Create a tool that extracts all text to be displayed

**Status**
- Open

**Subject**
Create a tool that extracts all text to be displayed

**Version**
18.x

**Category**
- Feature request

**Feature**
i18n (Multilingual, l10n, Babelfish)

**Resolution status**
New

**Submitted by**
hman

**Lastmod by**
hman

**Rating**
★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ ★★★★★ (0) ☞

**Description**
Creating a translation of Tiki Wiki is a really arduous task, more like a project (I have spent more than half a month already, almost fulltime).

No one will want to do this more than once, at least I don't. The problem is, that in order to render a good translation, you have to see a text in it's context. The task is so tremendously labour intensive, because you have to backtrack clicking everything, activating everything, then deactivating everything, trying to provoke all errors etc. pp. et. al.

Now comes the problem of Tiki improvements. With every new release of Tiki, from the smallest bugfix to the biggest new release of a LTS possibly comes new text. And even correcting a single character that was part of a typo immediately leads to the translation vanishing into thin air because the pattern matching of tra() won't catch it any longer. The translation remains in the language file, but is never displayed again.

So everything will have to be re-checked., time and again.

Since Tiki Wiki does not have one file of text that resides in constants, you cannot simply generate a
diff to see what has changed, and thus needs new (or altered) translations.

Therefore a tool would be necessary that extracts all text to be displayed. That tool could then also look up if there are pre-existing translations of those strings, and present them, too. As a side effect, such a tool could help developers to guard their code against strings NOT passed into tra() or tr (which makes translating them impossible).

In the first stage, such a tool could simply produce one file as output, in later development could be interactive. Such a tool would be a necessary prerequisite for version advancement of Tiki, because without it, all (!) translations are rendered into "status unknown" with any change of code.

Side remark: Such a tool does not necessarily have to be part of Tiki. It could make development easier if it at first it would be stand-alone.

Importance
7

Easy to solve?
2

Priority
14

Demonstrate Bug
Please demonstrate your bug on show2.tikiwiki.org

Version: trunk

Ticket ID
7511

Created
Tuesday 25 August, 2020 09:52:55 GMT-0000

LastModif
Tuesday 25 August, 2020 11:41:26 GMT-0000

Comments

Jonny Bradley 25 Aug 20 11:43 GMT-0000

Have you seen these commands maybe?

```
php console.php help translation:englishupdate
```

and

```
php console.php help translation:getstrings
```

They update the language files with everything that is "translated" and are run as part of the release process, and should be also run periodically as part of the CI in between (work in progress)
Thanks. Didn't know this. How can it help me?

What exactly does "update the language files with everything that is "translated"" mean? An automated process can't distinguish between a minor change (like a typo) or a change of meaning of a string, for that, a knowledgeable human is needed 😐

Also, it seems to have some prerequisits I do not meet. It throws an error:

Can this only be run on a server hosting the site (or the DB)? I ran it on my Linux desktop, which has an up to date copy of the Tiki installation directory. I COULD run it on the server, because I have SSH access to my rented space, but I'm very hesitant to run scripts that I think do not understand fully...

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The original document is available at
http://dev.tiki.org/item7511-Create-a-tool-that-extracts-all-text-to-be-displayed