



Blesta Export Documentation

Note: Last Updated May 1, 2008. This document intended for use with Blesta v. 1.3.0+.

Introduction:

The export library grants developers the ability to create custom export file formats to fit their unique requirements. Supplied with Blesta is the standard CSV file format export. The CSV format is one of the most common file formats for data but your system may not support it, and if that is the case, this document should help you get your data into the correct format.

Every export format file must have the following basic structure:

```
<?php
/*****
 @name CSV
 @author Cody Phillips
 @date February 28, 2008
 @version 1.0
 @notes For use with Blesta version 1.3.0+
 *****/
include(ROOTWEBDIR . "inc/export.class.php");

class csv extends AbstractExport {
    private $filename;

    public function __construct() {
        $this->filename = null;
    }

    public function __destruct() {
    }

    public function main($vars) {
    }
}
?>
```

Please note the comments at the top of this file. Your file comments should appear in a similar fashion. The text: "@name CSV" gives this export a name that appears as "CSV" from within Blesta. You should save your file format class with the following naming convention in /exports/: format.class.php

Now, when this file format class is instantiated Blesta will immediately execute main(). The data passed into main() consists of an array that is used primarily by the export library in constructing the data, and this information may change in the future so it is not recommended that you rely upon it for any reason.

Finally, the last thing to do is fill in your main() function. This should contain, at the very least, function calls to the export library's getData, writeFile, readFile, and removeFile methods. For examples in using these methods see the CSV export example included in /exports/csv.class.php of your Blesta installation.

Below are the methods available when extending the AbstractExport class.

Available Methods:

getData
getExportTypes
getFormat
readFile
removeFile
writeFile

Method Descriptions:

* denotes export type specific

getData(\$vars) – Get export data based upon the given input.

Input:

Array, exactly as it was passed into your main() function.

Returns:

```
Array (
  [cols] => Array (
    *[0] => Column Title
    ...
  )
  [rows] => Array (
    [0] => Array (
      *[0] => Data
      ...
    )
    ...
  )
)
```

Definition:

[cols] – An array of columns containing the language for each of the column headings.

[rows] – A two dimensional array. The first dimension contains an index for every row of data, and each row of data contains an array of data with respect to each of the columns. For example, [rows][i][4] is the data for the i-th row of column [cols][4].

getExportTypes() – Get all available export types and their data formats.

Returns:

```
Array (
  [trx_received] => Array (
    [0] => Array (
      *[name] => transid
      *[type] => varchar(255)
    )
    ...
  )
  ...
)
```

Definition:

[name] – The name of this field.

[type] – The data type of this element.

Note:

The array returned by this function contains a number of different indexes in the first dimension which may depend on your version of Blesta.

getFormat(\$vars) – Get a specific export’s data format.

Input:

Array, exactly as it was passed into your main() function.

Returns:

```
Array (
    [0] => Array (
        * [name] => transid
        * [type] => varchar(255)
    )
    ...
)
```

Definition:

[name] – The name of this field.

[type] – The data type of this element.

Note:

This method is useful for determining if a selected export is supported by your file format. If the data does not meet your requirements you can reject it by throwing an exception:

```
throw new Exception(EXPORT_INVALIDFORMAT);
```

readFile(\$fileName) – Writes the given file to the output buffer.

Input:

The name of your formatted file. All files are created and stored in the temp directory defined in Tools -> Settings of Blesta.

Returns:

NULL

removeFile(\$fileName) – Removes the given file from the file system.

Input:

The name of your formatted file. All files are created and stored in the temp directory defined in Tools -> Settings of Blesta.

Returns:

NULL

writeFile(\$fileName, \$data) – Creates a file with the given file name and data.

Returns:

NULL

Definition:

fileName – Name of the file.

data – String containing the data to be written to the file.

Notes:

All files are created and stored in the temp directory defined in Tools -> Settings of Blesta.