Build an EF and ASP.NET Core 2.1 App HOL

Welcome to the Build an Entity Framework Core and ASP.NET Core 2.1 Application in a Day Hands-On Lab. This lab walks you through creating a custom Tag Helper.

Prior to starting this lab, you must have completed Lab 6.

All labs and files are available at https://github.com/skimedic/dotnetcore_hol.

Part 1: Create the Email Tag Helper

1) Create a new folder in the root of the MVC project named TagHelpers

2) Create a new class named EmailTagHelper.cs in this folder.

3) Add the following using statements to the top of the file:

```
using Microsoft.AspNetCore.Razor.TagHelpers;
```

4) Make the class public and inherit from TagHelper. Add the Process method:

```
public class EmailTagHelper : TagHelper
{
  public override void Process(TagHelperContext context, TagHelperOutput output)
  {
  }
}
```

5) Create public properties to hold the HTML attributes that will be passed into the Tag Helper. Pascal cased names will be converted to lower-kebab-case for entry into the UI. Add the following:

```
// Pascal case gets translated into lower-kebab-case.
// Can be passed via <email mail-to="..." />.
public string EmailName { get; set; }
public string EmailDomain { get; set; }
```

6) The Process method builds the element to be output when the Tag Helper is rendered. This Tag Helper creates an anchor link building the href using "mailto" and the parameters passed in through the lower-kebab-cased parameters.

```
public override void Process(TagHelperContext context, TagHelperOutput output)
{
  output.TagName = "a";    // Replaces <email> with <a> tag
  var address = EmailName + "@" + EmailDomain;
  output.Attributes.SetAttribute("href", "mailto:" + address);
  output.Content.SetContent(address);
}
```

Part 2: Use the Email Tag Helper

1) Open the Details.cshtml View in the View\Orders folder.

2) Add the following markup to the billing address:

```
<email email-domain="domain.com" email-name="John.Doe"></email>
```

3) The complete block will look like this:

```
<label>Billing Address:</label>
<address>
    <strong>John Doe</strong><br>
    123 State Street<br>
    Whatever, UT 55555<br>
  <abbr title="Phone">P:</abbr> (123) 456-7890
  <email email-domain="domain.com" email-name="John.Doe"></email>
</address>
```

Summary

The lab created a custom Tag Helper and completed this Hands-On Lab.

Next steps

In the next part of this tutorial series, you will create custom validation attributes.