Adapter-based authentication in hybrid applications

Overview

This tutorial illustrates the client-side authentication components for adapter-based authentication in hybrid applications.

Prerequisite: Make sure that you read Adapter-based authentication (../) first.

Creating the client-side authentication components

The application consists of two main div tags:

- The AppDiv element is used to display the application content.
- The AuthDiv element is used for authentication forms.

When authentication is required, the application hides the AppDiv element and shows the AuthDiv element.

When authentication is complete, it does the opposite.

AppDiv

The buttons are used to call the getSecretData procedure and to log out.

The ResponseDiv element is used to display the getSecretData response.

AuthDiv

- The AuthInfo element displays error messages.
- The AuthUsername and AuthPassword elements are used to enter credentials.
- The AuthSubmitButton and AuthCancelButton submits or cancels the authentication request.
- The AuthDiv element is styled as display: none because it must not be displayed before authentication is requested by the server.

Challenge handler

Use the WL.Client.createChallengeHandler method to create a challenge handler object. Supply a realm name as a parameter.

```
var AuthRealmChallengeHandler = WL.Client.createChallengeHandler("AuthRealm");
```

The isCustomResponse function of the challenge handler is called each time a response is received from the server. That function is used to detect whether the response contains data that is related to this challenge handler. The function returns true or false.

```
AuthRealmChallengeHandler.isCustomResponse = function(response) {
    if (!response || !response.responseJSON || response.responseText === null) {
        return false;
    }
    if (typeof(response.responseJSON.authStatus) !== 'undefined') {
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }<
    };
```

If the isCustomResponse function returns true, the framework calls the handleChallenge function. This function is used to perform required actions, such as hide the application screen or show the login screen.

```
AuthRealmChallengeHandler.handleChallenge = function(response){
 var authStatus = response.responseJSON.authStatus;
 if (authStatus == "credentialsRequired"){
  $("#AppDiv").hide();
  $("#AuthDiv").show();
  $("#AuthPassword").empty();
  $("#AuthInfo").empty();
  if (response.responseJSON.errorMessage)
    $("#AuthInfo").html(response.responseJSON.errorMessage);
 } else if (authStatus == "complete"){
  $("#AppDiv").show();
  $("#AuthDiv").hide();
  AuthRealmChallengeHandler.submitSuccess();
 }
};
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```

- If authStatus value is credentialsRequired, the function shows the login screen, cleans up the password field, and shows an error message (if applicable).
- If authStatus value is complete, the function shows AppDiv, hides AuthDiv, and notifies the framework that authentication completed successfully.

In addition to the methods that the developer must implement, the challenge handler contains mandatory challenge handler functions that the developer must use:

- The submitAdapterAuthentication function sends collected credentials to a specific adapter procedure. It has the same signature as the WL.Client.invokeProcedure API.
- The submitSuccess function notifies the framework that the authentication process completed successfully. The framework then automatically issues the original request that triggered authentication.
- The submitFailure function notifies the framework that the authentication process completed with failure. The framework then disposes of the original request that triggered authentication.

Important: You **must** attach each of these functions to its object. For example: myChallengeHandler.submitSuccess()

Clicking the submit button triggers the function that collects the user name and the password from the HTML input fields and submits them to the adapter. Note the use of the submitAdapterAuthentication method.

```
$("#AuthSubmitButton").bind('click', function () {
    var username = $("#AuthUsername").val();
    var password = $("#AuthPassword").val();
    var invocationData = {
        adapter : "AuthAdapter",
        procedure : "submitAuthentication",
        parameters : [ username, password ]
    };<
    AuthRealmChallengeHandler.submitAdapterAuthentication(invocationData, {})
;
});<</pre>
```

Sample application

Click to download (https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/AdapterBasedAuth) the MobileFirst project.

