

[DocV1.Strutsbridge](#)

Struts bridge

The bridge is working and has been tested for Struts 1.1.

A future version of Struts may support portlets, but that will not make existing servlets work in any portal without any rewriting. The extension of the framework is not the same than the bridge we have developed. By adding a layer between the portal and any existing Struts application within the portlet, we allow any existing struts application to be embedded in a portlet with a minimal amount of change. Note that this portlet bridge is eXo platform dependent as its consist in two phases :

1. obtaining the servlet objects from the portlet objects (using custom casts) and
2. rewriting the URL that the Struts application generates in order for the portal to find the correct portlet application and portlet that embedded the Struts framework.

Let's take a simple Struts application deployed as a servlet and make a portlet out of it. As the produced mark up language is embedded in a portal page, you need to remove all the header and footer tags of the Struts jsp page. For the same reasons, replace all the forward() methods by include() methods. Finally, if you have any hardcoded URL in your jsp page (shame on you), just use the encodeURL() method if you don't already. As most of Struts application use the html:link tag this should not be a problem. The rest of the application will stay the same.

Now we need to use a custom portlet which we define in the portlet.xml :

```
<portlet> <description lang='EN'>Struts application</description>
<portlet-name>StrutsExample</portlet-name> <display-name
lang='EN'>StrutsExample</display-name>
<portlet-class>exo.portal.portlet.struts.ExoStrutsPortlet</portlet-class>
<init-param> <name>default-page</name> <value>/index.jsp</value>
</init-param> [...] </portlet> </portlet-app>
```

The portlet-class is the most important one. Indeed, this is the ExoStrutsPortlet object that is the true bridge implementation. Don't worry, we will not get into the

code of this class. The next code is the index.jsp page of the struts basic example. We have not removed the header and footer tags (because it still works) but you should.

```
<html:html locale='true'> <head> <title><bean:message  
key='index.title'/></title> <html:base/> </head> <body  
bgcolor='white'><logic:notPresent name='database' scope='application'>  
<font color='red'> ERROR: User database not loaded -- check servlet  
container logs for error messages. </font> <hr>  
</logic:notPresent><logic:notPresent  
name='org.apache.struts.action.MESSAGE' scope='application'> <font  
color='red'> ERROR: Application resources not loaded -- check servlet  
container logs for error messages. </font>  
</logic:notPresent><h3><bean:message key='index.heading' /></h3> <ul>  
<li><html:link page='/editRegistration.do?action=Create'> <bean:message  
key='index.registration' /></html:link></li> <li><html:link  
page='/logon.jsp'><bean:message key='index.logon' /></html:link></li>  
</ul><p> </p> <html:link page='/tour.do'> <font size='-1'><bean:message  
key='index.tour' /></font> </html:link> <p> </p><html:img  
page='/struts-power.gif' alt='Powered by Struts' /></body> </html:html>
```

As you can see nothing was changed from the original index.jsp. We can now deploy the portlet war into the portal.

Finally, we can launch the portlet using our development page, watch the browser image for the URL. Just note that the Struts demo portlet is located in the exo-demo sample portal that you can download from the ObjectWeb site too.
[DocV1.Strutsbridge](#) (en)

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