

Web Client Utils - Feature #306

add a method by which you can add a class identifier to an element

05/23/2011 04:59 PM - Wouter Moerdijk

Status:	Closed	Start date:	05/23/2011
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:		% Done:	0%
Category:		Estimated time:	0.00 hour
Target version:			
Browser (if web client):			

Description

It would be great if you can add a class identifier as a sting value to an element. This would allow for clientside scripts to target a group of elements that have the same classname. As an example we could have something like:

```
plugins.WebClientUtils.setClassIdentifier(elements.yourElement, 'classname string');
```

which would turn a tag like:

```
<div id="sv_79E3F5AB_96ED_4AD2_8CD4_14BBADBB0AE2" class="tabpanel" tabindex="-1" style="...">
```

into:

```
<div id="sv_79E3F5AB_96ED_4AD2_8CD4_14BBADBB0AE2" class="tabpanel myclassname1" tabindex="-1" style="...">
```

The user-set 'myclassname1' can then be used to target all elements with that classname. -> e.g. "make all elements with class 'myclassname1' 80 pixels wide" = `$('.myclassname1').css('width','80px');`

History

#1 - 05/25/2011 11:03 AM - P Bakker

If this gets added to the plugin, it's vital to point out that the classnames that users add with it need to be properly made unique, in order to prevent clashes with current and future styleclassnames used by Servoy.

P.

#2 - 05/25/2011 11:49 AM - Wouter Moerdijk

This does not have to be a problem because the class would only be used to target the element. If - even in the future - Servoy uses the same classname, you can still target it in the same way.

If Servoy on the other hand is worried about this your could also create your own attribute. This might even be better since you can have an attribute-type reperesent what you want to do.

For example:

```
plugins.WebClientUtils.setAttribute(elements.yourElement, 'solutionID','12345');
plugins.WebClientUtils.setAttribute(elements.yourElement, 'solutionClass','myClassName1');
```

Would generate:

```
<div id="sv_79E3F5AB_96ED_4AD2_8CD4_14BBADBB0AE2" class="tabpanel" solutionID="12345" solutionClass="myClassName1"
tabindex="-1" style="...">
```

and can be targeted like:

```
$("#[solutionID=12345]").css('width','80px');
```

This way you do not touch either the 'id' or the 'class' attribute.

#3 - 05/25/2011 02:01 PM - Patrick Talbot

Beware that when you create 'special' attributes like this, then your HTML will not validate.

#4 - 05/25/2011 02:25 PM - Wouter Moerdijk

It does not validate because W3C might come up with a new attribute and that might break your code. That said html5 is going to provide a data attribute type for legal custom attributes (like data-myattr="foo") so maybe we could use that now and be safe from future name collisions. Other than that I do not see the problem with the validation.

#5 - 05/25/2011 02:57 PM - Patrick Talbot

Validation is especially important for SEO, so it will clearly be an issue for some. As a general rule, inventing new HTML attribute is a very bad idea.

#6 - 05/25/2011 10:54 PM - Wouter Moerdijk

Ok, so taking both considerations into account (unique futureproof classnames + strict validation) you would end-up with a function to add a custom classname AND prefix it by default with a string that will make it unique for any future Servoy versions. So

```
plugins.WebClientUtils.setClassIdentifier(elements.yourElement, 'myClassName1'); (my initial example)
```

can be transformed into

```
<div id="..." class="field WebClientUtils_myClassName1"></div>
```

#7 - 05/27/2011 05:28 PM - Patrick Talbot

- *Status changed from New to Closed*

setExtraCssClass() and removeCssClass() methods added to v1.1.3