



## **XPages For Connections**

[http://www.openntf.org/p/XPages For Connections](http://www.openntf.org/p/XPages%20For%20Connections)

### **Part 1: XPages as iWidgets**

## **Description**

XPages can be used to extend IBM Lotus Connections functionality. This project shows how to build XPages that can be wrapped as iWidgets and added to the Connections home page, community and profile pages.

## **Prerequisites**

IBM Lotus Connections 3.0

IBM Lotus Domino 8.5.1 or 8.5.2

## **References**

Lotus Connections iWidget Development Guide

<http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/lcwiki.nsf/dx/development-guide>

Enabling custom widgets for Communities

[http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/lcwiki.nsf/dx/Enabling\\_custom\\_widgets\\_for\\_Communities\\_lc3](http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/lcwiki.nsf/dx/Enabling_custom_widgets_for_Communities_lc3)

XPages iWidgets in Mashups

[http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/ddwiki.nsf/dx/XPages\\_iWidgets\\_in\\_IBM\\_Mashups](http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/ddwiki.nsf/dx/XPages_iWidgets_in_IBM_Mashups)

iWidget Specification:

[http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/mashupswiki.nsf/dx/iwidget-spec-v1.0.pdf/\\$file/iwidget-spec-v1.0.pdf](http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/mashupswiki.nsf/dx/iwidget-spec-v1.0.pdf/$file/iwidget-spec-v1.0.pdf)

## **Technical Background**

The iWidget specification is an IBM standard for defining a common format for widgets. This specification is implemented in several IBM products.

Lotus Connections provides the ability for developers to integrate iWidgets into the Lotus Connections user interface for use in the home pages and community and profiles pages.

Since Domino 8.5.1 XPages can be run as iWidgets. This capability was originally added to use XPages applications in IBM Mashups. The same core functionality however also works in Lotus Connections.

XPages that are run as iWidgets are wrapped in iFrames. This provides the best possible security as well as a sandbox model where widgets can use their own styles and JavaScript libraries without colliding. This mechanism is similar to other widget frameworks, e.g. OpenSocial gadgets which run in iFrames.

However there are some things developers need to be aware of when using iFrames. For example there is no easy/direct access to the parent's DOM. Also widgets need to some degree be aware of their real estate and react appropriately when the browsers' windows are resized. The code in the project shows how to do this. As workaround scrollbars could be used within the widgets but this leads in many cases to a poorer user experience.

# Screenshots – Runtime – Widgets Page

Lotus Connections Home Profiles Communities Apps Amy Jones306 Settings Help Log Out

Getting Started Updates Widgets Administration All Connections Search

Home Customize

### XPages News (480)

[Building a multilayer XPages Architecture](#)  
Mario Gutsche - Dec 8, 2010  
I will show you, how to set up an XPage application, that is seperated into [more]

[Lotusphere 2011: Next Generation Web Experiences, Integrated Collaboration ...](#)  
Peter Presnell - Dec 8, 2010  
The other session I found interesting was AD112 How the Re-vamped [more]

[Bildr: getting better with every release \(check out the new uploader!\)](#)  
Mark Leusink - Dec 8, 2010  
After reading his request for help on OpenNTF I teamed up with Patrick [more]

[XPages and Designer related sessions at Lotusphere 2011](#)  
Paul Hannan - Dec 7, 2010  
Is it my imagination or is there a lot of XPages and Designer related sessions [more]

First Page Previous Page 1 **Next Page** Last Page All XPages News

### Communities

My Communities

**Test Community**  
Amy Jones306 | Dec 2  
[Feeds](#) | [Bookmarks](#) | [Forums](#)

Viewing 1-1 of 1 communities Previous | Next

### Activities

My Activities

**Thursday, December 9, 2010**  
0 new responses to your posts  
 [View new entries in your high priority activities](#)  
 [My Activities](#)

December 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2009 2010 2011						

### Profiles

My Profile

Amy Jones306 | [Profile](#) | [Edit](#)

Tel (Office): 1-978-399-0000  
e-mail: [ajones306@janet.iris.com](mailto:ajones306@janet.iris.com)

### My Files

There are no file entries in this view Follow the link below to add files to your share.

[Go to Files](#)

# Screenshots – Runtime – Updates Page

Lotus Connections Home Profiles Communities Apps Amy Jones306 Settings Help Log Out

Getting Started Updates Widgets Administration All Connections Search

Home Customize

### Status Updates

- News Feed
- Notifications
- Discover
- Saved


### XPages News (190)

- Building a multilayer XPages Architecture  
Mario Gutsche - Dec 8, 2010
- Lotusphere 2011: Next Generation Web Experiences, Integrated Collaboration ...  
Peter Presnell - Dec 8, 2010
- Bldr: getting better with every release (check out the new uploader!)  
Mark Leusink - Dec 8, 2010
- XPages and Designer related sessions at Lotusphere 2011  
Paul Hannan - Dec 7, 2010
- More XPages News

## Status updates


View updates from the people you are following or who are in your network. You can also update your own profile status.

Show: My Network and People I'm Following

 **Amy Jones306 (no status message set)** Clear

What are you working on right now?

*You have no status updates yet. To receive status updates for a person, open their profile and click Invite to "My Network" to add them as a colleague, or click "Follow" to follow them. Click "What you are working on right now" to update your own status message.*

 [Feed for these entries](#)

## Setup

1. Copy Widgets.nsf to your Domino data directory
2. In the .xml file resources change the path to your xsps
3. In order to add an iWidget to updates or widgets page assign your Connections user access rights and add the widget:

The screenshot shows the Lotus Connections Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Lotus Connections', 'Home', 'Profiles', 'Communities', and 'Apps'. The user 'Amy Jones306' is logged in, with 'Settings', 'Help', and 'Log Out' options. The 'Administration' tab is active, and the 'Widgets' sub-tab is selected. The main content area is titled 'Administrator's Home Page' and contains a 'Tips' box on the left and an 'Edit widget' form on the right.

**Tips**

**New Administrator?**

- Use the Administration page to enable and disable individual widgets, and edit their details.
- Enhance the functionality of the Home page by adding new widgets from your organization or third parties.
- Select test mode to test newly-deployed widgets before enabling them.

**Administrator's Home Page**

Use this page to define the widgets that are available to Home page users.

**Edit widget**

\* Widget Title:   
Enter a widget name. For example, Blogs.

Description:   
Enter a widget description. For example, Latest Blogs entries and comments.

\*URL Address:   
Enter the widget location. This can be an absolute or relative Web address. For example, http://myserver.com/mywidget.xml.

Secure URL Address:   
Enter the widget location. This can be an absolute or relative secure Web address. For example, https://myserver.com/mywidget.xml.

Icon URL:   
Enter the location of an icon to display for the docked widget. The image should be 16 x 16 pixels in size (favicons are acceptable).

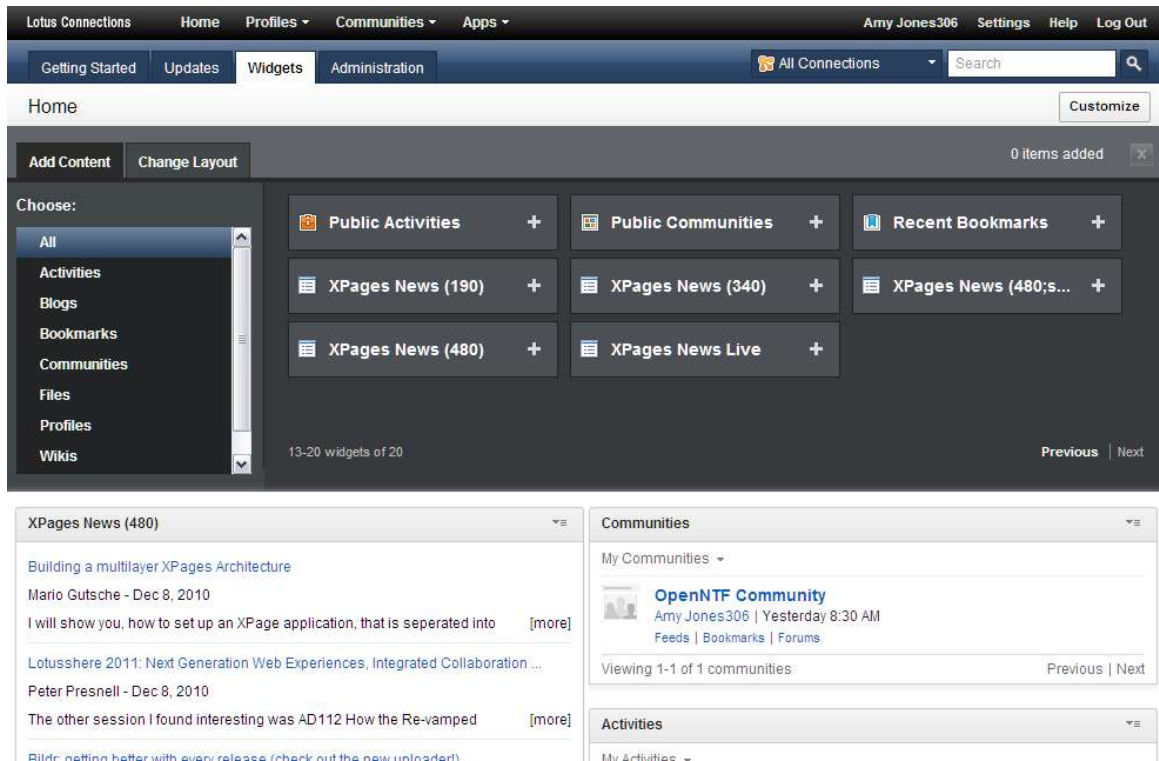
Icon Secure URL:   
Enter the location of an icon to display for the docked widget. The image should be 16 x 16 pixels in size (favicons are acceptable).

Use Lotus Connections specific tags:

Cache widget descriptor:

\*Display on the Widgets tab:   
You must choose an area to display the widget - You must choose an area to display the widget, either in Updates or Widgets. Enable both options to display the widget in both areas.

#### 4. Users can now add the widgets to their home pages



#### 5. In order to add widgets to the profiles and community pages administrators need to use the command line tool wsadmin (see documentation in the references section above and the screenshots sub-directory in the project's zip file).

Note: You should configure both servers for https or none. If Connections uses SSL but Domino doesn't users get a security warning dialog any time a page with an XPages iWidget is opened.