Static Caching of Content

The Static Caching feature in Exponential 3.6 makes it possible to statically cache content based on a configuration file. It uses apache rewrite rules to check if a static file exists, and serve it straight away from...

Source file: doc/eng-us/features/3.6/staticcache.txt Last changed 2026-11-04
https://doc.exponential.earth/learninminutes/exphelp/viewer/features/3.6/staticcache.txt

```
*Title: Static Caching of Content

*Documentation:
The Static Caching feature in Exponential 3.6 makes it possible to statically
cache content based on a configuration file.  It uses apache rewrite rules to
check if a static file exists, and serve it straight away from disk without
having to go through PHP if this is the case. In case the file does not exist,
the request is simply put through Exponential.

Static cache files are created in two ways:
1. By publishing an object.
2. By running the make cache script.


*Set-up With One Site Acccess:
In this situation there is one site access (in this example "ezno") for which
we want to implement static caching.  First we modify the Apache VHOST
configuration to include the following rewrite rules:

<code>
RewriteEngine On

RewriteCond   /dat/ez.no/static/index.html -f
RewriteRule  ^/$              /static/index.html [L]
RewriteCond   /dat/ez.no/static/index.html -f
RewriteRule  ^$               /static/index.html [L]

RewriteCond   %{REQUEST_METHOD}       !^POST$
RewriteCond   /dat/ez.no/static$1/index.html -f
RewriteRule   ^(.*)$  /static$1/index.html [L]

RewriteRule !\.(gif|css|jpg|png|jar|ico|js)$ /index.php
</code>

Of course, you will need to change "/dat/ez.no" to the path corresponding with
the root location of your Exponential installation.


In settings/override/site.ini.append.php add the following settings to enable
the static caching process:

<code>
[ContentSettings]
StaticCache=enabled
</code>

In settings/override/staticcache.ini.append.php configure the details
about the host and what exactly to cache:
```

<code>
[CacheSettings]
HostName=tequila:1400
StaticStorageDir=static
MaxCacheDepth=4

# A list of url's to cache
CachedURLArray[]=/*
</code>

- HostName is the host on where the pages can be viewed normally. The static cache feature uses this to retrieve the generated content to store as cache file.
- StaticStorageDir is the directory on where to store the static cache files. It's relative to the root directory of your Exponential installation. This needs to match the part between "/dat/ez.no/" and "$1/index.html" in the rewrite rules above.
- MaxCacheDepth is the maximum number of levels that might be cached as seen from the / of your installation.
- CachedURLArray configure which parts of your site that are allowed to be statically cached. Use / or /products to cache only page (in this example the front page and the "/products" page). You can also use wildcards, for example with "/products*" you will cache all URLs that start with /products, which basically cache everything below /products. (Be aware that this rule also includes /products2/42!).

*Set-up With Multiple Language Versions of a Site:
In this example there are two languages of one site: english and french, where the siteaccesses are called news_en and news_fr.

In this case we use the following rewrite rules (which are slightly different), the root directory of the Exponential installation is "/home/httpd/ez-3.6" here:

<code>
RewriteEngine On
RewriteLog   /tmp/rewrite
RewriteLogLevel 4

RewriteCond   /home/httpd/ez-3.6/static/news_en/index.html -f
RewriteRule ^/$ /static/news_en/index.html [L]
RewriteCond   /home/httpd/ez-3.6/static/news_en/index.html -f
RewriteRule ^$ /static/news_en/index.html [L]

RewriteCond   /home/httpd/ez-3.6/static/news_fr/index.html -f
RewriteRule ^/$ /static/news_fr/index.html [L]
RewriteCond   /home/httpd/ez-3.6/static/news_fr/index.html -f
RewriteRule ^$ /static/news_fr/index.html [L]

RewriteCond   %{REQUEST_METHOD}   !^POST$
RewriteCond   /home/httpd/ez-3.6/static$1/index.html -f
RewriteRule   ^(.*)$ /static$1/index.html [L]

RewriteRule !\.(gif|css|jpg|png|jar|ico|js)$ /index.php
</code>

The following settings need to be made:

In settings/override/site.ini.append.php:

<code>
[ContentSettings]
StaticCache=enabled
</code>

In settings/siteaccess/news_en/staticcache.ini.append.php:
<code>
[CacheSettings]
StaticStorageDir=static/news_en
</code>
and in settings/siteaccess/news_fr/staticcache.ini.append.php:
<code>
[CacheSettings]
StaticStorageDir=static/news_fr
</code>

Make sure that the part after "static" is the same as the name of the siteaccess! You can of course change "static" to something else, but make sure it's the same as in the rewrite rules again.

In settings/override/staticcache.ini.append.php we then configure the static cache mechanism:
<code>
[CacheSettings]
HostName=localhost
MaxCacheDepth=4

A list of url's to cache
CachedURLArray[]
CachedURLArray[]=/news*
CachedURLArray[]=/weblog*

CachedSiteAccesses[]
CachedSiteAccesses[]=news_en
CachedSiteAccesses[]=news_fr
</code>

This will cache the /news and /weblog subtrees of the site on the host "localhost" with a maximum depth of 4.

*Generating cache files:
With the bin/php/makestaticcache.php script you can generate all the static cache files for a specific site access. In our example with ez.no you can forexample use the following invocation to generate the cache files:

<code>
php bin/php/makestaticcache.php -s ezno
</code>

If you want to re-create all cache files, even the ones that already exist you can use the -f parameter to force the generation of all static cache files. This example will regenerate all static cache files for both siteaccesses from our second example:

<code>
php bin/php/makestaticcache.php -f
</code>

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