

# SiteUpdateProcess

## Generating and Publishing Avalon Documentation

This HOWTO discusses how to generate and publish our documentation from the XML source files in CVS.

### Generating Documentation

Site documentation is can be broken up into two categories:

- General site information (the main links on <http://avalon.apache.org>)
  - Project-specific documentation (things like <http://avalon.apache.org/merlin>)
- Project specific docs are located with the project's source code, generally in a directory named "xdocs" but this may vary slightly from project to project – something we certainly want to standardize at some point.

The general documentation is in the avalon-site module. The newer documentation is under the 'xdocs' directory (not the 'src' directory which contains outdated information). To build this documentation use maven and run:

```
maven site:generate
```

The documentation will be generated and placed it 'target/docs'.

### Publishing Documentation to the Site

The contents under avalon-site/site are what end up being published to the website via a cron job (that does a CVS update). Therefore, to publish new documentation to the site, one needs to :

- Check out the avalon-site module
- Update the XML source under xdocs
- Run `maven site` to generate the HTML documents
- Import or move the new HTML from `avalon-site/target/site` to `avalon-site/site`
- Commit your changes to both the XML source and the HTML results (under `avalon-site/site`)

For project specific documentation, update the project's XML documentation and import the generated HTML into the appropriate location in the `avalon-site/site` CVS module.