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Subject: Re: user defined idl\_catalog.xml  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 17:25:44 GMT  
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On Sat, 23 Sep 2006 10:32:26 -0400, sebinjapan wrote:

- > thank you for your quick response,
- >
- > Yes I provide my source code so I could add something like
- > ;; %%%HTML-HELP%% /path/to/html/help/file.html
- > but I agree with mike
- > - that's not so convenient when file location change

It could be a relative file, like ../../help/file.html, but I agree this is somewhat fragile. Then again, somehow, somewhere, you must specify the location of these files, or the IDL Assistant couldn't find them.

- > - idldoc provides great html files with anchors for each keywords etc...
- > that could not be used efficiently.

Aha, I hadn't realized this. So probably the XML route is preferred.

- > I made some screenshots to give you a quick overview of what I am talking
- > about:
- > - the home page of my merged online\_help (my package is called SAXO)
- > [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online\\_help\\_home.png](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online_help_home.png)
- > - the result of IDL> ?monthname (see that monthname is listed within IDL
- > documentation files)
- > [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online\\_help\\_index.png](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online_help_index.png)
- > - the result of a search of contour (see that idl\_assistant found
- > occurrences in both IDL and my own files)
- > [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figng/online\\_help\\_search.png](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figng/online_help_search.png)
- > - browse additional html documentation files (created by hand to give a
- > full review of a specific routine)
- > [http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online\\_help\\_doc.png](http://forge.ipsl.jussieu.fr/saxo/download/xmlldoc/figpng/online_help_doc.png)

Very nice. When you merge your ADP files, do your HTML files go in !DIR/help/online\_help too? How do you use things if you don't merge your ADP files? How does the assistant know where to find your HTML files?

JD

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