The Help System in JADE

When you do a full development installation of JADE, a **documentation** folder is created, containing only a few files such as release notes and upgrade instructions.

The product information library, integrated into one searchable resource of context-sensitive files, is available in the following formats.

- HTML5 files (web), which also includes the JADE white papers
- PDF (print)

When you launch JADE, the question mark symbol (?) in the green circle at the lower right of the JADE sign-on form launches the Help system only. This may be a useful option in some circumstances.

To add the JADE documentation in Portable Document Format (PDF) to the **documentation** folder created during the full development installation, download the full JADE product information library in PDF (print) format from:

https://www.jadeworld.com/developer-center/resource-library/

Click the JADE 7.1 - Windows self-installing documentation package (51mb) URL, to download all files. The self-installer will install the files into the correct directory; that is, documentation.

Note: Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0 (or later) is required to ensure the PDF documents are presented correctly. This is available as a free download from www.adobe.com.

Context-Sensitive Help

Context-sensitive help is available:

- In the editor pane for JADE instructions and for RootSchema types, properties, and methods
- For JADE forms, menus, and menu items in the JADE development environment

Many terms are explained and are followed by examples; for example, JADE methods and instructions.

With the provision of the full product information library in both HTML5 (web) and PDF (print) format, by default, context-sensitive help is obtained from .htm topics in the HTML5 web format of the product information.

Both the HTML5 and PDF files are internally hyperlinked, so you can jump from entry to entry.

The web browser HTML5 format contains search tips (accessed from the **Search Tips** link in the Contents pane at the left). The print (PDF) format contains an Acrobat search index, to enable you to search on all PDF files, excluding white papers.

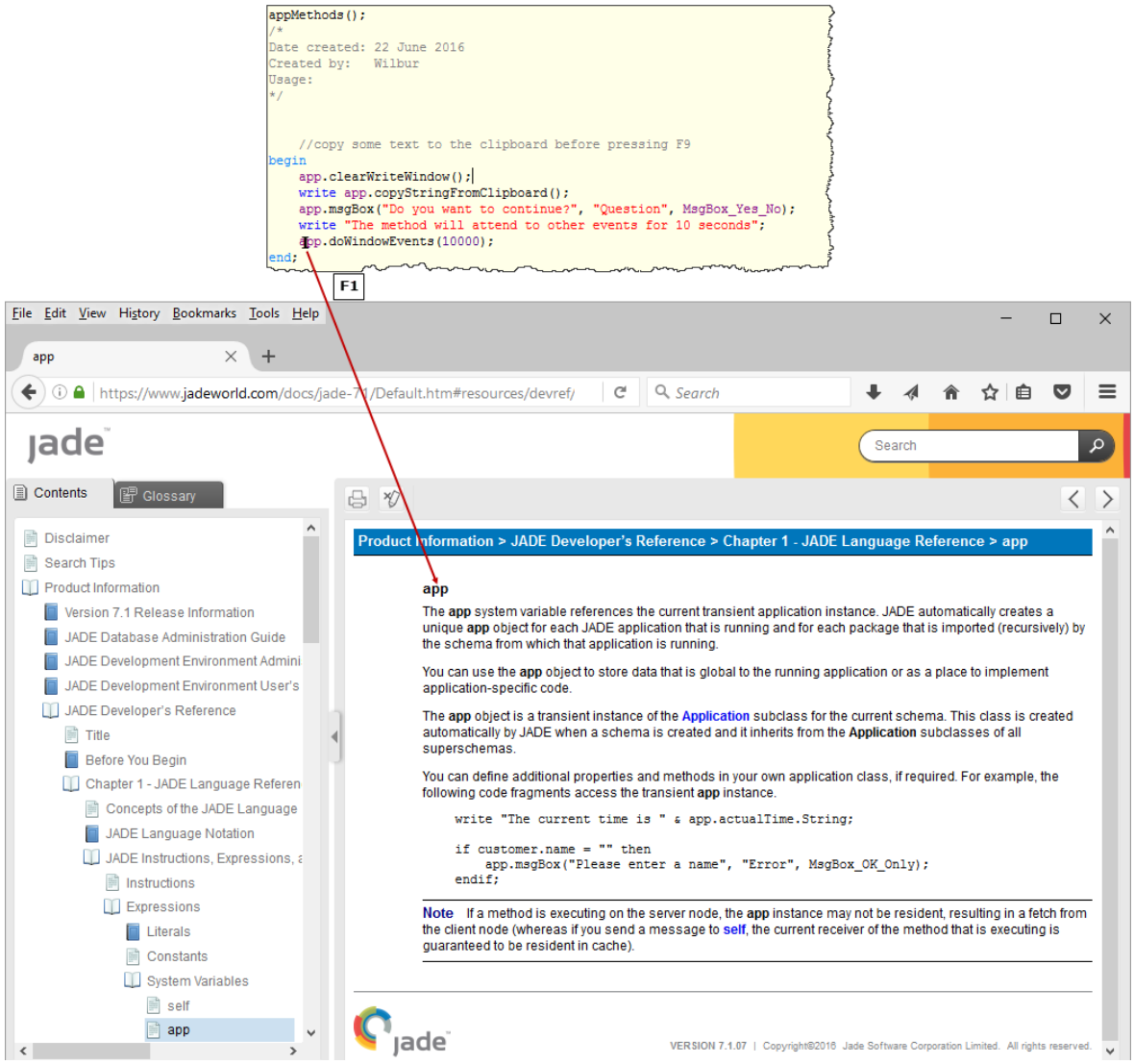
Context-sensitive help to HTML5 topics is controlled by the **UseJadeWebHelp** parameter in the [JadeHelp] section of the JADE initialization file. This parameter is **true**, by default, in which case it reads the **JadeHelpBaseUrl** parameter in that section.

If a value is specified for the **JadeHelpBaseUrl** parameter, it uses that URL. If the value is **<default>** or it is empty, the URL is determined by the internal hard-coded URL for the current JADE release. For example, the [JadeHelp] section of the JADE initialization file could contain the following parameter values.

```
[JadeHelp]
UseJadeWebHelp = true
JadeHelpBaseUrl = https://www.jadeworld.com/docs/jade-71/Default.htm
# Where the .htm extension is used, .html is also valid.
```

Set the value of the **UseJadeWebHelp** to **false** if you want to use context-sensitive help to specific sections in the appropriate PDF files (for example, if you have slow or restricted web access or if you want to print a range of pages or all of a document).

To access context-sensitive help, position the cursor inside the word (for example, **app**) in the editor pane of the Class Browser and then press F1 to open the web help or the relevant section of a Portable Document Format (PDF) file in Adobe Reader, as shown in the following diagram that accesses the topic in a web browser.



PDF Help

If you have specified that you want the JADE help to access the print (PDF) format of the documentation, the first that you press F1 during a JADE session (for example, on a JADE form, a JADE menu or menu command, or from in a JADE term in the editor pane), Adobe Reader will take several seconds to load and find the reference. (If that fails, go back to JADE and press F1 again.) Thereafter you will have both JADE and Adobe Reader running, and the help will be found faster.

You may not see the term you expected displayed on the screen. But it will be nearby. Look down a bit.

To use the search index catalog provided by JADE with the download of the full JADE product information library in PDF (print) format, in a JADE document open in the Adobe Reader, select Help | Index, and use the Search feature in Adobe Reader .

Some tips are required to make this work well.

- The first time in a session that you use Help | Index to search the set of JADE documents, you will need to advise Adobe Reader of the index file for those PDF documents. Set the index file this way:

  a. In Adobe Reader, click on Search or on its Binoculars tool. A search panel will appear. (Note that you can hide this panel and make the text wider, by clicking the Hide button. You can restore it by clicking the Binoculars tool again.)

b. If the Look in box in this panel reads ‘Currently selected indexes’, then an index file is already pointing to the documents. Great—jump to step f), later in this instruction.

   If an index file is not already pointing to the documents, click on Use Advanced Search options at the bottom of the panel.

c. Drop down the list called Look in: and then click on Select Index.

d. If JADEindex is *not* already listed in the dialog box, click on Add, navigate to the file where the index is found (it is likely to be in C:/Jade71/documentation/), click on JADEindex.pdx, and then click OK.

   If JADEindex *is* already listed in the dialog box, select it and then click OK.

e. The Look in: box now reads ‘Currently selected indexes’. Yay!

f. Type the term for which you seek help into the top box called 'What word or phrase would you like to search for', and then click the Search button. The PDF files are internally hyperlinked, so you can jump from entry to entry. Use Hide to make the page wider, or change the percentage of magnification in use.

Hint: If you are looking for the methods, say, defined for a given class, enter ‘<*class-name*> methods’; for example, ‘MemberKeyDictionary methods’ or ‘Form properties’.

Remember that every class inherits the methods, attributes, and references of its superclass. A method or property, therefore, may not be defined in the Help system for the class of current interest (the TextBox control, say) but for a higher class (Control, say). Entries for class help normally say 'Inherits from …' and 'Inherited by…'.

Our best advice: choose a general search term over a highly-specified one. Then narrow your search.

The Help system in PDF format opens several panes, all of which eventually have to be closed.