

## Redmine - Patch #21256

### Use CSS instead of image\_tag() to show icons for better theming support

2015-11-17 15:32 - Daniel Ritz

<b>Status:</b> Closed	<b>Start date:</b>
<b>Priority:</b> Normal	<b>Due date:</b>
<b>Assignee:</b> Jean-Philippe Lang	<b>% Done:</b> 0%
<b>Category:</b> Code cleanup/refactoring	<b>Estimated time:</b> 0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b> 3.3.0	
<b>Description</b>	
Replaces all uses of image_tag() to render icons with icon-* definitions. This makes is possible to replace all these icons with Font-based icons, e.g. FontAwesome.	
This is split from #21245. Based on r14882, everything passes "rake test" and is tested in Firefox 42, Safari 9 and Chrome 46.	
<b>Related issues:</b>	
Related to Redmine - Patch # 21257: Use PDF icon for "Also available in PDF"	<b>New</b>
Related to Redmine - Defect # 31510: Fix missing closing tags in workflows/pe...	<b>Closed</b>
Duplicated by Redmine - Patch # 21245: UI/CSS refinements, part 1	<b>Closed</b>

#### Associated revisions

##### Revision 15068 - 2016-01-20 09:50 - Jean-Philippe Lang

Replace uses of image\_tag() with CSS (#21256).

- Replace image\_tag() with CSS classes
- Create some CSS classes where necessary
- Change "check all" positioned on the right in "Trackers -> Summary" and "Roles -> Permissions report" instead of left like in "Workflow"
- Add missing title attribute in a few places
- Makes some lines shorter while at it

Patch by Daniel Ritz.

#### History

##### #1 - 2015-11-20 02:22 - Go MAEDA

- Duplicated by Patch #21245: UI/CSS refinements, part 1 added

##### #2 - 2015-12-17 11:38 - Toshi MARUYAMA

Daniel Ritz wrote:

Replaces all uses of image\_tag() to render icons with icon-\* definitions. This makes is possible to replace all these icons with Font-based icons, e.g. FontAwesome.

Could you explain more details?

##### #3 - 2015-12-17 20:30 - Daniel Ritz

Toshi MARUYAMA wrote:

*Daniel Ritz wrote:*

*Replaces all uses of image\_tag() to render icons with icon-\* definitions. This makes it possible to replace all these icons with Font-based icons, e.g. FontAwesome.*

*Could you explain more details?*

Currently, in most places where an icon is shown, it's done with CSS classes, e.g. setting class="icon icon-edit" to a <span> or <a> or whatever. This makes it very easy in themes to replace those .png based icons with font-based icons like FontAwesome. However not all icons displayed in the GUI use CSS. Some rely on simple <img> tags, mostly added with the helper function image\_tag().

This patch changes all these icons to use CSS classes as well instead of the <img> tags. Icons that did not have a icon-<name> CSS class defined already are added (11 I think). Where necessary, test cases are adapted as well.

Also, this introduces the CSS class icon-only". It is like icon, but does not add additional padding on the right side since no text is expected after this. This is mostly cosmetic. I did it so the look of certain pages does not change, e.g. the sort icons (top, up, down, bottom) in Administration -> Issue statuses.

With this patch, almost all icons in Redmine can be replaced with font-based icons. The only exception being the "search" icon in some input fields. They are done with CSS as background, but there's no replacement for it with font-based icons w/o an additional tag to wrap the input field. But that's for another patch :)

#### **#4 - 2015-12-22 11:39 - Toshi MARUYAMA**

*- Related to Patch #21257: Use PDF icon for "Also available in PDF" added*

#### **#5 - 2015-12-29 22:37 - Tobias Fischer**

I agree, this would be very useful for theme developers!

#### **#6 - 2016-01-09 18:16 - Daniel Ritz**

*- File 0001-Replace-uses-of-image\_tag-with-CSS.patch added*

Updated patch for r15041

#### **#7 - 2016-01-16 10:46 - Toshi MARUYAMA**

*- Target version set to 3.3.0*

#### **#8 - 2016-01-20 09:51 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

*- Category changed from UI to Code cleanup/refactoring*

*- Status changed from New to Closed*

*- Assignee set to Jean-Philippe Lang*

Patch committed, thanks for this nice work Daniel.

**#9 - 2016-01-21 11:02 - Gregor Schmidt**

Removing the link content and only relying on the icon, which is added via CSS, severely hampers accessibility. To make life easier for screen readers and their users, I think the link description should be made available in a hidden span, e.g. using a technique described [in this document](#).

Only relying on the title attribute might not be sufficient.

*Current user agents and assistive technology provide no feedback to the user when links have title attribute content available.*

<https://www.w3.org/TR/2013/NOTE-WCAG20-TECHS-20130905/H33.html>

**#10 - 2016-01-21 11:14 - Toshi MARUYAMA**

- Status changed from Closed to Reopened

Gregor Schmidt wrote:

*To make life easier for screen readers and their users, I think the link description should be made available in a hidden span, e.g. using a technique described [in this document](#).*

Patch welcome.

**#11 - 2016-01-21 12:28 - Tobias Fischer**

- File 21256-label-example.png added

Gregor Schmidt wrote:

*Removing the link content and only relying on the icon, which is added via CSS, severely hampers accessibility. To make life easier for screen readers and their users, I think the link description should be made available in a hidden span, e.g. using a technique described [in this document](#).*

*Only relying on the title attribute might not be sufficient.*

For cases where the icon was missing an adjacent label, I'm completely with you.

However, in most cases, the current icons were "bundled" with a label like this:

21256-label-example.png

The label should then be enough as a description for the CSS icon attached to it, don't you think so?

**#12 - 2016-01-21 12:37 - Gregor Schmidt**

*However, in most cases, the current icons were "bundled" with a label like this:*

*The label should then be enough as a description for the CSS icon attached to it, don't you think so?*

You're right. If the link still contains descriptive text, everything is fine.

But if there's an "empty" link with an icon, next to a text-only link pointing to the same target, then I would say that should be changed to a single link containing the icon and the descriptive text.

**#13 - 2016-01-21 12:51 - Daniel Ritz**

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*You're right. If the link still contains descriptive text, everything is fine.*

*But if there's an "empty" link with an icon, next to a text-only link pointing to the same target, then I would say that should be changed to a single link containing the icon and the descriptive text.*

There *should* be no such thing as an empty icon link followed by a text-only link with the same target. There are links with icon/text and links with icon only. This patch changed only the latter not to use <img> tags. I'm pretty sure this is no change wrt accessibility. Your suggested hidden span is relatively easy to implement on top of what we have now. It however means checking all icon links. The new icon-only are few and easy to find, but there are others without the "icon-only" class so they need to be checked manually. I can have a look over the weekend if time permits...

**#14 - 2016-01-22 10:14 - Gregor Schmidt**

@Daniel: That sounds great.

Also sorry for mentioning it not in my first comment: Thanks for the effort and braveness to create such a big patch in the first place. The changes are a great improvement with respect to extensibility and page speed.

**#15 - 2016-01-23 19:02 - Daniel Ritz**

Gregor Schmidt wrote:

*Removing the link content and only relying on the icon, which is added via CSS, severely hampers accessibility. To make life easier for screen readers and their users, I think the link description should be made available in a hidden span, e.g. using a technique described [in this document](#).*

*Only relying on the title attribute might not be sufficient.*

*Current user agents and assistive technology provide no feedback to the user when links have title attribute content available.*

<https://www.w3.org/TR/2013/NOTE-WCAG20-TECHS-20130905/H33.html>

Daniel Ritz wrote:

*Your suggested hidden span is relatively easy to implement on top of what we have now. It however means checking all icon links. The new icon-only are few and easy to find, but there are others without the "icon-only" class so they need to be checked manually. I can have a look over the weekend if time permits...*

I implemented this in #21805. Please have a look. Maybe the discussion should move to the new patch with this one closed?

**#16 - 2016-01-31 11:00 - Jean-Philippe Lang**

- Status changed from Reopened to Closed

Daniel Ritz wrote:

| I implemented this in #21805. Please have a look. Maybe the discussion should move to the new patch with this one closed?

Agreed.

**#17 - 2019-06-04 07:30 - Go MAEDA**

- Related to Defect #31510: Fix missing closing tags in workflows/permissions.html.erb added

**Files**

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0001-Replace-uses-of-image_tag-with-CSS.patch	44 KB	2015-11-17	Daniel Ritz
0001-Replace-uses-of-image_tag-with-CSS.patch	44 KB	2016-01-09	Daniel Ritz
21256-label-example.png	3.84 KB	2016-01-21	Tobias Fischer