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Adobe RoboHelp: Filtering WebHelp search results

By [Willam van Weelden](#) on 16th February 2014

At the company I work, many of our applications consist of multiple modules. One of the things we missed in RoboHelp was the ability to search only a specific module. Therefore we've added a filter mechanism to the RoboHelp search. This mechanism works on RoboHelp 9, 10 and 11.

The filter just checks whether the topics are in the module indicated by checking the topic title. The filter just checks whether the title starts with the name/abbreviation of the module chosen. If the title does not start with the module name, the topic is removed from the search results.

This means that if you want to use this specific filter, your topic titles must begin with the module/section name. Otherwise this fix won't work.

Note: This filter will not work on local WebHelp when viewed with Chrome when you create the output with RH10/11. Chrome will just ignore the filter, but search will otherwise work fine. Obviously, there is no support

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for local Chrome in RH9.

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Adding the Module Selector

You can only add the module selector in the output files.

First, create a select field with all the

```
<select name="keywordModule" id="keywordM
  <option value="ALL">-All-</option>
  <option value="GROUP1">Group 1</option>
  <option value="GROUP2">Group 2</option>
</select>
```

Note that the option value contains the name as it appears in the topic titles. The text displayed in the field may differ. Paste the above code in the code below:

```
/* Begin keyword filter */
sForm += "</tr>";
sForm += "<tr class=\"hilite\">";
sForm += '<td width="20%">-Your select he
sForm += "&nbsp;Search Module";
sForm += "</td>";
/* End keyword filter */
```

1. Open the file whform.js and search for

```
if (gbHighlightSearch == true) {
```

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2. Paste the code directly below the opening bracket before the line starting with sForm.
3. Save the file.

You have added a module selector to the search form.

Changing the Height of the Search Form

Now that you've added a filter, the contents of the search form no longer fit the frame.

Open whfdhtml.htm and change the following values:

RoboHelp 9: On lines 21 and 23, add to the value. It will now look as follows:

```
if (gbMac)
  strWrite("<FRAMESET ROWS='105,100%' fram
else
  strWrite("<FRAMESET ROWS='135,100%' fram
```

RoboHelp 10/11: On lines 22 and 25, add 20 to the value. It will now look as follows:

```
var iFrameSetValue = 135;

if (gbMac)
{
  iFrameSetValue = 105;
}
```

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Save the file.

Implement the Filter

The last step is adding the filter to the search mechanism. Follow these steps:

1. Open whfhost.js
2. Find the line `if (a_QueryResult != null)`
3. Copy the code below directly after the opening bracket.

For RoboHelp 10/11:

```
/* Begin module filtering */
if(!isChromeLocal()) {
    var GISVGFilterElement = parent.frames.
    var GISVGFilter = GISVGFilterElement.op
    var GISVGTemp = new Array();
    var GISVGEdit = false;
    if(GISVGFilter !== "ALL") {
        GISVGEdit = true;
        for(var i = 0;i<a_QueryResult.aTopics
            if(a_QueryResult.aTopics[i].strTitl
                GISVGTemp.push(a_QueryResult.aTop
            }
        }
    }

    if(GISVGEdit) {
        /* We need to patch the ranking */
        var rank = 1;
        for(var i=0; i<GISVGTemp.length;i++)
            GISVGTemp[i].nIndex = rank;
            rank++;
    }
}
```

```
    }  
    /* Set the search array */  
    a_QueryResult.aTopics = GISVGTemp;  
  }  
}  
/* End module filtering */
```

For RoboHelp 9:

```
/* Begin module filtering */  
var GISVGFilterElement = parent.frames.ft  
var GISVGFilter = GISVGFilterElement.opti  
var GISVGTemp = new Array();  
var GISVGEdit = false;  
if(GISVGFilter !== "ALL") {  
  GISVGEdit = true;  
  for(var i = 0;i<a_QueryResult.aTopics.l  
    if(a_QueryResult.aTopics[i].strTitle.  
      GISVGTemp.push(a_QueryResult.aTopic  
    }  
  }  
}  
  
if(GISVGEdit) {  
  /* We need to patch the ranking */  
  var rank = 1;  
  for(var i=0; i<GISVGTemp.length;i++) {  
    GISVGTemp[i].nIndex = rank;  
    rank++;  
  }  
  /* Set the search array */  
  a_QueryResult.aTopics = GISVGTemp;  
}  
/* End module filtering */
```

Save the file. Reload your help and the filter will work.

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