



CASE STUDIES

ASPOSE.CELLS Case Study



Xpand IT

Using ASPOSE.CELLS to create value for Xporter Add-On for JIRA

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About Xpand IT

With several customers across the world, we provide the top IT knowledge for our customers, so they can focus on their core business and still have the best IT resources for their company needs, seamless integrated into their business processes. We identify ourselves as a Team with Passion for Excellence, and we differentiate our services by having the best people with the best expertise in the following areas: Business Intelligence, Business Process & Integration, Enterprise Mobility, IT Systems and Enterprise Applications. For more information, please visit: www.xpand-it.com.

Problem

Xpand IT develops an Add-On for JIRA, called Xporter for JIRA. This Add-On offers to users the possibility of exporting their JIRA issues content to several formats, using Microsoft Word Templates. Among several features we highlight as more relevant for this situation:

- Defining templates in DOCX, RTF or ODT files, upload and configure through JIRA Administration
- Single and multiple issue export to PDF, DOCX, RFT, ODT, PNG and SVG
- Exporting image attachments
- Exporting comments, subtask fields and linked issues
- And many other.

The problem emerged when several clients asked about the possibility of exporting those issues into an Excel format. Such feature wasn't available in Xporter neither in JIRA itself.

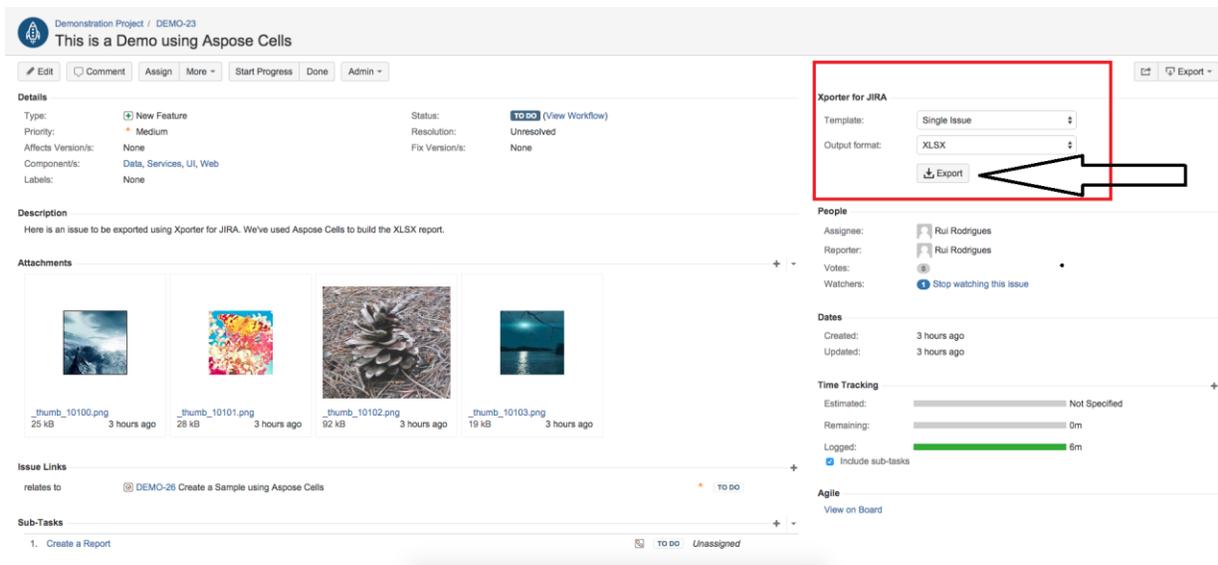
Solution

Xpand IT chose Aspose.Cells, since we were already satisfied clients, as we used already other ASPOSE products, more exactly the Aspose.Words.

Our development team has investigated all available libraries that provide manipulation and creation of Excel files. After that investigation we conclude that Aspose.Cells was the best mature library relative to others, it has a good support and a nice product evolution.

We need to build documents dynamically, so the input that can variate, and Aspose.Cells provide a way to do that, easily.

Xporter for JIRA templates are managed in JIRA Administration and allow us to manage templates (upload/remove templates) and set templates permissions (which templates to be displayed for a project, issue type, user, etc...)



The screenshot displays a JIRA issue page for a 'New Feature' with a 'Medium' priority and 'Unresolved' status. The issue is titled 'This is a Demo using Aspose Cells'. The 'Xporter for JIRA' configuration panel is highlighted with a red box, showing the 'Template' set to 'Single Issue' and the 'Output format' set to 'XLSX'. An arrow points to the 'Export' button in this panel. The page also shows attachments, issue links, and sub-tasks.

Figure 1: Exporting issues for JIRA

Experience

Finding a solution:

We are using Aspose.Words for JAVA since 2009 in our Product. And the feedback couldn't be better. Because of that, we thought about as for Aspose.Cells we are currently using a trial version, our implementation using it is almost done, and this will be a great and a powerful future for our product. We´re using a trial license and we didn't need any support until now.

Implementation:

The implementation took around 7/8 weeks, but most of the time was more due to the complexity of the engine, than with the use of the Aspose.Cells library.

Our business logic is based in templates, we´ve a document engine that receives some data and an Excel file known as the template file. This template file has mappings that will be processed by our document engine. As a result, we´ve a "compiled" file, i.e., the template file with mappings replaced by real data. Until today everything went smoothly and there was no need to ask for support.

Outcome:

As it was described above, we´ve a document engine that processes template files. This introduces a high complexity leave here but it is not related with the usage of Aspose Cells. Regarding to that usage, it is simple to use and provides a simple way to read, create and manipulate data into the entire workbook. All the objectives were fully met and we do believe that with the help of Aspose.Cells we just created a great feature for our product, making it even more competitive.

Next Steps

As our product is constantly following our client's needs, we are always upgrading it and thinking about new features. For sure if in the future we find that any other Aspose products could be the answer of some of our requirements, we have no doubts that they are going to be our first priority.

Summary

Our overall experience with Aspose products was very positive. This component increased business value to Xpand IT product - Xporter Plugin for JIRA, allowing us to develop a reference solution for data export. The Aspose.Cells Component is extremely complete and was very important in implementing this new feature in the plugin.

Xporter for JIRA now is able to export issues from JIRA in Excel format, which is a huge step for the product.

Xpand IT is very satisfied with the Aspose.Cells performance and until now we are fully confident that we made the right decision in choosing it. We sincerely recommend Aspose products as their components have a key role in Xporter for JIRA, and in its success.