Data Channels

Data channels create a named pipe to run profiles from user space. One channel per line. Each line is comma delimited and contain channel name, domain, profile, allowed groups.

You use them with PluginDataChannel. Starting in Tiki6, a payment parameter can be added and thus, the data channel will only be run when the payment is done.

Please see: http://profiles.tiki.org/Data+Channels

A good example is http://profiles.tiki.org/Project_Management

1.1. Usage with trackerfilter/trackerlists

The idea of it is to let you set up a trackerfilter/trackerlist with checkboxes, let the user select the ones they want, and then run a datachannel (profile) on each item.

Example:

Test page

1.1.1. Tracker list multi select tester

```plaintext
{trackerfilter filters="2/d:3/d:4/d" noflipflop="y" trackerId="1" fields="2:3:4:5"
other_filters="1" checkbox="0/itemId" wiki="tracker checkbox test tpl"}

---

{DATACHANNEL(channel="test_channel" emptyCache="none")}
itemId,external=input[name='itemId[]']:checked
surname,external=input[name='surname[]']
forename,external=input[name='forename[]']
{DATACHannel}

Pretty tracker template: tracker checkbox test tpl

1.1.2. tracker checkbox test tpl

```{if $checkbox}
{$item.field_values[$checkbox.ix].value|escape}
<input type="{$checkbox.type}" name="{$checkbox.name[]}" value="{$if $checkbox.ix > -1}{$item.field_values[$checkbox.ix].value|escape}{else}{$item.itemId}{/if}" />
{else}
<input type="hidden" name="surname[{$item.itemId}]" value="{$f_3}" />
<input type="hidden" name="forename[{$item.itemId}]" value="{$f_4}" />
```
Note
You need is_html enabled and HTMLPurify off at the moment (as of August 2010) for the hidden inputs to work in this example. Could be replaced by {HTML} or some other plugins probably.

1.2. Example usage with hidden fields and Tracker plugin

I show this example because external fields only seem to work with tracker fields of type text, not drop-downs.
Tracker number and field numbers need to be adapted to your Tiki site.

This data channel will show how to create a tracker item and a group and a wiki page which shows the tracker item.

1.2.1. Create Tracker 2

Fields

- Field 5 (Town) is of type "text" (this would also work with the external data channel field syntax)
- Field 6 (Country) is of type "Country selector", which looks like a Drop-down
- Field 7 (Continent) is of type "Drop-down"

Gory details of fields extraction

1.2.2. Create data channel

Create Data channel in Admin → Admin Home → Profiles → Advanced

```
New_Town,tiki://local,template_Add_New_Town,Admins
```

This creates a data channel which only admins can use.

1.2.3. The page which calls the data channel

This contains the Tracker plugin, the datachannels plugin and the JQ plugin which binds them together

```
Create New Town
-=Create New Town=-

{tracker trackerId="2" fields="5:6:7" showtitle="n" formtag="n"}

{DATACHANNEL(channel="New_Town" buttonLabel="Create" class="channel" debug="y" )}
Town,hidden=
Country,hidden=
Continent,hidden=
{DATACHANNEL}

{JQ()}
```
The JQ plugin will need approval

View details → Approve

1.2.4. The page which contains the data channel code

```yaml
template_Add_New_Town
This is the template for the data channel

{CODE(caption="YAML" wrap="1" colors="yaml")}
mappings: #Rename variable for permissions (aka groups)
  varNameTown: $profilerequest:Town$Unnamed Town$
permissions: #Creates a group named after the Town name, with options
  varNameTown:
    autojoin: n
    description: $profilerequest:Continent$ $ - $profilerequest:Country$ $ #The group
description uses other variables
  objects:
    -
      type: group
      id: varNameTown
      allow: #Permissions of group varNameTown
        - group_view
        - group_view_members
        - group_add_member
        - group_remove_member
        - group_join
  objects:
    -
      type: tracker_item # Create the tracker item
      ref: town_file_id # This is how we reference the tracker item from within the wiki page
data:
      tracker: 2
      status: open
      values:
        - [ 5, $profilerequest:Town$Unnamed Town$ ]
        - [ 6, $profilerequest:Country$ ]
```
1.3. The page which contains the template for the wiki page which is created with the data channel

This is just to illustrate the use of references.

```
|template_Town_Page
-=Town $profilerequest:Town$Unnamed Town$=-

Blah blah
{trackerlist trackerId="2" itemId="$profileobject:town_file_id$"}

More text
```

alias
data channel | datachannel | DataChannels