

Reporting in the dotCMS

Introduction

The dotCMS uses a library called Jasper Reports. dotCMS provides a report manager where reports can be uploaded, permissioned, and run. All reports can be viewed in paginated HTML, PDF, RTF, or PDF from within the dotCMS. The dotCMS report manager will allow you to specify parameters to be fed into the report at runtime.

The trick to creating reports is using the gui tool, iReport, provided by Jasper Reports. iReport is an open source tool which means you can use it for free. The tool can run on Windows, Mac, or even Linux and has an interface much like Crystal Report Builder or in some cases Access.

iReport can be downloaded at <http://jaspersoft.org>

iReport requires the following skill sets a basic knowledge of SQL and some scripting if you need to do more advanced things.

Where to go from here

Jasperforge has a good forum, community and even some documentation available for it. It is recommended that you review this. You can also download JasperReports itself which has a bunch of sample jrxml files which is the format the reports are saved in. There are a couple of things that the dotCMS can provide for you though.

- You can use any Java class on the dotCMS classpath if you need to.
 - If you do this and want to run from iReport make sure you add your dotCMS jar on iReport's classpath.
- You can even create your own classes to use.
- Some examples
 - If you need to set a date parameter to be some date where the time is the beginning or end of the day it can be done as so.
 - Start Date
`com.dotmarketing.com.util.DateUtil.minTime(com.dotmarketing.com.util.DateUtil.addDate(Calendar.getInstance.getTime(), Calendar.DATE, -1))`
 - End Date
`com.dotmarketing.com.util.DateUtil.maxTime(com.dotmarketing.com.util.DateUtil.addDate(Calendar.getInstance.getTime(), Calendar.DATE, -1))`
 - Or if you need a multi or single select parameter which in html within the dotCMS would be a select box. It can be built like so
 - `new com.dotmarketing.util.SelectParameter(List of options, an array of ints showing position of selected options ie..new int[] {2,4}, And a string which should be either "single" or "multiple")`