Updating a Command Line Tool

You can update the command definitions of a command line tool right in the IntelliJ IDEA editor and have the `.xml` definition file validated. As you type, the file is checked for well-formedness on the fly. Full validation is performed every time you invoke a command. If any inconsistencies are detected, the tool is marked with the **Invalid description** icon ⚠ in the Command Line Tool Support page.

You can also add new tasks to the command definition file and enable IntelliJ IDEA to use them without re-configuring the command line tool, that is, without removing it from the list of available ones and adding it anew. All you need, is reload the commands from the executable file.

In this section:

- Editing the command definitions
- Reloading command definitions
- Validating the definition file for structure consistence

To edit the command definitions

1. Open the IntelliJ IDEA settings, and click the **Command Line Tool Support**.

2. In the Command Line Tool Support page, select the desired tool and click the **Open definition in editor** button. The corresponding `.xml` definition file opens in the editor. Update the file as necessary.

To reload command definitions

1. Open the IntelliJ IDEA settings, and click the **Command Line Tool Support**.

2. In the Command Line Tool Support page, select the desired tool and click the **Reload command list from executable** button 🔁.

To validate the definition file for structure consistence

1. Start executing a command: choose **Tools | Run Command** on the main menu or press `Ctrl+Shift+X`. Then type the call of the command in the **Input** tab of the Command Line Tools Console tool window.

2. View the results in the **Tool definition file errors** tab. As soon as IntelliJ IDEA detects any structure inconsistency, it displays an error message that contains a brief description of the problem and indicates the line number where the problem is detected.

   By default, the tab is not displayed and opens only upon validation failure. In this case, IntelliJ IDEA displays a **Command Line Tool** pop-up window with a notification on validation failure. Upon clicking the **More** link, the **Tool definition file errors** tab opens showing messages on detected inconsistencies. Each message contains information on the file and the line number where the problem was found, as well as a brief description of the error.

   You can close the tab by clicking the cross on its header. To re-open the tab, again click **More** in the **Command Line Tool** notification pop-up window, which remains on the screen until you close it manually.

See Also

Procedures:

- Using Command Line Tools
- PHP-Specific Guidelines

Reference:

- Command Line Tools Console Tool Window

- Command Line Tool Support
- PHP

Web Resources:

- Developer Community