NewsPlugin

Generate a short headlines topic from a list of news

Introduction

The News plugin implements a simple "Headlines" view, or summary, of a list of news or a weblog. Add a %NEWS% variable in a news topic named Xxx to generate a headline topic named XxxHeadlines.

Syntax Rules

One enters news as items of a bulleted list in a single source topic, most recent first. If somewhere in the topic, the keyword %NEWS% appears, then a new topic is created with the first line of the most recent news. Ending punctuation is removed from the headlines for a sleeker look.

Recommended usage is to %INCLUDE% the generated topic in some panel in a front page, and put a "More..." link in it to the source topic. The %NEWS% variable can be set in an HTML comment to hide it in the source topic:

<!-- %NEWS% -->

To change the default, use the syntax %NEWS{parameter="value" ...} syntax with the following available parameters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>count</td>
<td>The number of headlines to keep. Defaults to 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pattern</td>
<td>Gives a (partial) regular expression pattern to use to extract the news items. This pattern must occur at the beginning of a line in order to select a news item. The headline then becomes everything following the pattern until the end of the line. Defaults to \t\s\s (i.e., a first-level bullet).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>postsep</td>
<td>Appends this text to each headline. Defaults to newline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prefix</td>
<td>This text will be prepended to the generated topic. Defaults to nothing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>presep</td>
<td>Prepend each headline with this text. Defaults to \t\s \s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suffix</td>
<td>This text will be appended to the generated topic. Defaults to nothing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>topic</td>
<td>Name of generated headlines topic. Defaults to the name of the source topic with Headlines appended to it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trim</td>
<td>If set to &quot;no&quot;, trailings punctuation marks (.,:;) are not removed from headlines. Defaults to &quot;yes&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples

Example: Set the prefix, presep, and suffix to produce an HTML unordered (bullet) list:

%NEWS{presep="<li>" prefix="<ul>" suffix="</ul>"}%

Example: If the topic MyCompanyNews contains:

%NEWS%

The great news plugin has been debugged
I think this is really needed,
I will try to keep it simple
Then on saving the topic `MyCompanyNewsHeadlines` will contain:

* NewsPlugin released - 18 Feb 2003
* NewsPlugin devel started - 02 Jan 2003

Example: This is the same example above, except the news headlines are specified as level-2 headings:

```text
%NEWS{pattern="---\+/+(!!)*"}%
The great news plugin has been debugged
I think this is really needed,
I will try to keep it simple
```

Then on saving the topic `MyCompanyNewsHeadlines` will contain:

* NewsPlugin released - 18 Feb 2003
* NewsPlugin devel started - 02 Jan 2003

**Plugin Settings**

Plugin settings are stored as preferences variables. To reference a plugin setting write `%<plugin>_<setting>%`, i.e. `%INTERWIKIPLUGIN_SHORTDESCRIPTION%`

- One line description, is shown in the TextFormattingRules topic:
  - Set SHORTDESCRIPTION = Generate a short headlines topic from a list of news

- Debug plugin: (See output in `data/debug.txt`)
  - Set DEBUG = 0

**Plugin Installation Instructions**

*Note:* You do not need to install anything on the browser to use this plugin. The following instructions are for the administrator who installs the plugin on the server where TWiki is running.

- Download the ZIP file from the Plugin web (see below)
- Unzip `NewsPlugin.zip` in your twiki installation directory. Content:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File:</th>
<th>Description:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>data/TWiki/NewsPlugin.txt</code></td>
<td>Plugin topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>lib/TWiki/Plugins/NewsPlugin.pm</code></td>
<td>Plugin Perl module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>data/Sandbox/NewsPluginExample.txt</code></td>
<td>Example news source topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>data/Sandbox/NewsPluginExampleHeadlines.txt</code></td>
<td>Example generated news headlines topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>data/Sandbox/NewsPluginExampleInclusion.txt</code></td>
<td>Example <code>%INCLUDE%</code> usage of a generated headlines topic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Test if the installation was successful:
  - see `NewsPluginExample`

**Plugin Info**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plugin Author:</th>
<th>TWiki:Main.ColasNahaboo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plugin Version:</td>
<td>2010-12-11 (V1.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change History:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2010-12-11: 1.6 TWikibug:Item6530: Doc improvements, changing TWIKIWEB to SYSTEMWEB

-- TWiki:Main.PeterThoeny

07 Feb 2006 1.5 Add "pattern" parameter.
20 Feb 2003 1.4 trim option for removing ending punctuation: . , ;
19 Feb 2003 1.3 small bugfix
17 Feb 2003 1.2 Initial version

TWiki:TWiki:Plugins::VERSION 1.1

Dependency:

CPAN: none

Dependencies:

Other: none

Dependencies:

Perl Version: 5.005

License: GPL (GNU General Public License)

Benchmarks: GoodStyle 100%, FormattedSearch 99%, NewsPlugin 100%

Plugin Home: http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/NewsPlugin

Feedback: http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/NewsPluginDev

Appraisal: http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/NewsPluginAppraisal

Related Topics: TWikiPreferences, TWikiPlugins

This topic: TWiki > NewsPlugin

Topic revision: r1 - 2010-12-12 - TWikiContributor

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Ideas, requests, problems regarding TWiki? Send feedback

Note: Please contribute updates to this topic on TWiki.org at TWiki:TWiki.NewsPlugin