JavaServer™ Faces Web Apps: Part 2

30

Whatever is in any way beautiful hath its source of beauty in itself, and is complete in itself; praise forms no part of it.
—Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

There is something in a face, An air, and a peculiar grace, Which boldest painters cannot trace.
—William Somerville

Cato said the best way to keep good acts in memory was to refresh them with new.
—Francis Bacon

I never forget a face, but in your case I'll make an exception.
—Groucho Marx

Objectives

In this chapter you'll learn:

- To access databases from JSF applications.
- The basic principles and advantages of Ajax technology.
- To use Ajax in a JSF web app.

Self-Review Exercise

30.1 Fill in the blanks in each of the following statements.

a) Ajax is an acronym for _____.

ANS: Asynchronous JavaScript and XML.

b) A(n) _____ allows the server to manage a limited number of database connections and share them among requests.

ANS: connection pool.

c) _____ is a technology for locating application components (such as databases) in a distributed application.

ANS: JNDI (Java Naming and Directory Interface).

d) A(n) _____ enables a web application to obtain a `Connection` to a database.

ANS: `DataSource`.

e) The annotation _____ can be used to inject a `DataSource` object into a managed bean.

ANS: `@Resource`.

f) A(n) _____ element displays a collection of objects in tabular format.

ANS: `h:dataTable`.

g) An `h:commandButton`'s _____ attribute can specify the name of another page in the web app that should be returned to the client.

ANS: `action`.

h) To specify headers or footers for the columns in `h:dataTables`, use _____ elements nested with their `name` attributes set to _____ and _____, respectively.

ANS: `f:facet`, `"header"`, `"footer"`.

i) _____ separates the user interaction portion of an application from its server interaction, enabling both to proceed asynchronously in parallel.

ANS: Ajax.

j) _____ help make web applications more responsive, making them feel more like desktop applications.

ANS: partial page updates.

k) The `f:ajax` element's _____ attribute specifies a space-separated list of element `id`s—the values of these elements are submitted as part of the Ajax request.

ANS: `execute`.

l) The `f:ajax` element's _____ attribute specifies a space-separated list of element `id`s for the elements that should be updated via partial page updates.

ANS: `render`.

Exercises

NOTE: Solutions to the programming exercises are located in the `ch30solutions` folder. Each exercise has its own folder named `Ex30_##` where `##` is a two-digit number representing the exercise number. For example, exercise 30.3's solution is located in the folder `Ex30_03`.