
PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/05/13 05:46

Hi All,

I am using Joomla 1.5 version.

Installed com_php.

Created a page using this component.

The requirement is to Generate PDF for the page as we can do for Articles.

Unable to find the solution :(

This is urgent requiriement, please help...

Thanks in advance :)

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/05/13 11:46

Joomla used TCPDF library. (www.tcpdf.org)

Here is the code documentation:

<http://www.tecnick.com/pagefiles/tcpdf/doc/index.html>

Examples:

http://www.tecnick.com/public/code/cp_dpage.php?aiocp_dp=tcpdf_examples

Joomla uses this in `libraries/document/pdf/pdf.php` to generate the PDF version of the articles.

The library is in: `libraries/tcpdf`

So for example you'd include tcpdf:

```
require_once(JPATH_BASE.'/libraries/tcpdf/tcpdf.php');
```

Then do what you need.

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/05/14 01:00

Hi,

Thanks for your immediate response.

I tried putting the following code in my PHP page.

As soon as I tried accessing that page, the page becomes blank :(

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/05/14 04:19

Hi,

Want to add one more thing to make the point clearer about what I want.

I want the PDF and PRINT button on my PAGE(created in COM_PHP) exactly the same way as with ARTICLES created in ARTICLE MANAGER.

Still breaking my head :(

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/05/14 06:54

The blank page is probably because there is a fatal error, and you have error reporting turned off.

At the top of your PHP, place:

```
ini_set('error_reporting', E_ALL);
ini_set('display_errors', 1);
```

Also make sure the paths of the files you are including are correct. This is probably where the error lies.

eg:

```
require_once(JPATH_BASE.'/libraries/tcpdf/tcpdf.php');
```

instead of

```
require_once('./tcpdf.php');
```

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/05/14 06:56

I want the PDF and PRINT button on my PAGE(created in COM_PHP) exactly the same way as with ARTICLES created in ARTICLE MANAGER.

You'll have to look into how Joomla does it.

Search through the API:

http://api.joomla.org/li_Joomla-Framework.html

or SVN repository:

<http://joomlancode.org/gf/project/joomla/scmsvn/?action=browse&path=%2Fdevelopment%2Ftags%2F1.5.x%2F1.5.10%2F>

I use a local SVN repository of the latest Joomla stable, and have an SVN search engine that allows quick search of the Joomla files, or other projects I'm interested in.

You can also do this online at code.google.com by importing the Joomla stable into their SVN repo. This is already done for Joomla1.5.9 here:

<http://joomlancode.org/gf/project/joomla/scmsvn/?action=browse&path=%2Fdevelopment%2Ftags%2F1.5.x%2F1.5.10%2F>

You can then use the "trunk search" to search through the files to find what you want.

An example for "pdf print email icon"

<http://www.google.com/codesearch?q=pdf+print+email+icon+package:http://joomla-project.googlecode.com&origq=pdf+print+email+icon&btnG=Search+Trunk>

The second result is probably what you're interested in.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/05/15 05:09

Hi,

An example for "pdf print email icon"

<http://www.google.com/codesearch?q=pdf+print+email+icon+package:http://joomla-project\googlecode\.com&origq=pdf+print+email+icon&btnG=Search+Trunk>

The second result is probably what you're interested in.

Thank you so much for your valuable effort.

I want exactly what you have mentioned above but the problem is that the pdf and print icon is for articles. How can I do the same for com_php.

Please help:(

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/05/15 05:14

Hi,

An example for "pdf print email icon"

<http://www.google.com/codesearch?q=pdf+print+email+icon+package:http://joomla-project\googlecode\.com&origq=pdf+print+email+icon&btnG=Search+Trunk>

The second result is probably what you're interested in.

Thank you for your valuable effort.

I want exactly the same implementation as you mentioned above. Here, you have given code related to Articles but I need to implement the same with com_php.

I am in a stuck point, please help:(

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/05/15 07:59

Use the solution we just discussed on generating PDF for the PDF. Then link the pdf icon to that page.

You can get the contents of com_php by buffering output.

ob_start() and ob_end_clean().

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/06/12 04:11

Hi,

Still stuck with the same problem.

Getting this warning -

Warning: TCPDF::include(D:/inetpub/wwwroot/_OPENSOURCE/tcpdf/fonts/freesans.php) : failed to open stream: No such file or directory in D:\apache\friend\xampp\htdocs\staging\libraries\tcpdf\tcpdf.php on line 1909

I searched in other forums and found -

(<http://forum.joomla.org/viewtopic.php?f=428&t=285175&start=0&st=0&sk=t&sd=a>)

Found a temporary fix which worked for me, in pdf_fonts theres a file called 'freesans.php' make a copy of this and rename it to 'arial.php' then upload it too the pdf_fonts folder on your server. works fine for me

Tried this also but no success.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/06/12 04:57

TCPDF requires you to set the path to the fonts directory. If this is not set, it defaults to looking in the directory "fonts" under the directory the tcpdf\lib.php if found.

For example, in your setup, it would by default look in:

D:\apache\friend\xampp\htdocs\staging\libraries\tcpdf\fonts\

You can however set your custom folder that TCPDF should look for fonts.

eg:

```
define('K_PATH_FONTS', '/path/to/my/fonts/');
```

In your case, TCPDF is looking font font files in the directory:

D:/inetpub/wwwroot/_OPENSOURCE/tcpdf/fonts/

This is probably due to it being set in the default configs shipped with tcpdf:

http://www.google.com/codesearch/p?hl=en#6zETIOCEHRQ/trunk/TrainingCompany/libraries/tcpdf/config/tcpdf_config.php&q=K_PATH_MAIN%20package:http://joomla-project%5C.googlecode%5C.com&l=41

You need to set this to a directory where your fonts are stored instead.

You could also just instruct your code to look in the folder Joomla stores fonts:

```
define("K_PATH_FONTS", JPATH_SITE.DS.'language'.DS."pdf_fonts".DS);
```

http://www.google.com/codesearch?hl=en&lr=&q=K_PATH_FONTS+package:http://joomla-project.googlecode.com&btn=Search

Or copy the fonts you need to a custom directory, and set that path as the fonts directory.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/06/18 02:32

Hi,

Some how able to get the PDF generated by using your ideas.
Now the problem is -

I am having a HTML Table with values in textbox. When I try generating PDF, it shows only Label.
Did in the following way -

```
$ch = curl_init('http://www.parascale.com/images/tco/test.php');  
curl_setopt_array( $ch, $options );  
$content = curl_exec( $ch );  
$err = curl_errno( $ch );  
$errmsg = curl_error( $ch );  
$header = curl_getinfo( $ch );  
curl_close( $ch );
```

Also, how Flash items can be generated as PDF content.

Thanks for your instant responses.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/06/18 16:13

Do you just want the text from the forms? Or do you want the actual forms embedded in the PDF.

If you just want the values:

You could try to parse the HTML, before sending it to the PDF Library.

That is, try an XML parser, Joomla comes with more then one XML parsing utility.

```
$type = 'simple'; // simple | rss | dom  
$xmlParser =& JFactory::getXMLParser($type);
```

Parse all the form fields and convert them to regular HTML elements like or .

If you want to embed the form:

You'll probably have to extend the PDF lib.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/06/18 16:14

For Flash, you your best bet is to have search engine friendly version of the flash content. Flash has functionality to do this, however I don't know the exact details.

You can take the SEF version of the Flash content and pass that to the PDF library.

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/06/18 23:02

Thanks for your worthful effort on helping me...
I have generated the PDF for the required form...

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by Prakash2009 - 2009/06/18 23:04

generating flash object as PDF is the last challenge here..
If you know any source where I can contact, please let me know...

=====

Re:PDF Generator for the com_php

Posted by admin - 2009/06/19 00:15

Do you want to extract content from existing SWF files? This would require a PHP library that could parse the SWF format for media that you might want in the PDF.

I'm not aware of any implementation in PHP.

For the swf format see: <http://www.adobe.com/devnet/swf/>

If you are able to install programs on your server, you could probably get an "SWF decompiler" to decompile the swf into source. You can then parse that "easier".

Either of the above would require quite a bit of development.

It would be easier to design the pages in a way that there is alternative content for each Flash file. So the alternative content automatically goes into the PDF. Just like how it is done for SEO purposes:

By injecting the flash with JavaScript into existing HTML node:
<http://www.hochmanconsultants.com/articles/seo-friendly-flash.shtml>

By using XSLT to transform an existing XML file to flash version:
<http://www.metah.ch/blog/2008/04/holy-grail-seo-model-for-flash-and-flex-content/>

=====