



Coveo Enterprise Search (CES) Skin Migration
Migrating from CES 4 to CES 5



Overview

This document presents the new features in the **CES skin files** and describes how to identify after-installation modifications brought to the skin files of an older version of Coveo Enterprise Search (CES). This can be useful to apply customized skins from an old version to a new installation (where the skin files might have changed substantially).

What's New in CES 5?

In this major release, a lot of modifications were brought to the different skins of CES. Controls (as well as skin files) were added, removed or moved from one skin to another. The following is a non-exhaustive list of the modifications brought to the CES skin files in CES 5:

SearchUpdatePanel control

This is a new control introduced in the skin files. It defines a region of a page that can be updated through a partial browser update. The control's region is updated using the AJAX technology; meaning there is no need to refresh the entire page to update the region represented by the control. This improves the end-user experience by defining new expandable/collapsible regions within the main Search Interface. Advanced Search options, result Details for example, are now part of the result page instead of being redirected to new Web pages.

In-line information

This is a new region contained in the *ResultTemplate.ascx* skin file. When a user clicks **Show Details** of a search result, a new section is expanded in the current result page showing one or multiple tabs. This region introduces a new series of controls in which the output can be customized by modifying an xslt (eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformation) file (refer to xslt (eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformation) rendered controls)).

xslt (eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformation) rendered controls

As described previously, CES 5 introduces a new series of controls that are rendered by the application of a xslt. These xslt files are located in the skin folders of CES and can be modified in order to adapt the output. The transformation is applied on a new data field called RawXML which is an xml representation of a CES search result. It is possible to un-comment the controls displaying the RawXML information in order to modify the provided xslt files. RawXML is available only for *SharePoint* related results.

E-mail Search

The *E-mail Search* feature introduces its own set of skins located in the *Web/Coveo/Skins/Email* folder.

Search Highlights

The new *Search Highlights* section (located at the top of the search results) is represented by the new *MiniResultsPanel.ascx* skin component.

CES 4 Compatibility Mode

Important: The skins of any previous version of CES **CANNOT** be used directly by CES 5.

The following describes the different ways to use and convert skin files from CES 4 to CES 5.

Using the skins of CES 4

Old skin files can be used under the compatibility mode of CES 5. To do so, copy the skin files of CES 4 in the *Web\Compatibility\4.0\Web\Coveo\Skins* folder of CES 5. This allows the use of the old skin files in CES 5; however it is not possible to benefit of the new user interface features offered in CES 5.

Important: The compatibility components have to be installed, which is not the case in a default installation. The Web server must be configured to point to the compatibility search pages located in the *Web\Compatibility\4.0\Web\Coveo* folder.

Porting your skin modifications into CES 5 (recommended)

Although CES cannot migrate automatically the skin modifications from an old version of CES to a new one, it is possible to use the tool described below (refer to *CESSkinDiff.exe* Tool) to identify the modifications brought in a previous installation and apply them into the new installed version.

CESSkinDiff.exe Tool

The *CESSkinDiff.exe* tool (located in the *bin* folder of the CES installation) is a command line application that identifies the differences between the skin files of the CES installation and the original skin files shipped with the installation kit (from which the files are modified). The identified differences in the old version can then be easily applied to the new CES installation.

The sample below follows these steps:

- Show the original shipped skin file;
- Show the modifications made by a user to the skin file;
- Show how to use *CESSkinDiff.exe* to detect all after installation modifications.

Original skin file

This is the skin file from the installation kit of the old CES version:

ResultsPanel.ascx

```
<td width="100%" valign="top">
  <!-- Query comments -->
  <ces:ifinterfacesetting name="ShowComments" runat="server">
    <%cmt.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryComments;%>
    <ces:comments id="cmt" runat="server"/>
  </ces:ifinterfacesetting>
  <!-- Various query info -->
  <%dym.CssClass=SearchStyles.DidYouMean;%>
  <ces:didyoumean id="dym" runat="server"/>
  <%exq.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryExpansion;%>
  <ces:expandquery id="exq" runat="server"/>
  <%qex.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryException;%>
  <ces:exceptions id="qex" runat="server"/>
  <!-- Results -->
  <ces:resultlist id="r" runat="server">
    <ResultTemplate>
      <!-- The repeated template for each result -->
      <ces:resulttemplate runat="server"/>
    </ResultTemplate>
  </ces:resultlist>
  <!-- Advices displayed when there are no results -->
  <ces:NoResultsAdvices id="nra" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 600px" runat="server"/>
</td>
```

User made modifications

These are the customizations made on-site after the CES installation:

ResultsPanel.ascx

```
<td width="100%" valign="top">
  <!-- Query comments -->
  <ces:ifinterfacesetting name="ShowComments" runat="server">
    <%cmt.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryComments;%>
    <ces:comments id="cmt" runat="server"/>
  </ces:ifinterfacesetting>
```

```

<%-- Begin After installation modifications --%>
... customization...
<%-- End After installation modifications --%>
<%-- Various query info --%>
<%dym.CssClass=SearchStyles.DidYouMean;%>
<ces:didyoumean id="dym" runat="server"/>
<%exq.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryExpansion;%>
<ces:expandquery id="exq" runat="server"/>
<%qex.CssClass=SearchStyles.QueryException;%>
<ces:exceptions id="qex" runat="server"/>
<%-- Begin After installation modifications --%>
... customization...
<%-- End After installation modifications --%>
<%-- Results --%>
<ces:resultlist id="r" runat="server">
  <ResultTemplate>
    <%-- The repeated template for each result --%>
    <ces:resulttemplate runat="server"/>
    <%-- Begin After installation modifications --%>
    ... customization...
    <%-- End After installation modifications --%>
  </ResultTemplate>
</ces:resultlist>
<%-- Advices displayed when there are no results --%>
<ces:NoResultsAdvices id="nra" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 600px" runat="server"/>
</td>

```

Using CESSkinDiff.exe

CESSkinDiff.exe supports all the previous releases of CES. It is important to have the build number of the last CES installation (version from which the skin files were modified). When running the following command-line: *CESSkinDiff.exe -versions*, the old CES version is displayed on screen:

CESSkinDiff.exe - versions

```

CES_Bin:\>CESSkinDiff.exe -versions
CES4_1766_Default
CES4_1766_SharePoint
CES4_1796_Default
CES4_1796_SharePoint
CES4_1808_Default
CES4_1808_SharePoint
CES4SP1_1839_Default
CES4SP1_1839_SharePoint
CES4SP1b_1847_Default
CES4SP1b_1847_SharePoint
CES4SP2_2070_Default
CES4SP2_2070_SharePoint
CES4SP2_2079_Default
CES4SP2_2079_SharePoint
CES4SP3_2345_Default
CES4SP3_2345_SharePoint
CES4SP3b_2395_Default
CES4SP3b_2395_SharePoint
CES4SP4_2525_Default
CES4SP4_2525_SharePoint

```

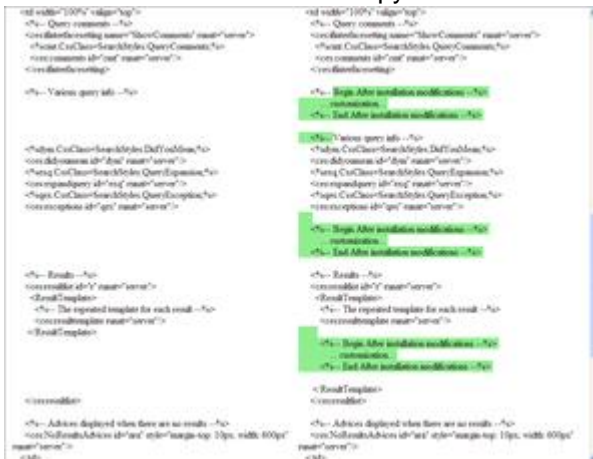
Example: CES 4 SP4 is installed and files have been modified in the Default skin. To target all the modifications brought to the skin files, run the following command-line:

CESSkinDiff.exe -compare:"C:\Web\Coveo\Skins" -version:CES4SP4_2525_Default

CESSkinDiff.exe – compare: “C:\Web\Coveo” – version:CES4SP4_2525_Default

```
CES_Bin:\>CESSkinDiff.exe -compare:"C:\Web\Coveo\Skins" -version:CES4SP4_2525_Default -diffpath:"c:\temp\diff" -overwrite
c:\temp\diff\AdvancedSearchPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\CoveoSearch.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\DesktopSearchPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\FiltersPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\InitialPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff>LoginPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\PlayerPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\PreferencesPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\QuickSearch.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\QuickSearchResults.ascx.diff.html
!c:\temp\diff\ResultsPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\ResultTemplate.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\SearchBox.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\SearchPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\SummaryPanel.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\ToolBar.ascx.diff.html
c:\temp\diff\ViewAsHtmlPanel.ascx.diff.html
```

Open the *ResultsPanel.ascx.diff.html* file to view the modifications and open the corresponding skin file of the new CES installation and copy the modifications there:



Important: If the skin modifications depend on files (assemblies, images, etc.), copy these files as well into the new CES installation corresponding folders.

Other *CESSkinDiff.exe* options

It is possible to execute the *CESSkinDiff.exe* command-line without arguments to see all the available tool options. The *-extract* option can be useful to extract the original shipped files and use your own applications to compare the modified files against the original ones.