Caveats + Tips

Researcher's Guide

We have provided a Guide for this plugin to our researchers in University of Massachusetts Medical School. We welcome anyone who may find it useful to the researchers in their own institutions as well.

Ignore Excel Warning Dialog

When opening the resulting exported HTML-coded Excel file (.xls), a dialog similar to the following may be displayed:

Simply click [Yes] to proceed.

php.ini Setting and Resulting Exported HTML-coded Excel Spreadsheet File

Please note that if the "**short_open_tag**" in the ***/etc/php.ini*** file of a server (of this web client plugin) is **NOT** set to* **"***on***"*, then the resulting exported HTML-coded Excel spreadsheet may be just a blank file.

The following alternatives as workaround options (for those who have encountered this "blank file" problem, else one need not do anything):

- either change the "**short_open_tag**" in the ***/etc/php.ini*** file
  to

```
short_open_tag = On
```

- or change line 15 of the ***SaveToExcel.php*** file,
  from

```
<body><?=$_REQUEST['datatodisplay']?>
```

  to

```
<body><?php echo $_REQUEST['datatodisplay']?>
```

Of these, we recommend updating the ***/etc/php.ini*** file.
BTW, after either change, one may need to clear *clear the browser cache* (close & restart browser session) to ensure the change takes effect.

Furthermore, if this "blank file" problem persists, then try the following:

1. check for and remove any extraneous "**short_open_tag = Off**" lines in the ***/etc/php.ini*** file
2. check for and remove any extraneous "**short_open_tag = Off**" lines in other files in the ***/etc/php.d*** directory
3. try to restart both the php-fpm (if applicable) & the Apache services:

```
/etc/init.d/php-fpm restart, (or service php-fpm restart)
/etc/init.d/httpd restart, (or service httpd restart)
```

4. then run

```
chkconfig httpd on
chkconfig php-fpm on
```

5. then check to ensure:

```
php \-i \| grep short_open_tag
```

   should result in something like ***short_open_tag => On => On***