PROGRESS OpenEdge

White Paper: Supporting Java Style Comments in ABLDoc

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The Release Notes can be found in the OpenEdge installation directory and online at:
https://community.progress.com/technicalusers/w/openedgegeneral/1329.openedge-product-documentation-overview.aspx.

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Introduction

This document describes how to enable ABLDoc to recognize the Java style comment format.

By default, ABLDoc recognizes only the comment format that Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge provides, as in the following example:

```
/*------------------------------------------------------------------------
    File        : EX
    Purpose     :
    Syntax      :
    Description :
    Author(s)   : srireddy
    Created     : Thu Apr 09 14:14:38 IST 2015
    Notes       :
  ----------------------------------------------------------------------*/
```

However, some of you could be using different comment formats such as Java style comment format, that ABLDoc does not recognize the comments. In such cases, OpenEdge might not generate your ABLDoc documentation accurately.

Here is an example of Java style comment:

```
/**
 *  Comment summary, you could write much more here,
 *  this could span multiple lines
 *
 *  @param   a First param description
 *  @param   b Second param description
 *  @arbitrayTag This is an arbitary tag
 *  @return Returns void
 *
 */
```

To support Java style comments, ABLDoc now provides the abldoc-custom-tag-parser.rar file that contains the following files:

JavaStyleCommentParser.java: Contains the custom comment tag parser source.

Custom-comment-parser.jar: Contains the class file of the comment parser.

Templates folder: Contains the modified templates to support Java style comments.

abldoc.properties: Contains the modified file to include the custom tag parser name and path. This file is used while generating ABLDoc documentation.

Note: You can use these files as references to extend the comment parser to support formats other than Java style comments.

Hooking the Custom Comment Tag Parser

You can hook the custom comment tag parser from Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge or from your ANT task depending on how you use ABLDoc.

Hooking the Custom Comment Tag Parser to ABLDoc from Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge

To hook the custom comment tag parser from Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge, do the following:

1. Copy the custom-comment-parser.jar file to a local directory.
2. Edit the **abldoc.properties** file available in the `%DLC%\oeide\eclipse\plugins\com.progress.openedge.pdt.abldoc.ui` location as follows:
   a. Add the **JavaStyleCommentParser** class name of the custom comment tag parser to the **tagParser** attribute.
   b. Add the location of the custom-comment-parser.jar file to the **tagParserPath** attribute.
3. Copy all the templates from the Templates folder into the

   `%DLC%\oeide\eclipse\plugins\com.progress.openedge.pdt.abldoc.core_<version>\abldoc-artifacts\templates`

   location in your local machine.

   Note: Take a back up of the existing templates in this location on your local machine before copying the templates.

4. Restart Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge and generate the ABLDoc documentation for your sources. ABLDoc will now recognize Java style comments and generate documentation accordingly.

   Note: If ABLDoc does not recognize Java style comments, check if the tag parser name and the path specified in **abldoc.properties** file are correct. If ABLDoc cannot find the custom comment tag parser in the specified path, it uses the default tag parser that supports the default Progress Developer Studio Open Edge style comments style.

Hooking the Custom Comment Tag Parser to Your ABLDoc ANT Task

To hook the custom comment tag parser to your ANT task, do the following:

1. Copy the **custom-comment-parser.jar** and place it in the ANT task's classpath.
2. Copy all the templates from the Templates folder into the

   `%DLC%\oeide\eclipse\plugins\com.progress.openedge.pdt.abldoc.core_<version>\abldoc-artifacts\templates`

   location in your local machine.

   Note: Take a back up of the existing templates in this location on your local machine before copying the templates.

3. Specify the fully qualified tagParser name in the **tagParser** property in the ABLDoc ANT task.
4. Specify the location of the artifact in the **artifactLoc** property as in the following example:

   build.xml

```
<abldoc destdir="${basedir}/docs" doctitle="ABLDoc Documentation"
     verbose="yes" includeExtension="i" artifactLoc="<artifact-location>}"


tagParser="com.progress.openedge.pdt.abldoc.core.tag.JavaStyleCommentParser">

          ....
</abldoc>
```

   Note: For information about the other properties in the ABLDoc ANT task, refer to the Progress Developer Studio for OpenEdge online help.

5. Run the ABLDoc ANT task. ABLDoc will now recognize the Java style comments and generate documentation accordingly.

   Note: If ABLDoc still does not recognize the Java style comments, check if the tag parser name is correct or if the jar is correctly placed in the ANT classpath. If ABLDoc cannot find the custom comment tag parser in the ANT classpath, it uses the default tag parser that supports the default Progress Developer Studio Open Edge style comments.