

jWB Internationalization

INTRODUCTION

With the accessibility of internet based applications, it is no surprise that cultural and language issues are becoming more important when designing applications for a larger audience than just your home country.

With this in mind, jBASE for Web Builders has internationalization functionality built in. This functionality may be used to assign a language to each individual user of the application, and display pages in the appropriate language when that user logs on.

OVERVIEW

When first installed, jBASE for Web Builders only has one language built-in. This language is known as the default language. Extra languages may be added to the system through the configuration screens.

Once additional languages have been added, every object in the jWB toolkit which has the capability of displaying text will behave slightly differently. Instead of just allowing a single text entry, jWB will prompt for an entry for each additional language that is defined.

Each user which is set up in jBASE for Web Builders can have a language assigned to them. If they have no language assigned, they are assumed to use the default language.

When a user first connects to jWB, the Logon page is displayed. Once the user logs on to the application, jBASE for Web Builders looks up the user and checks for a language entry.

Once the language is known, jWB can display each subsequent page using the appropriate text.

In addition, in jWB version 3.2.1 and above, stand alone language translations may be added. These translations allow specific phrases to be given alternatives in each of the configured languages. These translations are accessed by way of a DIRT tag.

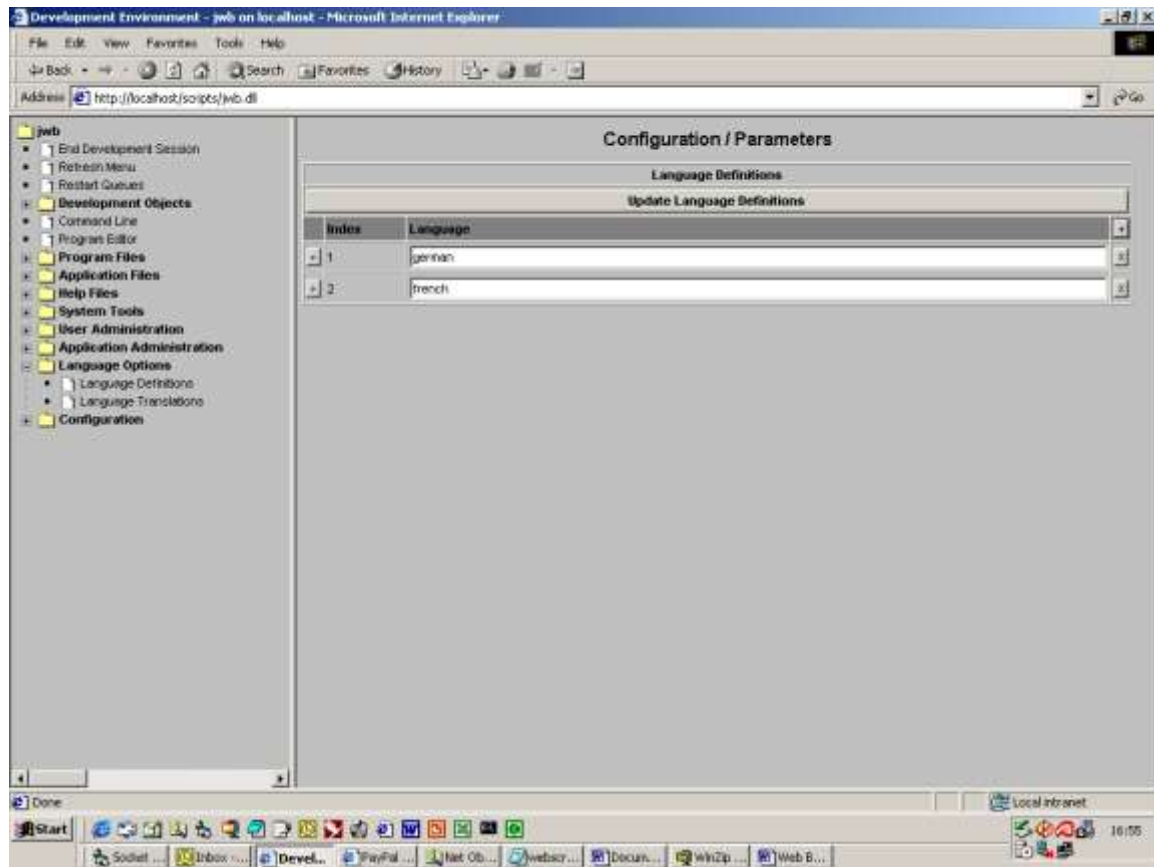
ADDING ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES

In jWB 3.2.1, the language definitions menu option can be found under the Language Options entry on the main menu. In version 3.1.1, choose the language translation option from the main jWB menu.

There are subtle differences in layout between the two versions, but they achieve the same thing.

Each language to be supported may be added on this screen. Add language entries for German and French.

The following screenshot shows jWB configured with the two languages; French and German.



CONFIGURING INTERNATIONAL USERS

Once languages have been added to jWB, a language may be assigned to each user of the application. In jWB version 3.2.1, the user maintenance screen can be located by choosing the Users option underneath the User Maintenance option on the main menu. In version 3.1.1, select Users from the main menu. Add three new users; Tom with the default language, Dick with German and Harry with French.

The following screenshot shows the user administration page for Dick showing the language entry set to German.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Editing User - (dick) - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The page is divided into two main sections: "Update User" and "Delete User".

Update User Section:

- User Name: Undefined
- Location: [Empty text box]
- Telephone Number: [Empty text box]
- Mobile Number: [Empty text box]
- Post Logon Page: [Empty text box]
- Editor Font: [Empty text box]
- Security Groups: AgentOnly, devadmin, developers, users
- Session Expires in: [Empty text box] minutes
- Session Expiry Option: 0
- Password Expires in: 0 days
- Language: german (selected in a dropdown menu)

Delete User Section:

- Password: *****
- Occupation: [Empty text box]
- Fax Number: [Empty text box]
- E-mail Address: [Empty text box]
- Default Printer: [Empty text box]
- Editor Font Size: [Empty text box]
- Preview Users: BOG001, BR1001, CH1001, FINNAIR, admin.old, administrator, dick, guest, tom
- force password change:

Once the three users have been set up, make sure that they appear in the Preview Users list of the user you are logged on as. In version 3.2.1 and above, you will need to click on the Restart Queues option on the main menu for any changes to take effect.

ADDING LANGUAGE TRANSLATIONS

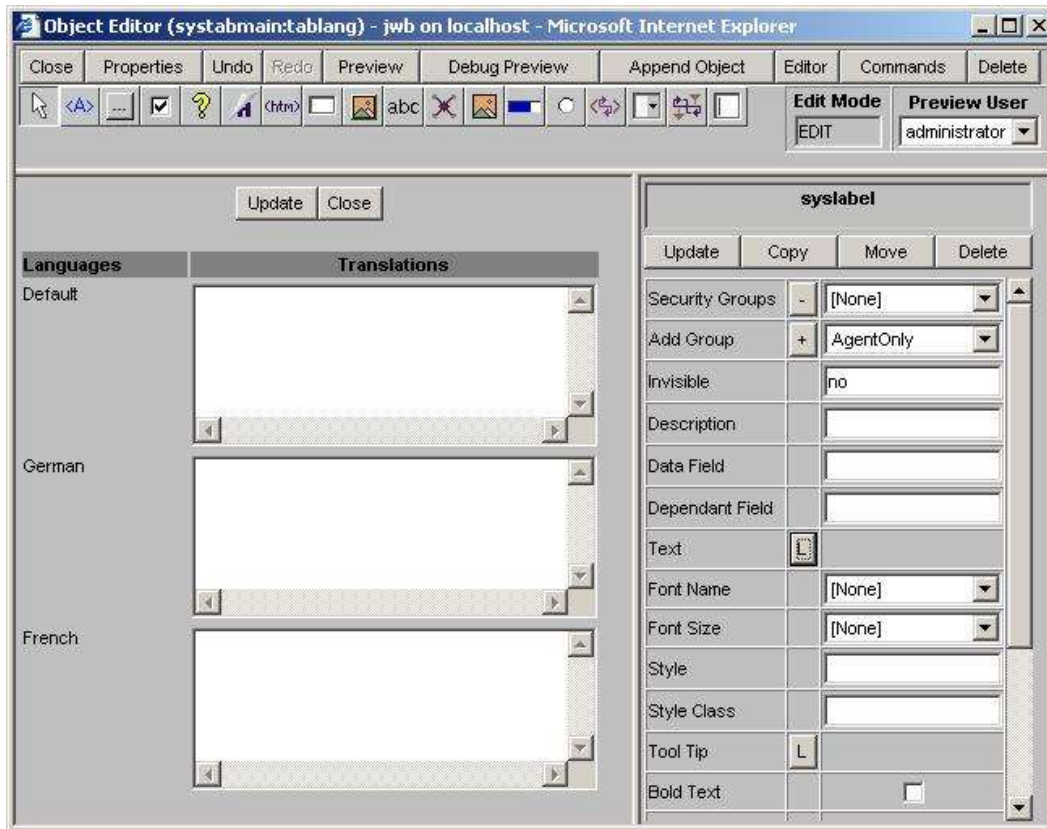
If you are using jWB v3.2.1 or above, stand alone language translations may be added from the Language Translation option under the language options entry on the main menu.

Add a new language translation for the word "Dog". Give a German translation as "Hund" and a French translation as "Chien".

TESTING LANGUAGE SETTINGS

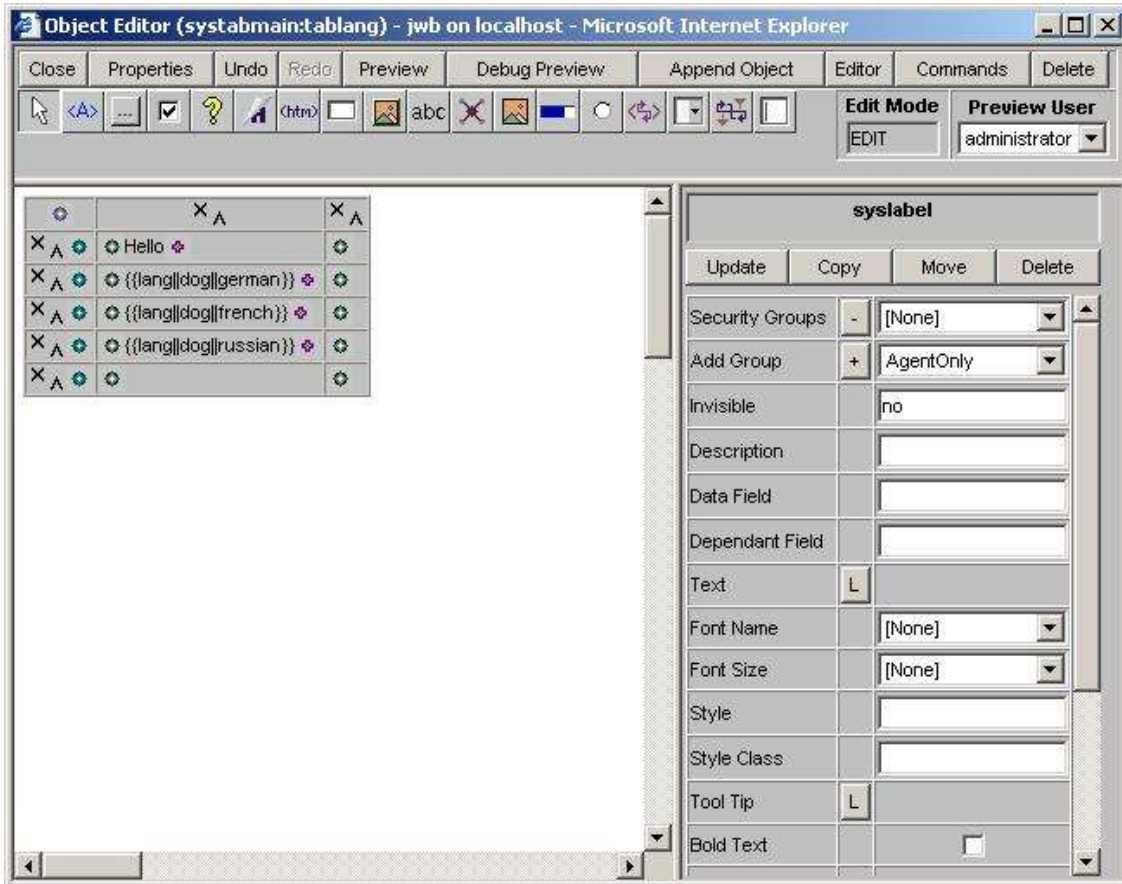
Add a new application module called lang. Add a new page to the lang module and call it paglang. Add a table to this page, and give it a name of tablang. Open up the table and add four labels.

Click on the first label, and note what has happened to the Text property. Instead of displaying a text box to allow text entry, the property now shows a button with the letter L. Clicking on this button shows the following dialog;



In the default box, type the word "Hello". In the German box, type the words "Guten Tag" and in the French box, type the word "Bonjour".

Click on the second label, and change the default text to `{{lang||dog||german}}`. Click on the third label and change the default text to `{{lang||dog||french}}`. Click on the fourth label and change the default text to `{{lang||dog||russian}}`. The screen should appear as follows;



When this page is previewed as each of the three test users, (Tom, Dick and Harry) jWB should display slightly different results because of their different language settings.

The top label should display the word "Hello" in the native language of the user. The second label should display the word "Dog" in German. The third should display the word "Dog" in French. Because there is no language translation set up for the word "Dog" in Russian, the last label displays the word "Dog" in the default language.