Cradle-7
From concept to creation...

3SL

Cradle-WEBP

The **Cradle-WEBP** module publishes sections of Cradle databases as fully hyperlinked, standalone, websites that can be viewed independently of Cradle.

In general, users will access a Cradle database through a Cradle web UI or a non-web UI such as WorkBench.

There are situations where direct access is not possible, particularly if the users are remote from the database and do not have any external electronic access, or if the data is classified and cannot be sent across a public network, such as the Internet, even if the connections are secured.

In such cases, database information is normally published into one or more documents that are provided to the external users. This works well, except that documents are linear, a sequence of pages, and it is not always easy to explore their contents. This is particularly true for analysis and design models where there are many connections between the models' components, and also when following cross references between items.

The Web Publisher tool generates a static website containing some or all of the items in a database. This website contains three types of page:

- A top-level page
- Pages containing lists of each item type that has been published
- Individual pages for each item

The pages for individual items contains lists of links to related items of each type, grouped by the type of cross reference.

Diagrams are published as SVG so they can be zoomed, panned and scrolled. All diagram symbols are hyperlinked to lower-level diagrams and to the symbols' descriptions in specifications and data definitions.

So the pages for individual items are connected by hyperlinks in the same way that the database items are connected by cross references.

Users can follow these hyperlinks to explore the information in any way that is convenient to them.

By being static, the website is fully independent of Cradle. By being read-only, the websites can be distributed on CD or DVD. In effect, the website is a self-contained snapshot of the parts of the database that you have chosen to publish.

User-defined criteria specify the item types, and items of these types, to be published from the database. The form and content of the website's main page can be controlled with a user-defined template. The tables for each item type have user-defined columns and contain any attributes. The pages for items have individual user-defined templates so that the layout and attributes to be published can be controlled.

Collectively these templates are called a theme.

Several themes are provided with Web Publisher. You can create your own themes to include your company or project logos and branding.

Items in a Cradle database can contain any number of attributes of a wide variety of types, including URLs. So any item in Cradle can contain URLs that link it to other resources, either on

WEBP
Web
Publishing

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the Internet, an intranet, or data in another environment.

You can include these URL attributes in your templates for the Web Publisher. By doing so, the pages published by the Web Publisher will contain these URLs so that a user browsing the published website can follow the URLs to access the related information, wherever it may be.

Websites are published into a user-defined top-level file and a directory containing all other pages. It is easy to link the generated site into a larger set of information, including any site-specific modifications to the hyperlink URLs.

Different baselines, or work-in-progress, can be published to separate websites, for comparison between approved and current activities.

Feature Summary

Feature	Benefits
Controllable website contents	Generate website with just the content required
Controllable website data ownership	Report either the baselined information, or work-in-progress, or the latest of both
Tabular item lists	All item types are published as navigable tables with controllable attributes and column widths, all table cells are hyperlinked to the corresponding item definitions
Hyperlinks	Follow cross references between project data items by selecting the corresponding hyperlinks in the published website
SVG graphics	Allows panning, scaling and zooming of diagrams
Models are fully hyperlinked	All diagram symbols are hyperlinked to their corresponding definitions, and are also hyperlinked to their child (expansion) diagrams - where appropriate
Full color and image support	All embedded pictures, images and symbol colors are reproduced in the final website
External hyperlinks	Link the generated website into web outputs from other tools, or into pages in an existing site or intranet
Automatic page controls	All generated pages automatically contain site navigation and print controls, allowing users to easily browse the published material
Controllable main HTML page and contents subdirectory	Generate multiple website components for different sections of the database and combine them into an overall project website
Customizable HTML layouts	Publish just the data required in any desired layout
Hierarchical HTML style templates	Define an overall look for the published database from corporate or project standards and reflect throughout the published websites
Pre-production and production sites	Publish either to a pre-production area, or to a production website, with automated redirection of external hyperlinks

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