

Trigger Downloaddialog

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.programmer/2003-10/1118.html>

From: Frank Lorenz (f.lorenz_at_bmiag.de)

Date: 10/14/03

Date: Tue, 14 Oct 2003 14:16:22 +0200

Hi

A servlet generated response is treated differently each time. One time the webbrowser raises correctly a download dialog, which enables the user to save a file. This happens when the data to download is small. The other time, instead to show a download dialog, the webbrowser shows the data directly as a new page. This happens with larger download data.

Therefore I suppose it depends on wrong caching adjustments I've made in the response header. But I'm not really sure about it. The header is configured in a way, that the response is declared as extreme volatile, so that the caching mechanism actually will not grip.

The problem occurs with any webbrowser (doesn't matter if IE, NS, Mozilla...). Tomcat 4.0.x is used.

Regards Frank

```
--
public void doGet(HttpServletRequest aRequest, HttpServletResponse
aResponse)
    throws IOException, ServletException {
    try
    {
        int size;
        ByteArrayOutputStream out;
        String csv_export =
(String)aRequest.getSession().getAttribute(ATTR_KEY);
        if((csv_export != null) && (csv_export.trim().length() > 0))
        {
            size = csv_export.length();
            out = new ByteArrayOutputStream(size);
            out.write(csv_export.getBytes());
            out.writeTo(aResponse.getOutputStream());
            out.flush();
            out.close();
            // Response-Header Setup
            aResponse.setHeader("Content-Disposition", "attachment; filename=" +
FILENAME + "; size=" + size);
            aResponse.setContentLength(size);
            aResponse.setContentType("text/comma-separated-values");
            aResponse.addDateHeader("Expires:", (System.currentTimeMillis()+
1000*60*2));
        }
    }
}
```

comp.lang.java.programmer: Trigger Downloaddialog

```
        aRequest.getSession().removeAttribute(ATTR_KEY);
    }
    else
    {
        aRequest.getSession().removeAttribute(ATTR_KEY);
        throw new Exception("No Data");
    }
}
catch (Exception e)
{
    e.printStackTrace();
    aRequest.getSession().removeAttribute(ATTR_KEY);
    sendErrorPage(aResponse, e.getMessage());
}
}
--
```