



Jetspeed-2 development documentation

Portals Bridges: Perl framework

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0.1	Roger Ruttimann	Initial draft

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1.Introduction

The perl module in portals-bridges can be used to execute any perl scripts (.pl or .cgi) inside a portlet. The advantages of having access to a perl engine from inside are the following:

- Controlling access to Perl or cgi scripts from inside the portal instead of the http server.
- Load balancing of cgi scripts handled by the application server instead of the Web Server
- Using Single Sign On (SSO) for perl content.
- The portlet keeps the state and caches the last generated page.

2.Architecture

The code invoking the perl engine is in portals-bridges/perl and the utility functions are in portals-bridges/common.

An incoming request has to provide the name of the perl script and it's parameter as a session object of type org.apache.portals.bridges.common.ScriptRuntimeData or as a part of an action (see table below).

Perl scripts are executed the same way as it's done by HTTP server:

- Read the first line that identifies the path to the perl engine (e.g. !/usr/bin/perl)
- executes the script using the above path
- Reading the result HTML



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- Replacing all relative HREF's with actions so that any request come back to this perl portlet. Replacing HREFS with actions allows a user to navigate in the portlet.

Invoking the perl portlet:

Invokation	Parameters	Process Action	DoView
From another portlet	Session object PerlParameter	Nothing	Read Session object invoke perl engine
From the perl portlet	Action _PERL	Extract script name Extract query from action or from Request parameter Create Session Object	post Process refs by replacing links with Actions.