



Customizing Liferay with Hooks and other Plugins

■ EXT

- Large size
- Monolithic
- Portal class loader
- Customize anything
- Upgrades are difficult

■ Plugins

- Small size
- Different types
- Plugin class loader
- Customize predefined
- Upgrades are easy

- Plugins
 - Portlets
 - Themes
 - Layout templates
 - Hooks
 - Webs

- Hot deployable
 - Changes are made available as soon as they are deployed
 - Changes are removed as soon as they are undeployed
- Useful as a light weight customization archive
 - Seven Cogs
 - Social Office

- Create `/WEB-INF/liferay-hook.xml` as defined in `liferay-hook-*.dtd`
- Four elements
 - `portal-properties`
 - `language-properties`
 - `custom-jsp-dir`
 - `service`

- portal-properties
 - Limited set defined in DTD that are most popular and applicable
 - Simple values are overwritten
 - List values are appended
 - Events, model listeners
 - Events
 - Startup, service, login, logout, etc
 - Model listeners

- language-properties
 - DTD allows for multiple entries so that you can modify language bundles per country and per key
 - Specify a bundle with a language code
 - Overlays existing language bundles

- custom-jsp-dir
 - Override JSPs in the portal
 - Changes are reversed when undeployed
 - Copies existing xxx.jsp to xxx.portal.jsp
 - Use liferay-util:buffer to minimize upgrade headaches when customizing a JSP
 - Certain portlets have *-ext.jsp patterns already

- service
 - Override services
 - Override entity models
 - Accessible from Web Content

- Limits
 - Order is not guaranteed
 - Use multiple hooks with caution
- Road map
 - More portal.properties keys
 - Struts actions

- EXT allows native access to portal class loader
- Plugins can also access the portal class loader via PortalClassInvoker
- Plugins can access other plugins via PortletClassInvoker
- ServiceBuilder simplifies class loading issues
- MessageBus bypasses class loading issues



Q&A

Brian Chan

Chief Software Architect

Liferay, Inc.

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bchan@liferay.com