

[DocV1.Thepropertiesfilechainforaneasierinternationalisationmanagement](#)

The properties file chain for an easier internationalisation management

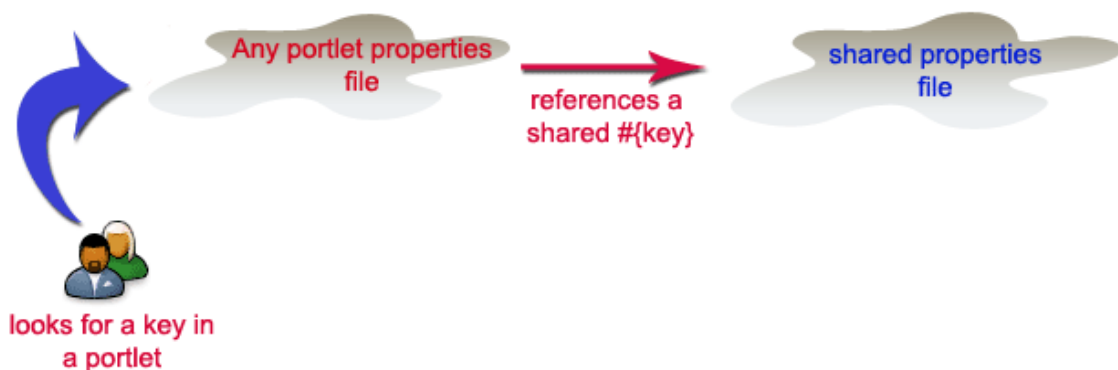
- Concept

The eXo Platform introduces the concept of the properties files chain.

The idea is simple and based on the fact that in an entire portal many labels even images are reused in many portlets. So, we wanted to be able to define some shared properties keys and values in one file and being able to reference them in each portlet application properties files.

So the algorithm is simple and based on the convention that any property key wrapped in the syntax `#{key}` should be resolved. Note that it also works in the same property file in the eXo Platform where you can reference a key from the same file using the same syntax.

The following picture summarize those explanations. A user try to load a portlet that uses a key whose value references a shared key located in the shared portal properties file.



- Practise

Therefore, we define a shared properties file named `locale.portal.portal` that contains some of the following keys:

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```
global.icon.location=/skin/images/icons
global.icon.save=#{global.icon.location}/save.gif
global.icon.magnified-glass=#{global.icon.location}/view.gif
global.icon.cancel=#{global.icon.location}/cancel.gif
global.icon.edit=#{global.icon.location}/edit.gif
global.icon.select=#{global.icon.location}/select.gif...global.word.add=add
global.word.back=back global.word.save=save global.word.view=view
global.word.cancel=cancel global.word.edit=edit
global.word.select=select global.word.delete=delete...
```

First, you can see that the `#{global.icon.location}` is referenced in the same file.
That is the first usefull enhancement of eXo Platform.

Then, in another property file, referenced this time in any portlet.xml using the bundle tag, you can referenced any of those shared keys.

Let's take the example of the UserResource.properties file located in the user portlet application WAR. It contains that text part:

```
...#class org.exoplatform.portlets.user.component.UIGroupForm
UIGroupForm.button.save=#{global.word.save}
UIGroupForm.button.cancel=#{global.word.cancel}UIGroupForm.header.add-group=Add
GroupUIGroupForm.label.group-name=Group Name
UIGroupForm.label.description=#{global.word.description}
UIGroupForm.label.label=Label...
```

The keys referenced in that properties file are located inthe shared property file
locale.portal.portal

- Implementation note

We use the resource service to manage the resolution of the referenced keys.
Each time a portlet bundle is required then the service will append the chained
properties files and will do the resolution and then cache the file so that at each
other call the resolution will not occur.

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Cr  ateur: XWiki.benjamin.mestrallet Creation Date: 2005/02/06 20:30

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