Allow to pass a template directly to tiki_view_tracker_item.php to improve the pretty tracker functionality

Description

Using a tracker in the context of a pretty tracker the following problem shows up: One would like to link from the TRACKERLIST plugin to an item using a specific template to view that item. (So not always the default view or the same template view as defined within the tracker). Also it might not be desired to have access to the item toolbar visible when viewing the item via the tracker menu or via tiki_view_tracker_item.php.

Use case

A concrete example might be an issue tracker, where customers have a different view to an issue than the support team. The customer
Current workaround

The TRACKERLIST plugin allows to specify an item. However, this template defines how the list is created, not how an specific item is shown when clicking on the item link in the list.

The TRACKERLIST plugin allows also to define a url that is used as a link for the items in the list. The pretty tracker documentation gives an example where this link is used to point to a 2nd TRACKERLIST plugin. Because that 2nd list will display only one item, there the template parameter can be used to style the view for that item.

Besides being a bit overloaded, features like comments or attachments are not possible this way.

Proposal

If tiki_view_tracker_item.php would allow to pass a view or edit template, than this template could be used similar as if it would have been defined on the tracker level.

If the standard toolbar would be disabled and instead a "back" button would be added, one could easily click the item on the TRACKERLIST - see the item - and go back. This way also comments and attachments would be accessible. Because the toolbar would be disabled, the user would only access the items through the list defined via plugin TRACKERLIST.

For this to work, two new params needs to be added to tiki_view_tracker_item.php:

- vi_tpl // view item template. Syntax as in the tracker for the viewItemPretty
- ei_tpl // edit item template. Syntax as in the tracker for the editItemPretty

Example

```
{trackerlist trackerId="1" fields="1:2:3" showlinks="y" showpagination="y" more="n" server="n" url="tiki-view_tracker_item.php?vi_tpl=wiki:Customer-View&itemId"}
```

```
{trackerlist trackerId="1" fields="1:2:3" showlinks="y" showpagination="y" more="n" server="n" url="tiki-view_tracker_item.php?vi_tpl=wiki:Support-View&itemId"}
```

Solution

Tiki 14 - Trunk r53698 31.1.2015

Added two params to to tiki_view_tracker_item.php:

- vi_tpl // example wiki:Customer-ItemsDetails
- ei_tpl

Example: tiki_view_tracker_item.php?vi_tpl=wiki:Customer-ItemsDetails&itemId=5

The template will only be used if a default template has already been set on the tracker (remeber this requires the option: "configured"). Otherwise these params will be ignored.

If the either of the param is used AND a default template is set, the standard toolbar (tracker, list etc.) will be replaced by a simple "back" button. The button points to where the request came from (usually from the TRACKERLIST plugin page).

Comments and Attachments are still accessible.
Comments

Marc Laporte 09 Feb 15 18:36 GMT-0000

Interesting feature!

I suggest to make argument names more memorable. We are luck that edit and view are short words 😊

Thanks!

WolfgangA 12 Feb 15 17:48 GMT-0000

Hello Marc,

thanks for commenting. I chose those names because they refer to the "View_Item_Template" not the "View_Tracker_template" as the existing parameter "tpl" does.

So
- tpl = (existing) refers to the trackerlist
- vi_tpl = (new) refers to the item view of a specific item.

But of cause, that could be changed.

Regards
Marc Laporte 17 Feb 15 03:43 GMT-0000

I now understand what it means. So I suggest to make it have a descriptive name so a new user the wiki page has a chance of understanding what is happening just by reading the wiki syntax, without any documentation.

I suggest to look at all the other params and keep to one of the three patterns. There are three now, let's try not to have 4 😊

Ex.: view_item_tpl or viewitemtpl
    edit_item_tpl or edititemtpl

I guess you saw the wiki and tplwiki params?

Thanks!

Marc Laporte 21 Aug 16 16:22 GMT-0000

Hello Wolfgang,

We just had a difficult upgrade from 12.x LTS to 15.x LTS and most of the issues were caused by the non backward-compatible changes you made in the trackers feature.

For example:

1- You did warn that "Thus it will break existing uscases."
https://sourceforge.net/p/tikiwiki/code/54193

But this was unnecessary, as you could have written a simple upgrade script to make the data evolve:
https://sourceforge.net/p/tikiwiki/code/59475

2- You broke the "Pretty Trackers" configuration on site upgrades.

As you wrote "The template will only be used if a default template has already been set on the tracker (remember this requires the option: "configured"). Otherwise these params will be ignored."
How is the average site admin supposed to know that?

Again, this is unnecessary pain, as you could have written a simple upgrade script or added a condition that uses pretty tracker configurations if it exists.

Also, I am disappointed that you ignored my suggestion above about using semantic names in Tiki. We want to avoid cryptic lingo in Tiki.

Can you address these remaining issues in a backwards compatible way so we avoid more future support requests as people upgrade their sites?

Thanks!

Marc Laporte 22 Aug 16 02:31
GMT-0000

For the record, here is SQL to solve the "configured" issue

```
UPDATE `tiki_tracker_options`
SET `value` = 'config'
WHERE `name` = 'sectionFormat'
AND `trackerId` IN
  (SELECT * FROM
   (SELECT `trackerId` FROM
    `tiki_tracker_options`
    WHERE (`NAME` = 'viewItemPretty' OR `NAME` = 'editItemPretty')
    AND `VALUE` <> ''
  ) AS X);
```

Marc Laporte 22 Aug 16 05:02
GMT-0000

For the record:

To solve issues with item link fields reporting "empty", the fix that worked for us was to toggle the value (to Display only one item for each label) of the "One item
per value" option for the item link field.

## Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>filename</th>
<th>created</th>
<th>hits</th>
<th>comment</th>
<th>version</th>
<th>filetype</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No attachments for this item

The original document is available at
http://dev.tiki.org/item5539-Allow-to-pass-a-template-directly-to-tiki_view_tracker_item-php-to-improve-the-pretty-tracker-functionallity