Redmine - Feature #13317

Pluggable PDF export engine

2013-02-28 12:22 - Evgeny Seliverstov

Status:	New		**Start date:**	
Priority:	Normal		**Due date:**	
Assignee:			**% Done:**	0%
Category:	PDF export		**Estimated time:**	0.00 hour
Target version:				
Resolution:				

Description

Redmine could support multiple PDF export engines provided in form of redmine plugins.

Administrator could choose different PDF export engines for different projects or system-wide. The main alternative to the currently used PDF export is a wrapper around wkhtmltopdf - redmine_pdf_wiki plugin. wkthmltopdf is a PDF renderer that uses an internal qt webkit browser to display provided HTML and to save it to PDF so it looks exactly as the original HTML.
I recently fixed redmine_pdf_wiki to work with Redmine 2.x and to replace standard PDF export (monkey patched wiki_page_to_pdf). I noticed that RFPDF is a plugin and it is already carefully facaded with Redmine::Export::PDF. I think it is relatively easy to support an external PDF export plugin.

Current approach is to issue PDF instructions from a ruby code. It is lightweight and safe solution but when heavy and highly accurate PDFs are needed it could be better to use wkhtmltopdf. It is a native program with several major issues but I hope they will be fixed in future.

Please check an initial discussion with Terence Miller in pull request

Related issues:

Related to Redmine - Defect #8753: PDF export for Hebrew is reversed	**Closed**	**2010-07-15**

History

#1 - 2013-03-01 09:13 - Terence Mill

There are plugin which tried to work around this problem but are outdated or imcompatible.
Hower this a protypes of possible solution for this issue.

1. chili_pdf is nowards imcompatible with redmine 2.x (worked for redmine 1.x) and uses wkhtmltopdf and wicked_pdf an a core patch to solve the problem, see also chili issue

#2 - 2013-03-01 09:14 - Terence Mill

2. redmine_pdf_wiki uses also wkhtmltopdf and needs passenger web server as soution for a recursion que problem and therefore settings to add "PassengerUseGlobalQueue on"

#3 - 2014-01-26 19:20 - Ebrahim Mohammadi

Now that RFPDF is dead and its author is using Prawn, it seems the logical way of fixing many issues with PDF export (such as #10681, #13781 and #8753) is to migrate to a better, alive PDF rendering engine, maybe Prawn.

This is a grave issue, because is some locales such as Persian (and probably Arabic and Hebrew) the exported PDF is totally garbage and of no use.

#4 - 2014-01-30 07:38 - Toshi MARUYAMA

rfpdf is maitaind by NAITOH Jun who is contributor of #61 etc.
https://github.com/naitoh/rfpdf

I want to define rfpdf gem in Gemfile and remove sources from Redmine.

#5 - 2014-03-03 21:58 - Ebrahim Mohammadi

Any news/progress?

#6 - 2014-05-19 23:24 - Jun NAITOH

I updated rfpdf base version to TCPDF 5.1.002 from 1.53.0.TC031.

new feature

- RTL (Right-To-Left) languages support was added.
- HTML support improved.

Toshi MARUYAMA wrote:

> I want to define rfpdf gem in Gemfile and remove sources from Redmine.

I would like to create rfpdf gem at the end of next month, and to send the PDF patch of Redmine.

#7 - 2014-06-22 14:34 - Toshi MARUYAMA

- Related to Defect #8753: PDF export for Hebrew is reversed added