

ToiletPaper #153

JXLS – Generating Excel files easily

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✗ Problem

You want to generate Excel files in your desired format from the Java backend without being or becoming an *Apache POI* expert?

✓ Solution

Using the Java library JXLS, Excel files with a special markup can be used as a template to generate Excel files with data from the backend in a comparatively simple way.

➔ Example

You want to generate a sales overview with the following backend details for Excel:

```
interface RevenueDetails {  
    String getCustomerId();  
    BigDecimal getRevenue();  
    int getOrderCount();  
};
```

The template for the desired format, including the JXLS markup, is generated in Excel.

The following code then generates an Excel file from the backend data and adapts the template's formulas to the rows:

```
final Iterable<RevenueDetails> revenueDetails = getRevenueDetails();  
try (InputStream is = JxlsExcelWriter.class.getResourceAsStream("template.xlsx")) {  
    try (OutputStream os = new FileOutputStream("target/revenue-details.xlsx")) {  
        final var context = new Context();  
        context.putVar("entries", revenueDetails);  
        JxlsHelper.getInstance().processTemplate(is, os, context);  
    }  
}
```

+ Further Aspects

- JXLS: <http://jxls.sourceforge.net/index.html>
- Apache POI: <https://poi.apache.org/>