

## Kepler - Bug #5069

### The ability to create user manuals from a wiki that is continuously updated.

06/30/2010 08:47 PM - David Welker

<b>Status:</b>	New	<b>Start date:</b>	06/30/2010
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	David Welker	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>	general	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>	2.X.Y	<b>Spent time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Bugzilla-Id:</b>	5069		
<b>Description</b>			
(5) The ability to create user manuals from a wiki that is continuously updated.			
Currently, our user manual is produced from a document in the Microsoft Word document. This makes it inconvenient to update a version of the manual that reflects the most recent versions. As a result, the manual tends to be updated all at once during a release and probably is not as good as it could otherwise be. Also, being able to read the manual off the web and not just in PDF format would be very convenient for users as well.			
<b>Related issues:</b>			
Blocked by Kepler - Bug #5064: Kepler 2.1 Tracking Bug		<b>New</b>	<b>06/30/2010</b>

#### History

##### #1 - 07/06/2010 06:40 PM - Christopher Brooks

I agree that making it easier for developers to update documentation is an excellent goal. However, it is fairly difficult to do and requires quite a bit of effort.

I'm not so sure wiki pages are the right solution because wiki pages heavily hyperlinked and dependent on being on-line. Edward Lee is working on a system that uses LaTeX to generate pdfs that are suitable for printing or for viewing on a computer. The computer viewable pdfs have links to JNLP versions of Ptolemy models. There are likely other online systems that generate printable files and on-line files.

Moving away from Word to LaTeX or anything else would be preferred. A review of what's out there would be a good start.

To close this feature request, we would need a system that would generate something like the current Kepler printed documentation. Such a system should be easy for developers to use. Ideally, it would use pre-existing software as opposed to being developed in-house.

I'm marking this as an enhancement and estimating 200 hours, feel free to change.

##### #2 - 07/14/2010 10:24 AM - Matt Jones

LT discussion: this is important, should probably be in a more standard markup like LaTeX or RST, and we can generate wiki content from that (rather than the other way around).

##### #3 - 07/22/2010 10:52 AM - ben leinfelder

1 vote for LaTeX:

Jim Regetz and I converted the Morpho user guide from Word to LaTeX - seems much more manageable than the Word version. We've not looked into generating online materials (other than a PDF).

##### #4 - 03/27/2013 02:29 PM - Redmine Admin

Original Bugzilla ID was 5069