http://en.vtiger.com/wiki.html'>see more</a>

## Set MassEdit property

```
NOTE: Mass edit feature is available from vtiger 5.1 onwards
```

You can make the field available for mass editing use the following ways described below:

When creating the field you can set the property:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$fieldInstance = new Vtiger_Field();
$fieldInstance->name = 'TestField';
...

$fieldInstance->masseditable = 1;
...
$blockInstance->addField($fieldInstance);
```

If you have an existing field its property can be updated using the API:

```
$fieldInstance->setMassEditable(value);
```

The value set for masseditable property has the following meaning:

Value	Description
0	Not available for mass edit and this property cannot be controlled by user.
1	Available for mass edit
2	Not available for mass edit but the property can be controlled by user (via Layout Manager etc)

## **Step 4: Creating Filters**

Class Vtiger\_Filter provides API to work with a Module's custom view or filter. The list view display is controlled via these filters.

The example given below describes the way of creating new filter for the module:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$filterInstance = new Vtiger_Filter();
$filterInstance->name = 'All';
$filterInstance->isdefault = true;
$moduleInstance->addFilter($filterInstance);
```

## **Configure fields**

To add fields to the filter you can use the following API:

```
$filterInstance->addField($fieldInstance, $columnIndex);
```

Where \$columnIndex (optional) is the order/index at which the field should appear in the list view.

#### **Setup Rules**

Once the field is added to filter you can setup rule (condition) for filtering as well using the following API:

```
$filterInstance->addRule($fieldInstance, $comparator, $compareValue, $columnIndex);
```

Where comparator could be one of the following:

UALS	
DT_EQUALS	
ARTS_WITH	
DS_WITH	
ONTAINS	
DES_NOT_CONTAINS	
SS_THAN	
REATER_THAN	
SS_OR_EQUAL	
REATER_OR_EQUAL	

\$compareValue is the value against with the field needs to be compared.

\$columnIndex (optional) is the order at which this rule condition should be applied.

## Step 5: Related Lists

One module could be associated with multiple records of other module that is displayed under "More Information" tab on Detail View.

The example given below describes the way of creating a relation between a Payslip and Accounts module:

With this you can Add one or more Accounts to Payslip records.

To drop the relation between the modules use the following:

```
$moduleInstance->unsetRelatedList($targetModuleInstance);
```

About setRelatedList API

<target module=""></target>	Module name to which relation is being setup.	
<header label=""></header>	Optional (default = <target module="">)</target>	
	Label to use on the More Information related list view.	
<allowed actions=""></allowed>	Optional ADD or SELECT (default = false)	
	What buttons should be shown in the related list view while adding records.	
<callback function="" name=""></callback>	Optional (default = get_related_list)	
	The function should be defined in the <source module=""/> class. This should generate the listview entries for displaying.	

#### NOTE:

This API will create an entry in the vtiger\_crmentityrel table to keep track of relation between module records. Standard modules available in vtiger CRM handles the relation in separate tables and performs the JOIN to fetch data specific to each module.

This is an attempt to achieve generic behavior. You can write custom call back functions to handle related list queries that will meet your requirements.

## Limitations

Following limitations apply for the related list APIs

- 1. Standard module class variables are not set as required by the get\_related\_list vtlib module API. Case handling should be handled @function vtlib\_setup\_modulevars in include/utils/VtlibUtils.php
- get\_related\_list API added to module class does not handle JOIN
   on tables where some modules like (Accounts) store information hence complete details are not
   fetched in the Related List View.
   (Example Sorting on the city field on related list view will fail if dieOnError is true)

## **Step 6: Sharing Access Rules**

Sharing access configuration for the module can be done as shown below:

The example given below describes the way to configure the Payslip module as Private

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip');
$moduleInstance->setDefaultSharing('Private');
```

The <PERMISSION\_TYPE> can be one of the following:

## **Step 7: Module Tools**

Features like Import, Export are termed as module tools. Such tools can enabled or disabled as shown below:

The example given below describes the way to enable and disable the tools for Payslip module

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip');
$module->enableTools(Array('Import', 'Export'));
$module->disableTools('Export');
```

## **Optional Step: Module Events**

Eventing API is supported from vtiger 5.1 onwards (read more here).

To check if your vtiger CRM supports Eventing use the following:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Event.php');
boolean Vtiger_Event::isSupported();
```

To register an event for a module, use the following:

<modulname></modulname>	Module for which events should be registered
<eventname></eventname>	vtiger.entity.aftersave vtiger.entity.beforesave
<handlerclass></handlerclass>	Event handler class, look at the example below
<handlerfile></handlerfile>	File where HANDLERCLASS is defined (should be within vtiger CRM directory)

Example: Registering event callback before and after save.

## modules/Payslip/PayslipHandler.php

## **Optional Step: Module Webservices**

Webservices API is supported from vtiger 5.1 onwards (read more here).

You will need to invoke the setup API to enable the support for the custom modules.

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip');
$moduleInstance->initWebservice();
```

**NOTE**: When the module is imported the Webservice initialize API is automatically invoked.

## **Optional Step: Module Templates**

If you would like to customize the list view or have a custom Settings page for the module, then you will need to create a Smarty template accordingly. You will need to have some knowledge of Smarty templates usage before you proceed.

Your module specific Smarty template files should be created under Smarty/templates/modules/<NewModuleName>.

Use vtlib\_getModuleTemplate(\$module, \$templateName) API (include/utils/VtlibUtils.php) as:

\$smarty->display(vtlib\_getModuleTemplate(\$currentModule, 'MyListview.tpl'));

## **Optional Step: Custom Links**

You can add custom web link to the module using the following API:

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('ModuleName');
$moduleInstance->addLink(<LinkType>, <LinkLabel>, <LinkURL>);
```

LinkType	Type of Link like DETAILVIEW, DETAILVIEWBASIC etc
LinkLabel	Label to use for the link when displaying
LinkURL	URL of the link. You can use variables like \$variablename\$

Given below is an example which adds a link to the DetailView of the Module.

```
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip');

$moduleInstance->addLink(
'DETAILVIEW',
'New Action',
'index.php?module=OtherModule&action=SomeAction&src_module=$MODULE$&src_record=$RECORD$');
```

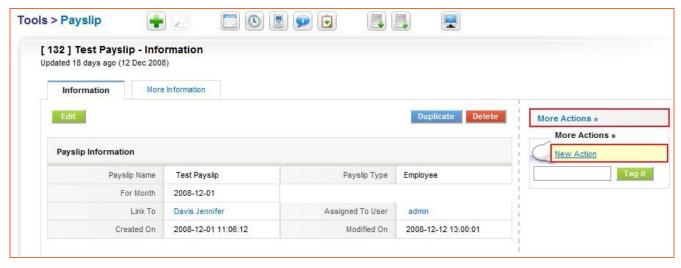
In module's DetailView handler page (modules/Payslip/DetailView.php) you will need this piece of code (before the call to \$smarty->display()):

```
include_once('vtlib/vtiger/Link.php');

$customlink_params = Array('MODULE'=>$currentModule, 'RECORD'=>$focus->id, 'ACTION'=>
$_REQUEST['action']);

$smarty->assign('CUSTOM_LINKS', Vtiger_Link::getAllByType(getTabid($currentModule),
'DETAILVIEW', $customlink_params));
```

On the DetailView page you will find *More Actions* link. When you mouse hovers on this all the related custom links will be shown as a drop down. See the screenshot below:



**NOTE**: The \$MODULE\$ and \$RECORD\$ variables for the 'New Action' link will be replaced with the values set through DetailView.php

# Special LinkType

Following LinkTypes are treated specially while processing for display:

Linktype	Description
HEADERSCRIPT	The link will be treated as a javascript type and will be imported in the head section of the HTML output page as <script src="linkurl" type="text/javascript"></script>
HEADERCSS	The link will be treated as a CSS type and will be imported in the head section of the HTML output page as <li>link rel='stylesheet' type='text/css' href='linkurl&gt;</li>
HEADERLINK	You can see these link grouped under More on the top header panel.
	Useful if you want to provide utitlity tools like Bookmarklet etc.

## Final Completed Script (Backend)

Here is the complete script (vtlib.Test.Create.Module1.php) which creates the Payslip module

```
<?php
// Turn on debugging level
$Vtiger_Utils_Log = true;
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Menu.php');
include_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
// Create module instance and save it first
$module = new Vtiger_Module();
$module->name = 'Payslip';
$module->save();
// Initialize all the tables required
$module->initTables();
 * Creates the following table:
 * vtiger_payslip (payslipid INTEGER)
 * vtiger_payslipcf(payslipid INTEGER PRIMARY KEY)
 * vtiger_payslipgrouprel((payslipid INTEGER PRIMARY KEY, groupname VARCHAR(100))
// Add the module to the Menu (entry point from UI)
$menu = Vtiger_Menu::getInstance('Tools');
$menu->addModule($module);
// Add the basic module block
$block1 = new Vtiger_Block();
$block1->label = 'LBL_PAYSLIP_INFORMATION';
$module->addBlock($block1);
// Add custom block (required to support Custom Fields)
$block2 = new Vtiger_Block();
$block2->label = 'LBL_CUSTOM_INFORMATION';
$module->addBlock($block2);
/** Create required fields and add to the block */
$field1 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field1->name = 'PayslipName';
$field1->table = $module->basetable;
$field1->column = 'payslipname';
$field1->columntype = 'VARCHAR(255)';
$field1->uitype = 2;
$field1->typeofdata = 'V~M';
$block1->addField($field1); /** Creates the field and adds to block */
// Set at-least one field to identifier of module record
$module->setEntityIdentifier($field1);
$field2 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field2->name = 'PayslipType';
$field2->label = 'Payslip Type';
$field2->columntype = 'VARCHAR(100)';
$field2->uitype = 15;
$field2->typeofdata = 'V~O';// Varchar~Optional
$block1->addField($field2); /** table and column are automatically set */
$field2->setPicklistValues( Array ('Employee', 'Trainee') );
$field3 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field3->name = 'Month';
```

```
$field3->uitype = 23;
$field3->typeofdata = 'D~M'; // Date~Mandatory
$block1->addField($field3); /** table, column, label, set to default values */
$field4 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field4->name = 'LinkTo';
$field4->label= 'Link To';
$field4->table = 'vtiger_payslip';
$field4->column = 'linkto';
$field4->columntype = 'VARCHAR(100)';
$field4->uitype = 10;
$field4->typeofdata = 'V~O';
$field4->helpinfo = 'Relate to an existing contact';
$block1->addField($field4);
$field4->setRelatedModules(Array('Contacts'));
/stpprox Common fields that should be in every module, linked to vtiger CRM core table
$field5 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field5->name = 'assigned_user_id';
$field5->label = 'Assigned To';
$field5->table = 'vtiger_crmentity';
$field5->column = 'smownerid';
$field5->uitype = 53;
$field5->typeofdata = 'V~M';
$block1->addField($field5);
$field6 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field6->name = 'CreatedTime';
$field6->label= 'Created Time';
$field6->table = 'vtiger_crmentity';
$field6->column = 'createdtime';
$field6->uitype = 70:
$field6->typeofdata = 'T~0':
$field6->displaytype= 2:
$block1->addField($field6);
$field7 = new Vtiger_Field();
$field7->name = 'ModifiedTime';
$field7->label= 'Modified Time'
$field7->table = 'vtiger_crmentity';
$field7->column = 'modifiedtime';
$field7->uitype = 70;
$field7->typeofdata = 'T~0';
$field7->displaytype= 2:
$block1->addField($field7);
/** END */
// Create default custom filter (mandatory)
$filter1 = new Vtiger_Filter();
$filter1->name = 'All';
$filter1->isdefault = true;
$module->addFilter($filter1);
// Add fields to the filter created
$filter1->addField($field1)->addField($field2, 1)->addField($field5, 2);
// Create one more filter
$filter2 = new Vtiger_Filter();
$filter2->name = 'All2';
$module->addFilter($filter2);
// Add fields to the filter
$filter2->addField($field1);
```

```
$filter2->addField($field2, 1);

// Add rule to the filter field
$filter2->addRule($field1, 'CONTAINS', 'Test');

/** Associate other modules to this module */
$module->setRelatedList(Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Accounts'), 'Accounts',
Array('ADD', 'SELECT'));

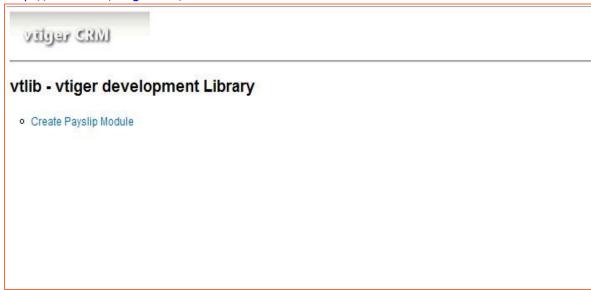
/** Set sharing access of this module */
$module->setDefaultSharing('Private');

/** Enable and Disable available tools */
$module->enableTools(Array('Import', 'Export'));
$module->disableTools('Merge');

?>
```

## **Executing Module Creation Script**

1. To execute the vtlib.Test.Create.Module1.php script, open <a href="http://localhost/vtigercrm/vtlib.Test.html">http://localhost/vtigercrm/vtlib.Test.html</a>



2. Click on Create Payslip Module to test creation of Payslip Module



## **Step 8: Creating module files (Frontend)**

Each new module should have a directory under modules/ folder. To help speed up the module code creation, vtlib comes bundled with skeleton module structure based on the 'PaySlip' module. This code is include in vtlib/ModuleDir folder which can be used as a template for new module that is created. It contains source files that needs to be changed as explained below.

NOTE: ModuleDir has sub-directories specific to vtiger version, please make sure to use the right one.

- Copy ModuleDir/<target\_vtiger\_version> contents to newly created modules/<newModuleName>
  folder.
- 3. Rename < NewModuleName > / ModuleFileAjax.php as < NewModuleName > / < NewModuleName > Ajax.php
- 4. Rename <a href="https://example.com/newModuleName">NewModuleName</a>/<a href="https://example.com/newModuleName">NewModuleName</a>/<a href="https://example.com/newModuleName">NewModuleName</a>/<a href="https://example.com/newModuleName">NewModuleName</a>/<a href="https://example.com/newModuleName">NewModuleName</a>.js
- 5. Edit <NewModuleName>/<NewModuleName>.php
  - a) Rename Class ModuleClass to < NewModuleName >
  - b) Update \$table\_name and \$table\_index (Module table name and table index column)
  - c) Update \$groupTable
  - d) Update \$tab name, \$tab name index
  - e) Update \$list\_fields, \$list\_fields\_name, \$sortby\_fields, \$list\_link\_field
  - f) Update \$detailview\_links
  - g) Update \$default\_order\_by, \$default\_sort\_order
  - h) Update \$required\_fields
  - i) Update \$customFieldTable
  - j) Rename function ModuleClass to function <a href="NewModuleName">NewModuleName</a> [This is the Constructor Class]

NOTE: Other files under modules/<NewModuleName> need not be changed.

<b>Example ModuleDir</b>	Purpose	File under Payslip
index.php	Module entry point through Menu	index.php
ModuleFile.php	Module class definition file.	Payslip.php
ModuleFileAjax.php	Base file for ajax actions used under Listview etc	PayslipAjax.php
ModuleFile.js	Module specific javascript function can be written here	Payslip.js
CallRelatedList.php	More Information Detail view handler	CallRelatedList.php
CustomView.php	Custom view or Filter handler	CustomView.php
Delete.php	Module record deletion handler	Delete.php
DetailView.php	Detail view handler	DetailView.php
DetailViewAjax.php	Detail view ajax edit handler	DetailViewAjax.php
EditView.php	Edit view handler	EditView.php
ExportRecords.php	Module record export handler	ExportRecords.php
Import.php	Module records import handler	Import.php
ListView.php	List view handler	ListView.php
Popup.php	Popup selection handler for this module record	Popup.php
QuickCreate.php	Quick creation handler	QuickCreate.php
Save.php	Module record save handler	Save.php

<b>Example ModuleDir</b>	Purpose	File under Payslip
TagCloud.php	Tag cloud handler	TagCloud.php
updateRelations.php	Related list record handler (save/delete)	updateRelations.php

Files specific to vtiger 5.1.0 version.

<b>Example ModuleDir</b>	Purpose	File under Payslip
MassEdit.php	Mass Record Edit handler	MassEdit.php
MassEditSave.php	Mass Edit Record Save handler	MassEditSave.php

## **Language File Preparation**

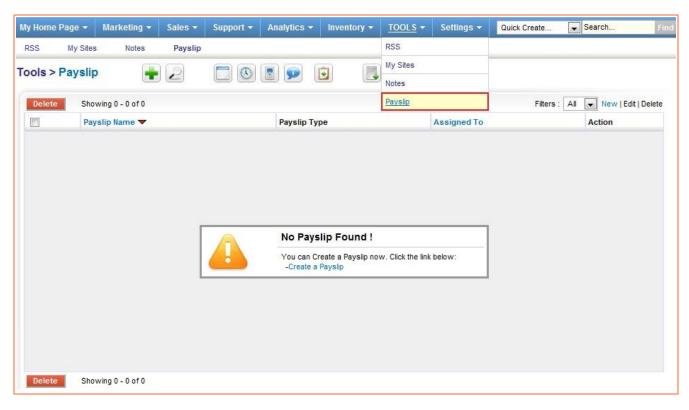
Update the translation mapping in the module language file (modules/<NewModuleName>/language/en\_us.lang.php)

Some of the mandatory mapping that should be provided are as follows:

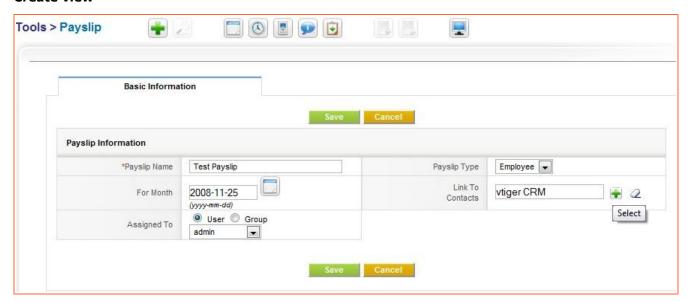
```
$mod_strings = array (
'NewModuleName' => 'NewModuleName_Translation',
'SINGLE_NewModuleName' => 'NewModuleNameForSingleRecord',
'LBL_CUSTOM_INFORMATION' => 'Custom Information',
// Label used for your module field
'FieldLabel' => 'Field Label Translation'
);
```

## **New Module Tour**

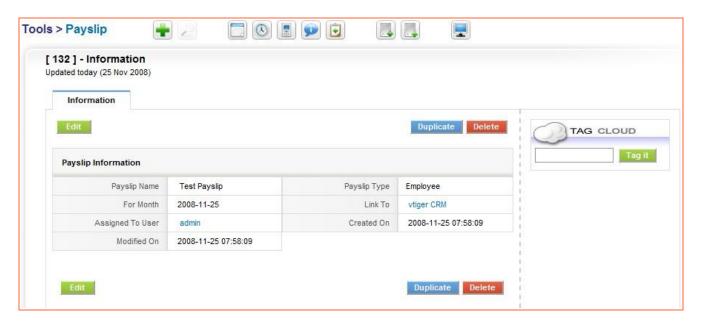
#### List view



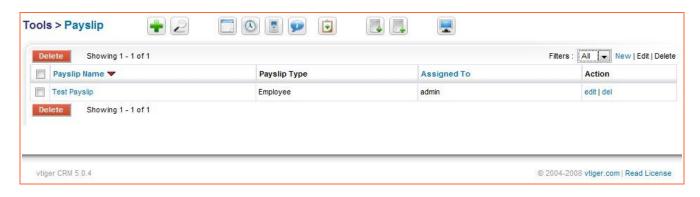
## **Create view**



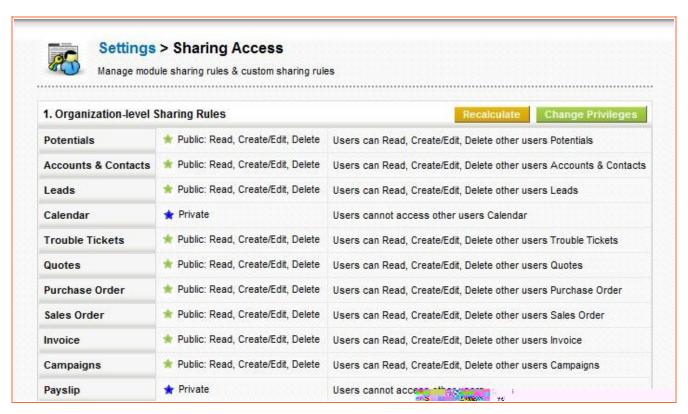
## **Detail view**



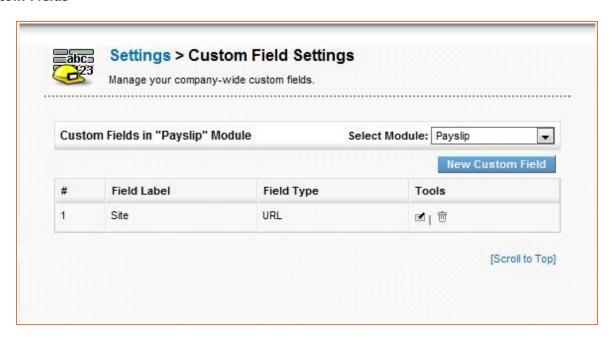
## List view



#### **Sharing Access**



#### **Custom Fields**



## Step 9: Packaging

## **Package Export**

vtlib provides API to export module as a zip (package) file which can used for importing through Module Manger.

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->export('<MODULE Instance>', '<DESTINATION DIR>', '<ZIPFILE NAME>', <DIRECT DOWNLOAD>);
```

<module instance=""></module>	Vtiger_Module instance to be exported (packaged)
<destination dir=""></destination>	(Optional: Default=test/vtlib) Directory where the zipfile output should be created.
<zipfile name=""></zipfile>	(Optional: Default=modulename-timestamp.zip) Zipfile name to use for the output file.
<direct download=""></direct>	(Optional: Default=false) If true, the zipfile created will be streamed for download and zipfile will be deleted after that.

Example:

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');
$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->export(
    Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip'),
    'test/vtlib',
    'Payslip-Export.zip',
    true
);
```

**NOTE**: Please make sure test/vtlib directory exists under vtigercrm root directory and is writeable.

#### Package Structure

The exported zipfile (package) has the following structure:

manifest.xml has the meta information that will be useful during the import process as shown:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<module>
  <exporttime>YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss</exporttime>
  <name>MODULE NAME</name>
  <version>1.0</version>
  <label>MODULE LABEL</label>
  <parent>MENU</parent>
  <dependencies>
      <vtiger_version>VTIGER_VERSION_NUMBER</vtiger_version>
  </dependencies>
  <tables>
    <name>TABLENAME</name>
      <sql>TABLE SQL</sql>
    </tables>
  <blooks>
    <blook>
      <label>BLOCK LABEL</label>
      <fields>
        <field>
          <fieldname>payslipname</fieldname>
<columnname>payslipname</columnname>
           <uitype>UI TYPE</uitype>
           <tablename>TABLE NAME</tablename>
           <generatedtype>GEN TYPE</generatedtype>
<fieldlabel>FIELD LABEL</fieldlabel>
           <readonly>READONLY</readonly>
           <selected>SELECTED</selected>
           <maximumlength>MAXLEN</maximumlength>
           <typeofdata>TYPEOFDATA</typeofdata><quickcreate>QUICKCREATE</quickcreate>
           <displaytype>DISPTYPE</displaytype>
           <info_type>INFOTYPE</info_type>
           <helpinfo><![CDATA[HELP INFORMATION]]></helpinfo>
           <masseditable>MASSEDIT VALUE</masseditable>
         </field>
      </fields>
    </block>
  </blooks>
  <customviews>
    <customview>
```

```
<viewname>VIEWNAME</viewname>
      <setdefault>0</setdefault>
      <setmetrics>1/setmetrics>
      <fields>
        <field>
          <fieldname>FIELDNAME</fieldname>
          <columnindex>0</columnindex>
         </field>
      </fields>
    </customview>
  </customviews>
  <sharingaccess>
    <default>private</default>
  </sharingaccess>
  <actions>
    <action>
      <name>Export</name>
      <status>enabled</status>
    </action>
    <action>
      <name>Import</name>
      <status>enabled</status>
    </action>
  </actions>
  <customlinks>
    <customlink>
      <linktype>DETAILVIEW</linktype>
      <linklabel>Visit Site</linklabel>
<linkurl><![CDATA[http://www.vtiger.com]]></linkurl>
      <linkicon><![CDATA[themes/images/vtiger-paw.jpg]]></linkicon>
      <sequence>0</sequence>
     </customlink>
  <customlinks>
  <events>
    <event>
      <eventname>EVENT_NAME</eventname>
      <classname>EVENT_HANDLER_CLASS</classname>
      <filename>EVENT_HANDLER_CLASS_FILE</filename>
      <condition><![CDATA[modulename in ['MODULENAME'] ]]></condition>
    </event>
  </events>
</module>
```

#### **Package Import**

You can import a module from package (zip) file using the following API

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');

$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->import(<MODULE ZIPFILE>, <overwrite>);
```

<module zipfile=""></module>	Module zipfile (package).
<overwrite></overwrite>	(Optional: Default=false) Overwrite the existing module directory if present
	NOTE: overwrite flag is ignored currently. It will be implemented in future. Please make sure to check for directory non-existence before importing.

The package file should be validated before Importing which can be done using the following API

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');
$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->checkZip(<MODULE ZIPFILE>);
```

<module zipfile=""></module>	Module zipfile (package).
------------------------------	---------------------------

checkZip returns **true** if package structure in zipfile is as specified in the section **Package Export** above.

```
Detecting Module Name being Imported
```

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');
$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->getModuleNameFromZip(<MODULE ZIPFILE>);
```

```
<MODULE ZIPFILE> Module zipfile (package).
```

getModuleNameFromZip returns **ModuleName** if checkZip succeeds.

## Example:

```
require_once('vtlib/vtiger/Package.php');
require_once('vtlib/vtiger/Module.php');

$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$module = $package->getModuleNameFromZip('test/vtlib/Payslip.zip');

$module_exists = false;
$module_dir_exists = false;
if($module == null) {
    echo "Module zipfile is not valid!";
} else if(Vtiger_Module::getInstance($module)) {
    echo "$module already exists!";
    $module_exists = true;
} else if(is_dir("modules/$module")) {
    echo "$module folder exists! Overwrite?";
    $module_dir_exists = true;
}
if($module_exists == false && $module_dir_exists == false) {
        $package->import('test/vtlib/Payslip.zip');
}
```

#### Package Upgrade

**NOTE**: Currently this module upgrade feature does not support deletion and modification of exiting module fields. Before you use this feature, please ensure your modified module does not change or delete existing fields.

You can upgrade a module that was imported earlier using the following API:

```
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Package.php');
require_once('vtlib/Vtiger/Module.php');

$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$package->update(<ModuleInstance>, <MODULE ZIPFILE>, <overwrite>);
```

<moduleinstance></moduleinstance>	Vtiger_Module instance which needs to be upgraded.
<module zipfile=""></module>	Module zipfile (package).
<overwrite></overwrite>	(Optional: Default=true) Overwrite the existing module directory if present

# Example:

```
require_once('vtlib/vtiger/Package.php');
require_once('vtlib/vtiger/Module.php');

$package = new Vtiger_Package();
$moduleInstance = Vtiger_Module::getInstance('Payslip');
$package->update($moduleInstance, 'test/vtlib/Payslip.zip');
```

#### Limitations

1. Any property change to existing block or field will not applied during module upgrade.

**NOTE**: Look at <u>Adding Migration Details</u> section to know more about adding migration information to the package file through manifest.xml

#### **Extension Module**

Module Manager lets you install an extension module provided the manifest.xml (in package) has the following information. This feature is available from vtiger CRM 5.1.0 onwards only.

#### manifest.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<module>
      <type>extension</type>
      <name>MODULENAME</name>
      <label>MODULE LABEL</label>
      <parent>Tools</parent>
<version>1.0</version>
      <dependencies>
             <vtiger_version>5.1.0</vtiger_version>
      </dependencies>
      <tables>
             <name>TABLE-NAME</name>
                    <sql><! [CDATA[CREATE_TABLE_SQL]]></sql>
             </tables>
      <events>
             <event>
                    <eventname>EVENT_NAME</eventname>
                   <classname>EVENT_HANDLER_CLASS</classname>
                    <filename>EVENT_HANDLER_CLASS_FILE</filename>
<condition><![CDATA[modulename in ['MODULENAME']]]></condition>
             </event>
      </events>
</module>
```

type	Mandatory	Should have the value <b>extension</b>
name	Mandatory	Module name (should not contain spaces or special characters)
label	Mandatory	Label used to display on the UI
parent	Optional	Menu to which this Module needs to be attached
dependencies (vtiger_version)	Mandatory	Version for which the package is intended for
tables	Optional	Tables that needs to be created during installation of module
events	Optional	Events that needs to be registered during installation of module

# Package File

The following file structure is recommended for extension module package (zip file).

```
manifest.xml

modules/
    MODULENAME/
        language/
        en_us.lang.php
    index.php
    <other module files>

templates/
    <smarty templates>
```

## Language Pack

Module Manager lets you install language packs to your vtiger CRM installation. The Language package should follow the package structure as explained below:

#### manifest.xml

type	Mandatory	Should have the value language
name	Optional	Language pack complete name
label	Mandatory	Label to identify the language on the UI (on login page)
prefix	Mandatory	The filename prefix used for language file. Only these files will be extracted from the package file during installation.
dependencies (vtiger_version)	Mandatory	Version for which the package is intended for.

# Package File

The following file structure is recommended for extension language package (zip file).

## **Adding License**

The manifest.xml of the package can contain license information which will be displayed to user during Module Manager installation process. You will need to add **license>** node in the manifest.xml as described below:

#### **Inline License:**

#### License from File:

You can specific the LICENSEFILE in the package that contains the License information.

#### **Adding Migration Details**

Module Manager supports upgrade of modules built with vtlib. In some cases, custom schema changes and data migration will be required for these module upgrades.

When a new version of a module is released it might have schema changes w.r.t older version.

The upgrade process might not be complete unless required schema changes and data migration are applied. In such cases, you can add the migration information in your manifest.xml as described below:

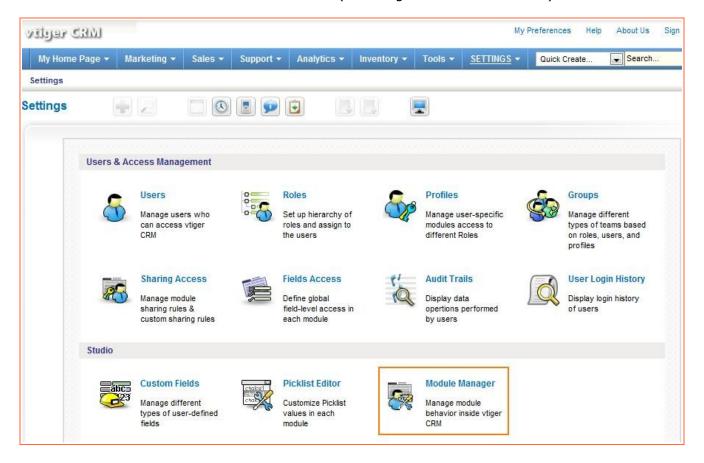
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<module>
     <name>MODULENAME</name>
     <label>MODULE LABEL</label>
     <parent>Tools</parent>
     <version>1.2</version>
     <dependencies>
           <vtiger_version>5.0.4</vtiger_version>
     </dependencies>
     <migrations>
           <migration version='1.0'>
                 <tables>
                       <name>TABLE-NAME</name>
                             <sql><![CDATA[ALTER TABLE MyTable ADD COLUMN</pre>
NewColumn INT]]></sql>
                       </tables>
           </migration>
           <migration version='1.1'>
                 <tables>
                       <name>TABLE-NAME</name>
                             <sql><![CDATA[UPDATE MyTable SET NewColumn=1 WHERE</pre>
NewColumn is NULL]]></sql>
                       </tables>
           </migration>
     </migrations>
     <tables>
           <name>TABLE-NAME</name>
                 <sql><![CDATA[CREATE_TABLE_SQL]]></sql>
           </tables>
</module>
```

**NOTE**: The above snippet of manifest.xml is for version 1.2 of a module. It contains migration information for version 1.0 and 1.1

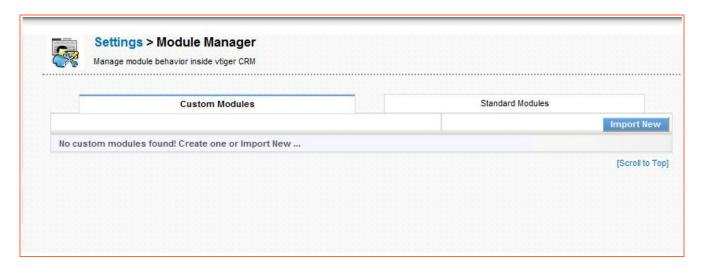
Migration node details	
<migration <="" th="" version="1.0"><th>This version indicates the source version (earlier version) for which the migration should be applied.</th></migration>	This version indicates the source version (earlier version) for which the migration should be applied.
<tables> <name> <sql></sql></name></tables>	Table name to migrate. SQL to use for migration.

# **Module Manager**

Once vtlib is installed, it provides the Module Manager configuration tool under Settings. With this you can enable, disable or control settings of vtiger CRM modules. On disabling a module, it won't be shown on the Menu and access is restricted (including for the administrator).

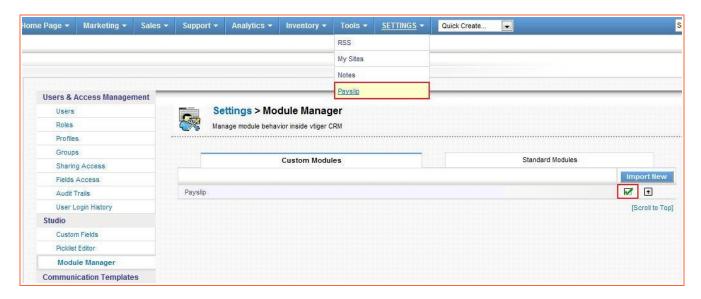


Modules are categorized as Standard (which are provided as a core part of vtiger CRM), and Custom (which you have imported or created)



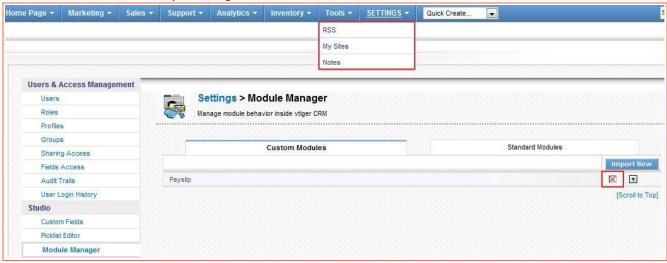
# **Disabling Module**

You can disable module by clicking on the green tick mark icon.



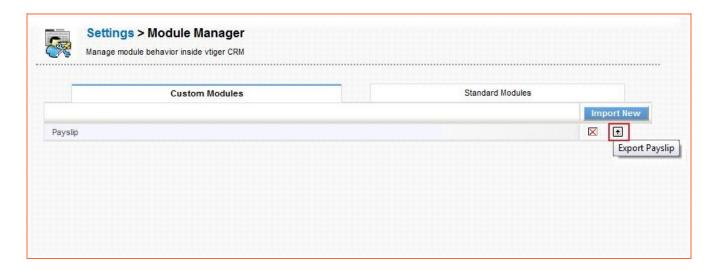
# **Enabling Module**

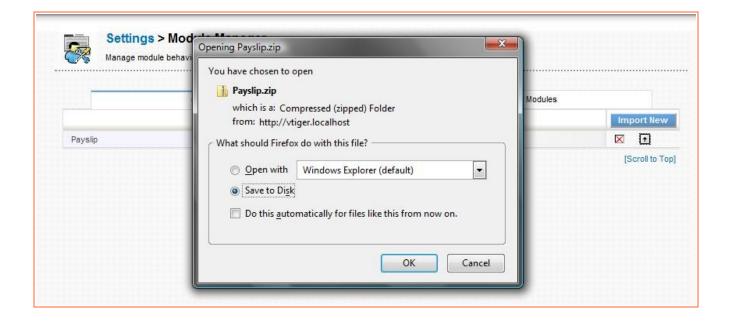
You can enable module by clicking on the red tick mark icon.



# **Exporting Module**

Click on the UP arrow icon in the module manager, which will export the module as a zip file.

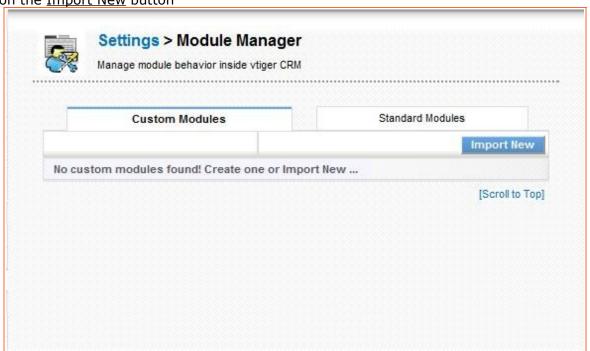




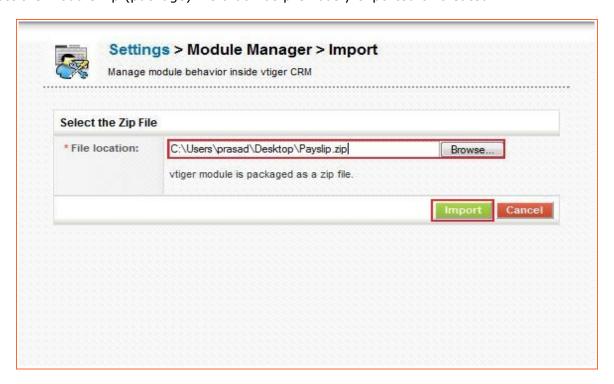
# **Importing Module**

Module manager will let you import new modules. Follow the steps given below:

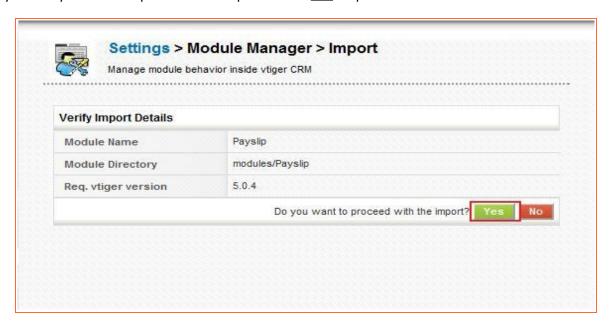
Click on the <u>Import New</u> button



Select the module zip (package) file that was previously exported or created.



Verify the import details parsed from zipfile. Click Yes to proceed or No to cancel.



Click on Finish to complete the module import.

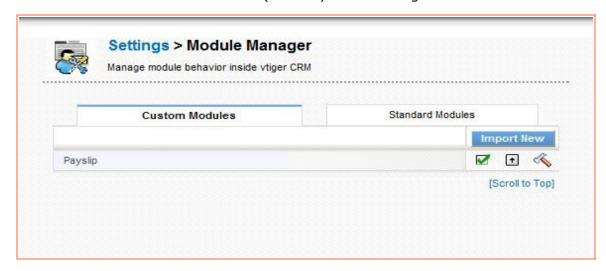


**NOTE**: If you are trying to import a module which already exists or a directory which is present in the modules folder you will see the following message.



## **Module Specific Settings**

A module can have its own specific settings. In such cases, Settings.php should be created under the module folder. This file will be invoked (if found) when Settings icon is clicked.



Example: Sample Settings.php for Payslip module

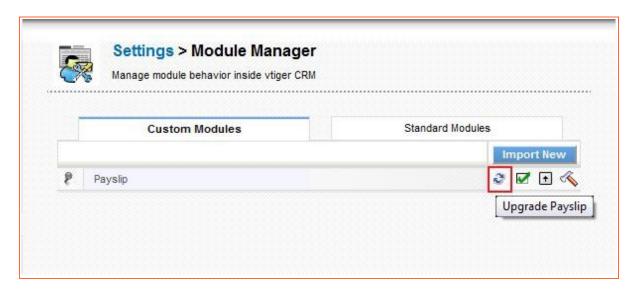
```
<?php
$thisModule = $_REQUEST['formodule'];
require_once('Smarty_setup.php');
$smarty = new vtigerCRM_Smarty();
// Use the module specific template file
// modules/Payslip/MySettings.tpl
$smarty->display(vtlib_getModuleTemplate('Payslip', 'MySettings.tpl'));
?>
```

## **Module Upgrade**

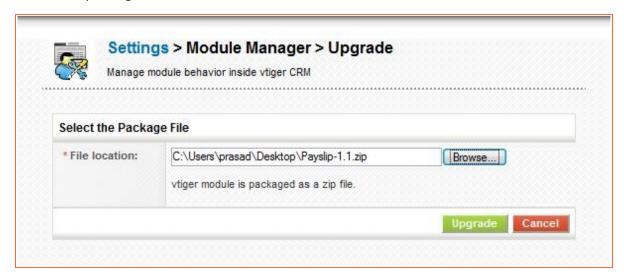
Upgrading the module to next version is now possible through Module Manager.

**NOTE**: Currently this module upgrade feature does not support deletion and modification of exiting module fields. Before you use this feature, please ensure your modified module does not change or delete existing fields.

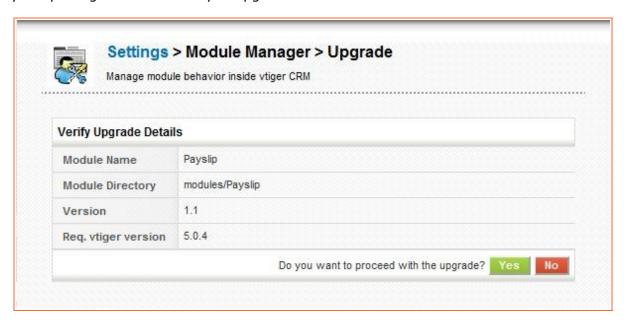
Click on the upgrade icon:



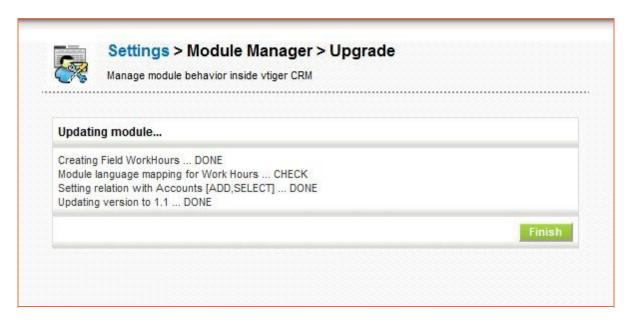
Select the new package file for the module:



Verify the package details before you upgrade:



Finally your module will be upgraded:



# Appendix 1 - API Changes

vtlib 2.0 contains changes to the APIs previous provided in 1.x version. The new APIs are more modular and adhere to the OOD model.

We explain the changes below.

## **Creating Module**

Using vtlib 1.x

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$moduleInstance = new Vtiger_Module();
$moduleInstance->name = 'Payslip';
$moduleInstance->save();
$moduleInstance->initTables();

$menuInstance = Vtiger_Menu::getInstance('Tools');
$menuInstance->addModule($moduleInstance);
```

#### **Creating Block**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
Vtiger_Block::create('Payslip', 'LBL_PAYSLIP_INFORMATION');
```

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$blockInstance = new Vtiger_Block();
$blockInstance->label = 'LBL_PAYSLIP_INFORMATION';
$moduleInstance->addBlock($blockInstance);
```

#### **Creating Field**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
$fieldInstance = new Vtiger_Field();
$fieldInstance-> set('module',
                                                                           'Payslip')
                                                         'payslipname')
          -> set('columnname',
-> set('tablename',
                                                          'vtiger_payslip')
'varchar(255)')
          -> set('columntype',
                                                           '1')
           -> set('generatedtype',
          -> set( generatedty

-> set('uitype',

-> set('fieldname',

-> set('fieldlabel'

-> set('readonly',

-> set('presence',

-> set('selected',
                                                          2)
                                                            payslipname')
                                                            PayslipName')
                                                            '1')
'0')
'0')
           -> set('maximumlength',
                                                            '100')
           -> set('sequence'
                                                            null)
           -> set('typeofdata'
                                                             'V~M')
          -> set('quickcreate', '1')
-> set('block', null)
-> set('blocklabel', 'LBL_PAYSL'
-> set('displaytype', '1')
-> set('quickcreatesequence', null)
-> set('info_type', 'BAS');
                                                             'LBL_PAYSLIP_INFORMATION')
$fieldInstance->create();
```

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$fieldInstance = new Vtiger_Field();
$fieldInstance->name = 'PayslipName';
$fieldInstance->table = 'vtiger_payslip';
$fieldInstance->column = 'payslipname';
$fieldInstance->columntype = 'VARCHAR(100)';
$fieldInstance->uitype = 2;
$fieldInstance->typeofdata = 'V~M';
$blockInstance->addField($fieldInstance);
```

## **Setting Entity Identifier**

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$moduleInstance->setEntityIdentifier($fieldInstance);
```

#### **Set Picklist Values**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
$fieldInstance->setupPicklistValues( Array ('Employee', 'Trainee') );
```

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$fieldInstance->setPicklistValues( Array ('Employee', 'Trainee') );
```

#### **Creating Filter**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
Vtiger_CustomView::create('Payslip', 'All',true);
$cv = new Vtiger_CustomView('Payslip', 'All');
$cv->addColumn($fieldInstance1)
    ->addColumn($fieldInstance2, 1);
```

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$filterInstance = new Vtiger_Filter();
$filterInstance->name = 'All';
$filterInstance->isdefault = true;
$moduleInstance->addFilter($filterInstance);
$filterInstance->addField($fieldInstance1)->addField($fieldInstance2, 1);
```

## **Configure Tools**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
Vtiger_Module::disableAction('Payslip','Import');
Vtiger_Module::enableAction('Payslip', 'Export');
```

Using vtlib 2.x

```
$moduleInstance->enableTools(Array('Import', 'Merge'));
$moduleInstance->disableTools('Export');
```

## **Configure Sharing Access**

Using vtlib 1.x

```
Vtiger_Module::setDefaultSharingAccess('Payslip', 'Private');
```

Using vtlib 2.x

\$moduleInstance->setDefaultSharing('Private');

# Appendix 2 – Schema Changes

Some of the vtlib API make the schema changes (either adding a new table or new column to existing table) the details are captured in this section

Table	Column	Action	Description
vtiger_field	helpinfo TEXT	Column Addition	This column will store the helptext associated with vtiger_field
vtiger_language		Table Addition	Captures languages installed for vtiger CRM
vtiger_links		Table Addition	Captures details of custom module links
vtiger_tab	version VARCHAR(10)	Column Addition	Track version of module in use. Useful during migration or upgrade of module.
vtiger_crmentityrel		Table Addition	Captures the relation between module records. For Generic related list handling.
vtiger_fieldmodulerel		Table Addition	Captures related module information for the field of uitype 10
vtiger_mailer_queue		Table Additions	These tables will be added when Vtiger_Mailer
vtiger_mailer_queueinfo			class will be use for sending mails asynchronously.

# Appendix 3 - Using vtiger\_imageurl API

There are reusable images under themes/images folder and theme specific images will be under themes/<THEMENAME>/images folder.

You can let the image easily configurable for each theme, please make sure to follow the steps below:

In YourSmartyFile.tpl (Smarty template file)

```
<img src="{'myimage.gif'|@vtiger_imageurl:$THEME}">
```

\$THEME variable will be sent by the calling script as follows:

```
global $theme;
$smarty->assign('THEME', $theme);
$smarty->display('YourSmartyFile.tpl');
```

This gets translated to:

<pre><img src="themes/&lt;THEMENAME&gt;/images/myimage.gif"/></pre>	If myimage.gif exists under <themename> folder</themename>
<img src="themes/images/myimage.gif"/>	Default path if theme specific image is not found

If you directly building the UI from PHP script, make sure to use the API as follows:

```
vtiger_imageurl ( 'imagename', 'themename' );
```

NOTE: vtiger\_imageurl API is defined in include/utils/VtlibUtils.php

# Appendix 4 - vtlib\_handler Method

Module class should define vtlib\_handler method to handle special events triggered as described below:

<b>Event Type</b>	Description
module.postinstall	Once the module import is completed.
module.preupdate	Before updating module (package).
module.postupdate	After module (package) is updated.
module.disabled	When module is disabled.
module.enabled	When module is enabled.
module.preuninstall	Before module instance is deleted.

### Example:

vtlib handler function should be defined as Module Class method.

### Usecase

When a module is disabled, through vtlib\_handler now it can de-register any Event notification unless it is enabled again.

# Appendix 5 - vtlib\_listview javascript API

vtlib\_listview javascript API provides the ability to register listener function for some predefined event types.

```
vtlib_listview.register( <event_type>, <handler_function>,
[<handler_function_optional_parameters>] );
```

cell.onmouseover	When the mouse moves over the listview cell.
cell.onmouseout	When the mouse moves out of the listview cell.

The handler function will be invoked with two set of arguments:

Event Parameters	{
	event : <event_type></event_type>
	domnode : HTML DOM node used to detect the event module : Module Name to which field belongs
	fieldname: Field Name
	recordid: Record ID displayed on the listview
	<u>}</u>
Optional Parameters	This is the one that was passed to the vtlib_listview.register API

Example: You can have the following in your javascript file

```
vtlib_listview.register( 'cell.onmouseover', function(evtparams) {
    evtparams.domnode.style.backgroundColor = '#FFFD7C';
});
vtlib_listview.register( 'cell.onmouseout', function(evtparams) {
    evtparams.domnode.style.backgroundColor = 'white';
});
```

## NOTE:

To make the trigger on all the modules, you will need to configure the javascript as HEADERSCRIPT (refer <u>Custom Links#Special LinkType</u>)

# FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. How to write own templates?

Reference: <a href="http://forums.vtiger.com/viewtopic.php?p=75410#75410">http://forums.vtiger.com/viewtopic.php?p=75410#75410</a>

```
Now I want to set my own templates. The VTLib documentation states that I do this:
Your module specific Smarty template files should be created under Smarty/templates/modules/<NewModuleName>.

Use vtlib_getModuleTemplate($module, $templateName) API (include/utils/VtlibUtils.php) as:
$smarty->display(vtlib_getModuleTemplate($currentModule, 'MyListview.tpl'));
My question is where do I place this piece of code? In the module creator?
```

#### Solution:

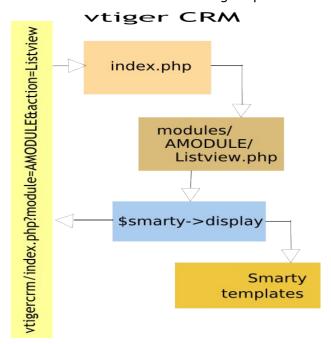
Let us assume you want to create your own Listview for your module TestModule, what you need to do is the following:

- Create the MyListview.tpl under Smarty/templates/modules/TestModule/MyListView.tpl
- 2. In your modules/TestModule/Listview.php you will need to call the smarty display as: \$smarty->display(vtlib\_getModuleTemplate(\$currentModule, 'MyListview.tpl'));

Please refer: <a href="http://www.smarty.net/manual/en/">http://www.smarty.net/manual/en/</a> to learn more about Smarty usage.

#### 2. How is module template used?

Example below explains how the module listview action gets processed using the smarty.



#### 3. Cannot See Module Manager!

I've installed vtlib on vitger 5.0.4 I can not seem to see the module manager under settings on either, is there a file or dir I need to move some where in order for the module manager to populate?

#### Solution:

- Enable write access to modules/, Smarty/, cron/, test/directory before unzipping vtlib-x.y.zip
- Delete the files under folder Smarty/templates\_c (having extension \*.tpl.php) and refresh the Settings page, you should see Module Manager.

## 4. Tips for using field names

- 1. Preferably use small case characters for field (name and columnname).
- 2. Avoid any special characters like  $(\_,:,-)$  in names. You can use it for labels
- 3. Having same value for field (name and columnname) would makes it easier to avoid confusion to start with.