Ant task

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Table of contents

Apache FOP provides an Ant task for automating the document build process.

1. Description

The FOP Ant task will convert XSL-FO documents to PDF, PS, PCL etc. output (see Output formats for available formats).

To call FOP tasks within Ant, first add a FOP task definition to your Ant build file. One method of defining the task is as follows:

```
<property name="fop.home" value="....path to your FOP HOME directory..."/>

<taskdef name="fop"
         classname="org.apache.fop.tools.anttasks.Fop">
  <classpath>
    <fileset dir="${fop.home}/lib">
      <include name="*.jar"/>
    </fileset>
    <fileset dir="${fop.home}/build">
      <include name="fop.jar"/>
      <include name="fop-hyph.jar" />
    </fileset>
  </classpath>
</taskdef>
```

Then create FOP tasks within your Ant build file, using the FOP task parameters listed below.

2. Parameters for FOP Ant task

Attribute	Description	Required
fofile	XSL-FO file to be rendered	Yes, if no fileset nested element is used
outfile	Output filename	Yes, when fofile is used. (This attribute is not valid for filesets.)
format	Possible output formats: `application/X-fop-awt-pr` `application/X-fop-print` `application/X-fop-areatr` `application/pdf` `application/postscript` `application/mif` `application/rtf,` `text/richtext, text/rtf`	No, defaults to `application/pdf`

	application/x-pcl, application/vnd.hp-PCL application/x-afp, application/vnd.ibm.modc text/plain image/svg+xml image/gif image/png image/tiff	
outdir	Output directory	Required if a fileset is used to specify the files to render; optional for fofile. (Can alternatively specify the full path in the fofile value.)
force	Recreate target files, even if they are newer than their corresponding source files. Note: This attribute is available in post-0.20.5 versions (0.20.x nightly build and 1.0dev) only; target files are always generated (i.e., force=true) in 0.20.5 release.	No, default is `false`
basedir	Base directory to resolve relative references (e.g., graphics files) within the FO document.	No, for single FO File entry, default is to use the location of that FO file.
relativebase	For fileset usage only. A value of `true` specifies using the location of each .fo file as the base directory for resolving relative file references located within that .fo file. A value of `false` specifies using the value of basedir for all files within the fileset, or just the current working directory if basedir is not specified.	No, default is `false`.
userconfig	User configuration file (same as the FOP "-c" command line option).	No
messagelevel	Logging level Possible values: error, warn,	No, defaults to `verbose`

	`info`, `verbose`, `debug`. **Currently doesn't work in FOP Trunk!!!**	
logFiles	Controls whether the names of the files that are processed are logged (`true`) or not (`false`). **Currently doesn't work in FOP Trunk!!!**	No, default is `true`

Table 1: Parameters specified as attributes

Attribute	Description	Required
fileset	FileSets are used to specify multiple XSL-FO files to be rendered.	Yes, if no fofile attribute is supplied

Table 2: Parameters specified as nested elements

3. Examples

The following example converts a single XSL-FO file to a PDF document:

```
<target name="generate-pdf" description="Generates a single PDF file">
    <fop format="application/pdf"
        fofile="c:\working\foDirectory\foDocument.fo"
        outfile="c:\working\pdfDirectory\pdfDocument.pdf" />
</target>
```

This example converts all XSL-FO files within an entire directory to PostScript:

```
<target name="generate-multiple-ps"
        description="Generates multiple PostScript files">
    <fop format="application/postscript"
        outdir="${build.dir}" messagelevel="debug">
        <fileset dir="${fo.examples.dir}">
            <include name="*.fo"/>
        </fileset>
    </fop>
</target>
```