

Re: Still Need desperate help to start with ASP NET – simplified problems – HELP!!

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2006-07/msg00108.html>

- *From:* "Jacob" <jacob@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 2 Jul 2006 11:36:15 -0700
-

You could do it as a web service. However you really wouldn't gain anything in terms of programming. I think the handler is the way to go. The handler can draw on the webservice for information and db lookup. In fact I think we're talking about the same thing. Send a request to the server to start the processing and then return the result when it's ready. My advice would be to go with AJAX and asynch response.

IE posts data AJAX to handler on web server
Handler starts processing
Returns response when processing is finished
IE receives response in its asynch response handler and displays it.

pamelafluente@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

[Yes, complicate means that there are some hundred thousand code lines (if not million), which of course one does not want to rewrite in asp. Complex visual editor (page setter) for magazine pages, etc. Complex data processing on multiple databases, etc.

The problem is just to web-enable what already exist.]

Is anywhere a code example of that? I have no idea where to start.

Actually I was also thinking (not sure if right) I could add a Web Service to the main application and use it to talk with IE.

Also when there is some complicate feature (like a page setter for newspapers) that cannot be used by a browser, I could perhaps invoke a local *smart client* and use this to make the complicate page setting. When done, it could talk via web services to the win application on the server.

Do you think that this approach could make sense? ???

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–pa,

Jacob ha scritto:

"The processing on the server is very complicate. I have a full featured application (say thick client) which does a lot of complicate stuff."

This is not very informative. But I think the real answer to your question is to create a handler that inherits from IHttpHandler. The you can post the textbox information to the handler using AJAX and display the asynchronous response when it arrives.

I think the reason you never get any replies to your questions about sending data to be handled by a serverside application is that it is unorthodox. An AJAX approach is great if the processing is so complicated that it cannot feasibly be done in the course of a normal postback.

pamelafluente@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

The processing on the server is very complicate. I have a full featured application (say thick client) which does a lot of complicate stuff.

What I wish is to be able to interact with this application through IE from remote computers.

From what I get, it seems I shoud turn my win application into a Web

service, in order to talk with IE. I have never done web services. Do you have suggestion on how can I adapt my application to also act as a web service capable to interact with IE ?

Also there are some nice visual drag drop features which I would like to deliver to the IE user, creating a smart client within its browser.

So far I succeeded doing the smart client, see:

http://groups.google.it/group/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/browse_frm/thread/14

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but I do not know how to make it appear within the browser.
I have
seen it done but I do not do how to do it! And also I do not
know how
to talk back to the server application. Need a lot of help!!

–Pam

Jacob ha scritto:

There are actually a whole bunch of
possibilities in the .NET Framework
for doing what you want, but you seem very
set on doing it in a desktop
application on the server, which limits your
options (or at least
complicates them).

How extensive is the actual processing that
you need to have done? The
question is if it is really worth doing in a
separate app.

pamelaflue...@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

That's interesting Jacob. I
have actually thought about
that approach.
But it would be much
neater if I could avoid
installations on the client
side.

I would like to see * only IE
* on the client side and a
full
application on the server
side.

My problem is I cannot find
an easy way to make IE talk
with the win
app on the server side
and everytime I ask about it,
it seems that none has
working examples!
This is quite strange as this
problem would seem a
really basic one. Or
perhaps I am asking in

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wrong places...(?)

That IHttpHandler would seem a way to go. But cannot find some simple explanation on how to integrate that stuff with a win application.

I have also explored the smart client approach, which probably is similar to the applet concept, but then I cannot see an easy way to talk with the server app.

Another possibility are services, but how do I make it listen to the http port??

I cannot believe this IE-App talking stuff is so complicated, after all this is called .NET !

-pam

Jacob ha scritto:

```
Your  
program  
starts in:  
Public  
Shared Sub  
Main()  
End Sub
```

```
If you want  
to pass  
arguments  
to the  
program at  
startup you  
can change  
that to  
Public  
Shared Sub
```

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```
Main(ByVal  
Args() As  
String)  
End Sub
```

Now you
can process
the entered
arguments
at startup.

I think what
you really
want is to
make a
desktop
application
that has
an
embedded
browser.
This way
you have a
two way
communication
between
browser and
program so
that you can
leave all the
client server
communication
up to the
application
and let the
browser
control
handle
the
rendering.

pamelafluente@xxxxxxxxxx
wrote:

Thanks
Jacob.
I
didn't
get
all

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you
are
suggesting
(I
have
no
idea
what
you
mean
by
"have
an
application
that
receives
the
data
as
arguments
in
its
startup".)
Thanks
anyway
for
the
suggestions.

Actually,
in
other
words,
what
I
need
is
a
working
example
of
an
ASP
page
talking
with
an
object
which
implements
the

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interface
IHttpHandler
within
a
win
application.

For
my
purposes
asp
net
is
totally
insufficient.

I
need
to
make
tal
IE
with
a
win
app
directly.

Does
anybody
have
some
working
example
or
some
pointer
?

–Pam

Jacob
ha
scritto:

You
write
that
there
is
no

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IIS
involved.
This
is
not
true
since
you
are
serving
your
web
page
in
a
browser
that
requests
the
page
from
a
webserver.

Designwise
I
think
it's
a
bad
idea
to
send
the
information
to
be
processed
in
an
external
application.
When
you
send
the
information
back
to
IIS
to

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send
to
the
client
you
are
going
to
have
to
find
out
which
client
sent
it
(using
a
session
ID
I
guess).
As
IIS
doesn't
support
push
technology
you
have
no
way
of
notifying
the
client
that
the
information
has
been
successfully
processed
or
it
has
failed.

But
I
guess

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the
short
and
dirty
answer
to
your
question
is
to
have
an
application
that
receives
the
data
as
arguments
in
its
startup.
You
the
open
the
application
using
System.Diagnostics.Process.Start().
The
process
gets
the
information
from
the
arguments
and
processes
them
and
then
closes
itself
down.

Alternatively
you
pass
the
information

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to
a
database.
You
processing
app
then
checks
the
database
every
once
in
a
while
for
new
data
and
processes
it.

Otherwise
you
need
to
look
into
message
queueing.

pamelafluente@xxxxxxxxxx
wrote:

I
agree
that
from
the
example
it
would
seem
that
ASP
is
sufficient.

But,
as

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I
told
you,
I
have
made
an
oversimplified
scenario
to
make
easier
to
answer
to
the
core
of
the
question.
You
are
trying
to
solve
my
example,

but
my
example
serves
only
to
show
the
principle.
I
do
not
just
need
to
send
a
string
back
and
forth
between
a

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IE
and
IIS.

I
want
to
tell
a
win
application
(server
side)
what
to
do
from
a
browser
and
viceversa,
I
want
the
browser
to
display
what
the
win
application
sends
back.

My
scheme:

Web
client
-->
Win
App
(extensive
processing)
[no
IIS
involved]
Win
App
(Extensive
processing)

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-->
Web
Client

Got
it?

Thanks,

–Pam

Jacob
ha
scritto:

You
are
definitely
overcomplicating
this
issue.
If
you
want
the
asp.net
page
to
return
the
value
to
the
textbox,
you
merely
use
the
Textbox.Text
property.

You
say
you
also
want
to
send

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the
Textbox.Text
value
to
an
application
running
on
the
server?
Why,
to
feed
it
into
a
database?
Asp.net
can
do
that
for
you.
Passing
values
to
other
programs
is
advanced
stuff
and
you
might
want
to
learn
the
basics
first.

Question
3
is
obvious
–

Response.Write(GenerateResponseP

pamelafluente@xxxxxxxxx
wrote:

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I
am
still
working
with
no
success
on
that
client/server
problem.

I
need
your
help.

I
will
submit
simplified
versions
of
my
problem
so
we
can
see
clearly
what
is
going
on.

My
model:

A
client
uses
IE
to
talk
with
a
server.
The
user
on
the
client
(IE)

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sees
an
ASP
net
page
containing
a
TextBox.
He
can
write
some
text
in
this
text
box
and
push
a
submit
button.

Problem
1.
What's
the
code
the
ASP
NET
page?

=====

A
server
computer
on
<http://MyServer/MyApp.exe>
has
a
.NET
program
running.
This
is
a
win
application
which
contains

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somewhere
the
following
public
function:

```
Function  
GenerateResponsePage(ByV  
ThisIsWhatReceivedFromCl  
As  
String)  
As  
String
```

```
Dim  
MyWebPage  
As  
String  
=  
String.Empty
```

```
MyWebPage  
&=  
"<html>"  
MyWebPage  
&=  
vbCrLf  
&  
"<Body>"  
MyWebPage  
&=  
vbCrLf  
&  
"Received  
from  
client:  
<br>"  
MyWebPage  
&=  
vbCrLf  
&  
ThisIsWhatReceivedFromCl  
MyWebPage  
&=  
vbCrLf  
&  
"</Body>"  
MyWebPage  
&=  
vbCrLf  
&
```

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"</html>"

Return
MyWebPage

End
Function

The
win
application
on
the
server
receives
the
text
submitted

in
the
text
box
(we
call
it

"ThisIsWhatReceivedFromC

by
the
user
who
is
using
IE

on
the
client
side.

As
an
answer
the
Server
sends
back
a
page
generated
by
the
function

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"GenerateResponsePage"
and
the
browser
displays
it
to
the
User
on
the
client
side.

Problem
2.
How
do
I
make
the
win
application
to
receive
the
text
submitted
by
the
user
in
the
TextBox
?

=====

Problem
3.
How
do
I
make
display
the
string
generated
by
the
"GenerateResponsePage"

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(simple
html
page)
on
the
user
browser
?

=====
That
all
for
now.
My
biggest
problems
are
with
problems
2
and
3.
I
need
a
simple
working
example
to
get
started.
Please
help!

-Pam