

Article

[Peter Steiwer](#) · Dec 16, 2019 3m read

[Open Exchange](#)

Portlets that embed web pages into DeepSee dashboards

In the previous part of this series, we saw how to define a basic portlet. Now we will look into making this portlet reference a web page that will enhance our dashboard experience.

In this example, we will be embedding a Developer Community article along side a couple of widgets displaying information related to the number of views on the Developer Community articles. This example is not hosted on the [Community Analytics](#) server, but if it was we could see the view counts going up as we interacted with the page.

Why use this?

In a real case, perhaps you have an embedded page from an external web site showing the current Emergency Room wait times for Hospitals in your area. This portlet can be used along side widgets from your Emergency Room showing how many people are waiting, how many doctors are active, and how many people are being treated. As other Emergency Room wait times grow, you can possibly expect your volume to increase as well. This can help you make decisions on how to allocate resources.

What will we learn?

This example will demonstrate how to use HTML elements other than plain text as well as calling out to a different method.

Implementing these features

We will start with the portlet code from [Part 1](#).

1) We are going to modify our renderContents method in our portlet. Start with removing the following line

```
html[html.length]="Testing"
```

2) We will now add a call out to another Object Script method on our page:

```
var article=this.GetRandomArticle()
```

3) We need to define this method, so we will add it to our class

```
Method GetRandomArticle() As %String [ ZenMethod ]  
{  
}
```

4) We will add Object Script to get a random Developer Community Article URL. Our method will look like

```
Method GetRandomArticle() As %String [ ZenMethod ]  
{
```

```
Set tArticle=""
Set tRandom=$Random(4)
If tRandom=0 {
    Set tArticle="https://community.intersystems.com/post/iterating-through-all-
properties-object"
} ElseIf tRandom=1 {
    Set tArticle="https://community.intersystems.com/post/accessing-new-deepsee-
namespace-first-time"
} ElseIf tRandom=2 {
    Set tArticle="https://community.intersystems.com/post/deepsee-tips-tricks-
auto-execute"
} Else {
    Set tArticle="https://community.intersystems.com/post/analyzethis-%E2%80%93q
uick-start-intersystems-bi"
}
Quit tArticle
}
```

5) Now we will update the renderContents method to use this URL. After our call to GetRandomArticle(), add the following

```
html[html.length]="<iframe src='"+article+"' width='100%' height='100%'>"
```

6) We now have a portlet with an iframe element pointing to a random Developer Community Article. My renderContents method is now

```
ClientMethod renderContents() [ Language = javascript ]
{
    var html=[]
    var article=this.GetRandomArticle()
    html[html.length]="<iframe src='"+article+"' width='100%' height='100%'>"
    this.getEnclosingDiv().innerHTML = html.join('');
}
```

7) We can view this in the Dashboard to see how it looks

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a dashboard. On the left, there is a portlet titled 'AnalyzeThis - Quick start into InterSystems BI' by Peter Steiwer, dated 21 December 2018. The portlet content includes a diagram of a data flow and text describing the tool's purpose: 'Easily transform a CSV file into a personalized preview of DeepSee - InterSystems BI'. On the right side of the dashboard, there is a bar chart with a y-axis labeled 'Count' ranging from 0 to 2000. The chart has four bars representing different categories. Above the chart is a table with the following data:

Category	Count
Iterating through all properties of an object	1,550
Accessing a new DeepSee Namespace for the first time	900
AnalyzeThis - Quick start into InterSystems BI	450
DeepSee Tips & Tricks: Auto-execute	275

As you can see, I added some other charts on my dashboard to display next to my portlet. Instead of making my portlet just a static page, I could also embed part of my application that would allow me to take action based on what the data in my charts is telling me.

What if the data I want is not a web page?

Please see Part 3 and Part 4 to learn how to use portlets to display data in a custom way from both within and external to DeepSee

Other Articles in this series

[Part 1 - Creating Portlets in DeepSee](#)

[Part 3 - Using data from DeepSee](#)

Part 4 - Using data outside of DeepSee

Part 5 - Using third party charting libraries

The code for this example can be found on [Open Exchange](#).

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Source URL: <https://community.intersystems.com/post/portlets-embed-web-pages-deepsee-dashboards>