

xtpplib

An XML processing library

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0 XML processing xtpplib library



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xtpplib is an open source library containing software for processing XML, using XSLT (2.0 and 3.0) and XProc (1.0 and 3.0). It consists of several separate components, all named `xtpplib-*`. Everything can be found on GitHub (<https://github.com/xatapult>). See its [description](#) for more information. Installation and usage instructions can be found [here](#).

The Xatapult XML Library currently consists of the following components:

Component	Description
xtpplib-common	Common component: Shared libraries and IDE support
xtpplib-container	Support for XML containers (multiple files wrapped into one)
xtpplib-xoffice	Conversions between Word/Excel and XML
xtpplib-xdoc	DocBook publication toolchain

1 Description

The **xtpplib** library is an open source library containing software for processing XML, using languages like XSLT and XProc. It consists of several separate **components**. I've tried to document everything on the accompanying GitHub pages.

Some highlights (the parts I use most often):

- The **xtpplib-common** component contains several **XSLT modules**. For instance:
 - **general.mod.xsl** contains a lot of small utility functions and templates. For instance capitalize a string, safe conversions from strings to other data types, etc.
 - **href.mod.xsl** is a library I use very often. It contains all kinds of href (filename or web address) juggling functions. For instance get the name/extension/path portion of an href, get/replace/delete its protocol, canonicalize an href (replace the . and . . parts, compute relative href-s, etc.
 - **parameters.mod.xsl** contains code for the general handling of parameters and the substitution of parameter values in texts. There is a separate **parameters documentation section** about this.
- The **<https://container.xtpplib.org/>** component contains code for handling *XML containers*: Constructs that provide support for working with multiple related files by wrapping them into a single one. Binary files are referenced instead of included. Also a very useful technique if you need to create a lot of files (like when you're generating a website).
- The **<https://xoffice.xtpplib.org/>** component contains an **XProc pipeline** for turning Excel sheets into much more legible and processable XML. This allows Excel to be used as a user interface to data-driven XML applications.
- The **xtpplib-xdoc** component contains a **toolchain** for DocBook driven documentation. Among its functionality are **pipelines** with mechanisms for generating DocBook from other markup. It also contains custom PDF and HTML generating.

2 Usage

2.1 Installing xtpplib components

To install an **xtpplib** component, first go to its documentation home page to find details about where it is on GitHub and the Git URI you need for cloning it:

Component	Description
xtpplib-common	Common component: Shared libraries and IDE support
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Then do one of the following:

- Clone its GitHub repository to some appropriate location on disk. The `master` branch will always contain the latest stable version.
- Or download the latest release zip from its git website ([releases page](#)) and unpack it somewhere.

That's all folks...

2.2 Running xtpplib components

xtpplib consists of XSLT (2.0 and 3.0) stylesheets and XProc (1.0 and 3.0) pipelines. To run these you'll need:

- **XSLT:**
To run XSLT stylesheets, the [Saxon](#) processor is preferred. In most cases the (open source) HE (Home Edition) version will be sufficient.
As an alternative, run the software from within the [oXygen XML IDE](#).
- **XProc 1.0:**
To run the XProc 1.0 pipelines, use the [XML Calabash](#) Xproc 1.0 processor. The `xtpplib` library uses several of its non-standard extensions, another XProc processor is therefore not (directly) usable.
As an alternative, run the software from within the [oXygen XML IDE](#).
WARNING: The XProc 1.0 pipelines are no longer actively maintained.
- **XProc 3.0:**
To run the XProc 3.0 pipelines, use the [MorganaXProc-III](#) processor. For some of the more advanced pipelines (mainly the ones in `xtpplib-xdoc`) you need the EE version, for which a license is required.