

Chamilo LMS - Bug #4511

get_lang() doesn't manage well empty translations

23/03/2012 10:55 - Yannick Warnier

Status:	Bug resolved	Start date:	23/03/2012
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	Bas Wijnen	% Done:	100%
Category:		Estimated time:	1.00 hour
Target version:	1.9 Beta	Spent time:	10.55 hours
Complexity:	Challenging	SCRUM pts - complexity:	?

Description

Many problems with incomplete languages have been spotted (mainly in Dutch, as this was extracted from a Dutch training).

The normal behaviour of the `get_lang()` function is to load the English language strings (always defined), then load the current language (in this case Dutch).

If a language string hasn't been defined in Dutch, then `get_lang()` detects it and falls back on the English translation.

This used to work in the past (two years ago), but apparently the move to the translation management system we have now has caused a problem: while the untranslated strings were ignored (i.e. not included in the exported language files) by the previous system, now they are exported as empty strings:

```
$LangVar = '';
```

This causes `get_lang()` to think that the translation exists, and fill it with an empty string, which is causing missing labels and links all over Chamilo.

There are two ways to solve this:

- update `get_lang()` to ensure it checks first whether a string is empty (this would be using a lot of resources and might already be covered by a change of translation system)
- update the current translation system so that it doesn't include empty strings (this would be the best solution, because it would only impact the load when generating the translation files, not when any user in the world shows a Chamilo page)

This task might be deprecated if we move to `gettext`. Please let me know what the status is regarding `gettext`

Related issues:

Related to Chamilo LMS - Feature #4467: Add `gettext` support

Rejected - Abandoned 2012

History

#1 - 23/03/2012 19:04 - Bas Wijnen

- File `noemptyvars.patch` added

- % Done changed from 0 to 50

I've written a patch for this a long time ago. I thought I had already posted it here, but apparently not. I've attached it now. It implements the first solution. I agree that the second solution is better, but something had to be done; the system was quite unusable with all the missing translations (in Dutch). I think I've translated most of them (or even all) as well, but I think I already sent them. Are there still many missing, or are they new strings?

#2 - 06/04/2012 11:23 - Julio Montoya

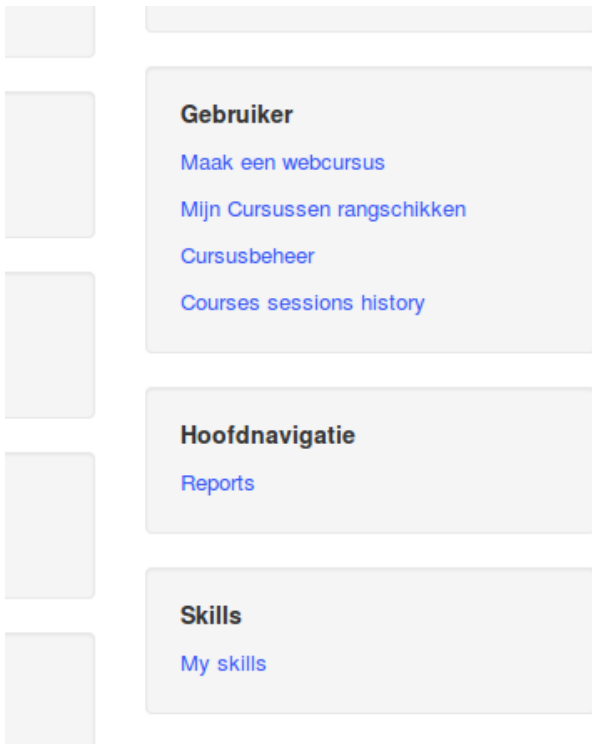
- File `get_lang.png` added

- Status changed from Assigned to Needs more info

- Assignee changed from Julio Montoya to Yannick Warnier

I think that patch was already been applied,

I can't reproduce the error: I created a new course in Dutch and change my system default language to Dutch and it seems fine, I have English terms in my Dutch installation:



#3 - 07/04/2012 08:20 - Yannick Warnier

Bas Wijnen wrote:

I've written a patch for this a long time ago. I thought I had already posted it here, but apparently not. I've attached it now. It implements the first solution. I agree that the second solution is better, but something had to be done; the system was quite unusable with all the missing translations (in Dutch). I think I've translated most of them (or even all) as well, but I think I already sent them. Are there still many missing, or are they new strings?

The patch you attached fixes the surrounding quotes, but it doesn't prevent the problem of empty translations.

Julio, leave it on feedback assigned to me, I will make the relevant tests later on.

#4 - 19/05/2012 05:56 - Yannick Warnier

- Complexity changed from *Easy* to *Challenging*

#5 - 20/05/2012 03:09 - Yannick Warnier

- Status changed from *Needs more info* to *Bug resolved*

- Assignee changed from *Yannick Warnier* to *Bas Wijnen*

- % Done changed from *50* to *100*

OK, the problem with empty vars is definitely fixed. There is some kind of side-effect caused by the change of languages and the static language variables or some kind of caching: when changing the language, we have sometimes the names of the variables showing, and sometimes we have the [=] showing although the "hide markup" is set (but I just checked and this is due to the "test server mode" setting).

I think it's alright then. Closing. Thanks guys.

Files

noemptyvars.patch	932 Bytes	23/03/2012	Bas Wijnen
get_lang.png	13.8 KB	06/04/2012	Julio Montoya