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patForms Gettext Patch

Usually i18n and multi language support is not a big issue in web business. Even if web-sites seem to be global players, most of them get along with support for very few languages. patForms for example comes with support for English, French and German and therefore covers pretty much everything I ever wanted.

On the contrary non-French, non-English and non-Germans may blame patForms for lack of support for Danish, Swedish, Spanish, Russian etc. Rightly, I suppose. Unfortunately, the supported languages are within the form elements and rules. Hence it would mean to change a lot of files (classes) to simply add another language's messages. Knowing that we started to introduce support for external translation tables - stored in ini-files.

Another idea was to use the PHP Gettext extension which should be available on most servers. The two major advantages of this method are: (1) You simply don't have to bother about NLS (native language support) while you write some geek patForm rules or element. (2) Gettext is widely spread and comes with a bunch of tools to extract translatable strings and maintain translation tables. This makes it fairly simple to add support for additional languages like Spanish, Danish and even Gungan.

So far, patForms does not use Gettext. Still, I created a patch which works extremely well. I love to invite you to test this patch and and tell me what you think about patForms using Gettext. Please also tell me your opinion whether we should move to Gettext for the next release of patForms.

Download:

- Zip file: [patForms-Gettext.zip](#) 512 kByte
- Tar Bz2 archive: [patForms-Gettext.tar.bz2](#) 188 kByte

Checkout from our Subversion repository

```
$ svn co http://www.php-tools.net/svn/patForms/branches/gettext/
```

Links:

- [PHP Gettext](#)
- [GNU Gettext](#)
- Translation editor [PO Edit](#), [KBabel](#)

Posted by gERD in PHP at 20:10