

Using the Literal Assistant

The Literal Assistant is part of the Layout Painter. You can use 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.

The following topics are covered:

- Translation File
- Opening the Literal Assistant
- Maintaining Literals
- Selecting Another Language
- Displaying a Comparison Language

Note:

Text can also be translated using the Literal Translator.

Translation File

The Literal Assistant needs to know in which file the language-specific texts are kept. Before you open the Literal Assistant, make sure that the `translationreference` property of the page contains the name for your translation file. By default, this property is empty.

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

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

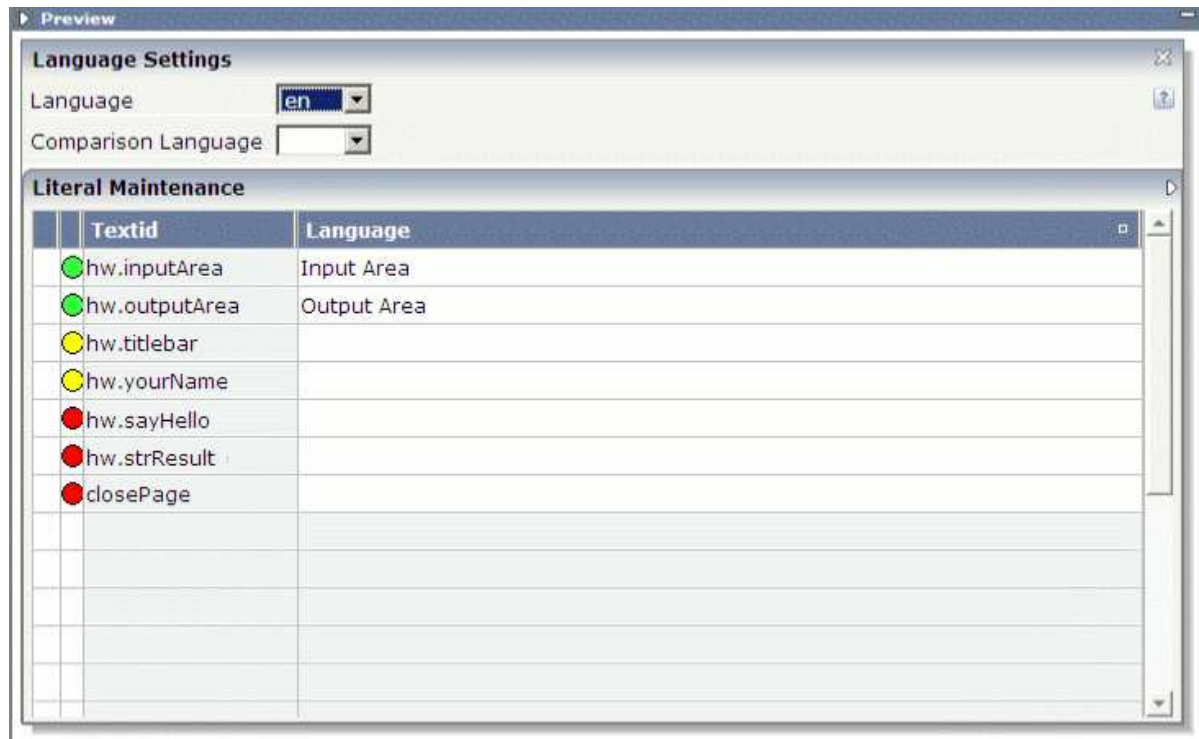
Opening the Literal Assistant

When you open the Literal Assistant for the first time, a message appears in the status bar indicating that the Literal Assistant is not available. In this case, you have to specify the name of the translation file as described above.

To open the Literal Assistant

- From the **Tools** tab of the Layout Painter, choose **Literal Assistant**.

When the translation file can be found, the Literal Assistant is shown in the preview area. For example:



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 area.

▶ To add/modify text for the current language

1. Enter all required text in the **Language** column.
2. Choose the **Save** command to save your text input.

The red and yellow dots change to green, and the added/modified text is shown in the **File Content** area at the right. The translation file that is written back to the file system is sorted in ascending order.

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 directory *<your-project>/multilanguage*. An entry for each subdirectory is provided in the **Language** drop-down list box.

Note:

You may have to choose the **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 *<your-project>/multilanguage* directory.

▶ 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.