Using the Literal Assistant

This chapter covers the following topics:

- About the Literal Assistant

- Opening the Literal Assistant

- Maintaining Literals

- Selecting Another Language

- Displaying a Comparison Language

About the Literal Assistant

The Literal Assistant can be used it to maintain texts of different languages for the literals that are referenced within the XML layout.

The concept of the multi language management is described in *Multi Language Management*. It is recommended that you read this information before you proceed with the information below.

Note:
Text can also be translated using the Literal Translator.
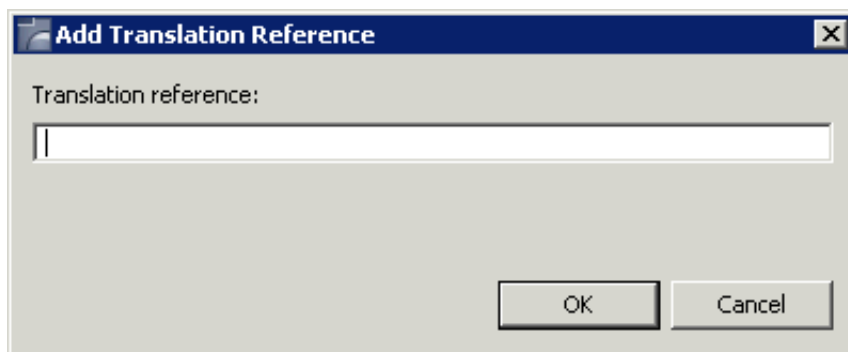
Opening the Literal Assistant

The Literal Assistant needs to know in which file the language-specific texts are kept. The name of this translation file is stored in the `translationreference` property of the page.

See also *Writing Multi Language Layouts* in *Multi Language Management*.

▶ **To open the Literal Assistant**

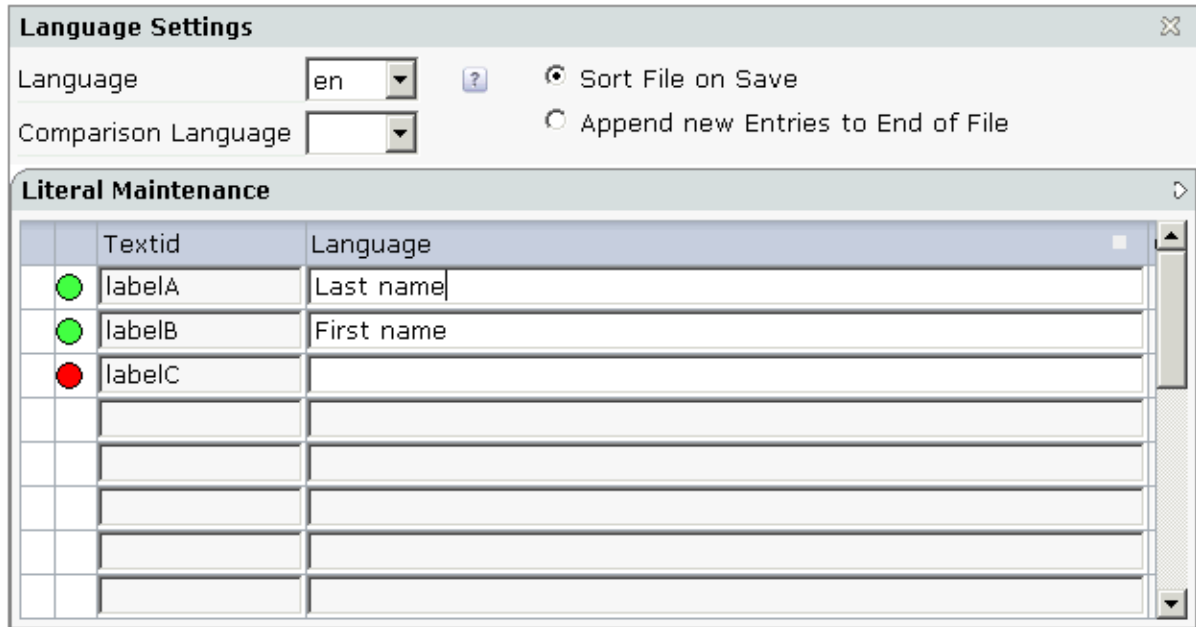1. From the **Application Designer** menu, choose **Literal Assistant**.

   When a translation file has not yet been specified, the following dialog box appears:

2. Specify the name of the translation file and choose the **OK** button.

   The name you specify is entered in the `translationreference` property.

   The Literal Assistant appears in the editor area.

Note:
For multi language support, you use the `textid` property for a label (instead of the `name` property).

Maintaining Literals

All referenced literals of the currently selected language are provided in the **Literal Maintenance** area.

Colored dots are shown in front of each literal. The color of the dot indicates whether the Literal Assistant could find the corresponding text in the translation file for the currently selected language.

Possible dot colors:

Green	A text is available in the translation file.
Yellow	The translation file contains a line for the literal - but the text is empty.
Red	The literal (and text) does not yet exist in the translation file.

When you select the first column (that is, the column to the left of the colored dot), the corresponding node is automatically selected in the layout tree and the properties for this node are shown in the **Properties** view.

▶ **To add/modify text for the current language**

1. Enter all required text in the **Language** column.

2. Define the sequence of the entries in the translation file by selecting one of the following option buttons:

   - **Sort File on Save** (ascending order)

   - **Append new Entries to End of File**

3. Choose the standard Eclipse **Save** command to save your text input.

   Your changes will also be available in the preview of the HTML page.

Selecting Another Language

The valid languages are determined by the existing subdirectories in the *multilanguage* directory which belongs to your user interface component. An entry for each subdirectory is provided in the **Language** drop-down list box.

Note:
You may have to choose the **Refresh Preview** command to refresh the Literal Assistant so that any subdirectories you have just defined in your file system are shown in the drop-down list box.

▶ **To select another language**

- From the **Language** drop-down list box, select the required language.

  When you have not yet saved your previous changes, a dialog appears asking whether you want to save your changes.

  Important:
  The Literal Assistant keeps changes for one language only. If you want to maintain texts for several languages, save the changes before you switch to another language. Otherwise, you will lose input.

  The selected language is shown in the **Language** column of the table.

Displaying a Comparison Language

For comparison purposes, you can display the texts of another translation file in the **Comparison Language** column. The **Comparison Language** drop-down list box contains an entry for each subdirectory in the *multilanguage* directory which belongs to your user interface component.

▶ **To display another language for comparison**

- From the **Comparison Language** drop-down list box, select the required language.

  The selected language is shown in the **Comparison Language** column of the table.