Using MobileFirst application as a container for server-generated pages

## Migrating applications to IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation

- By using mobile web technology, you can deploy applications to the widest variety of devices.
- The existence of public application stores, such as Apple iTunes and Google Play, changes the way applications are hosted and marketed. These changes make traditional methods of distribution less relevant.
- IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation provides the solution to build cross-platform applications that can be distributed through the application stores by using the hybrid application programming model.
- In the hybrid model, developers typically package the application HTML, CSS, and JavaScript™ code as part of the application that is deployed to the application store.
- In this module, you see the remote loading of dynamic content capability, where the HTML, CSS, and JavaScript code is hosted externally from the natively packaged hybrid.

Creating IBM MobileFirst applications

- A project and applications are created by using the IBM MobileFirst Project wizard.

- A project might host multiple applications. However, in this module, you use only one app: **UsingApplicationAsAContainer**
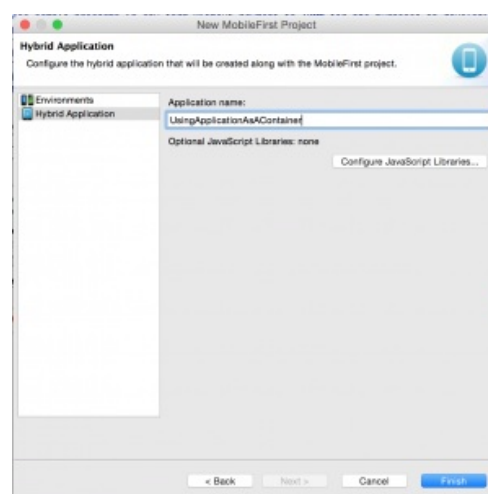
- Optionally the target environments can be set on the MobileFirst Project wizard or it could be done at a later time

IBM MobileFirst environments

- IBM MobileFirst Foundation provides a model for organizing the application project structure for each targeted environment (for example, Android, iPhone, iPad).
- These targeted environments are selected through the MobileFirst Environment wizard.

IBM MobileFirst Common environment

- The simplest way to use IBM MobileFirst apps as containers for server generated pages is through the Common environment
- Open the `application-descriptor.xml` file and edit the `mainFile` tag to point to "`http://m.ibm.com`"

```
1    <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no"?>
2    <application xmlns="http://www.worklight.com/application-descriptor" id="UsingApplicationAsAContainer" platformVersion="6.3.0.00.2014
3      <displayName>UsingApplicationAsAContainer</displayName>
4      <description>UsingApplicationAsAContainer</description>
5      <author>
6         <name>application's author</name>
7         <email>application author's e-mail</email>
8         <homepage>http://mycompany.com</homepage>
9         <copyright>Copyright My Company</copyright>
10     </author>
11     <mainFile>http://m.ibm.com</mainFile>
12     <features/>
13     <thumbnailImage>common/images/thumbnail.png</thumbnailImage>
14     <iphone bundleId="com.UsingApplicationAsAContainer" version="1.0">
15        <worklightSettings include="false"/>
16        <security>
17          <encryptWebResources enabled="false"/>
18          <testWebResourcesChecksum enabled="false" ignoreFileExtensions="png, jpg, jpeg, gif, mp4, mp3"/>
19        </security>
20     </iphone>
21     <android version="1.0">
22        <worklightSettings include="false"/>
23        <security>
24          <encryptWebResources enabled="false"/>
25          <testWebResourcesChecksum enabled="false" ignoreFileExtensions="png, jpg, jpeg, gif, mp4, mp3"/>
26          <publicSigningKey/>
27          <packageName/>
28        </security>
29     </android>
30   </application>
```

Running your application on the Android emulator

- Build the Android environment, and then deploy the application. Right-click the generated Android project and click **Run As** > **Android Application**.
- You can see that http://m.ibm.com is rendered in your Android emulator.

Running your Application on the iOS

- Deploy the application to your iOS emulator. Right-click the IOS environment, and click **Run As** > **Xcode project**.

Sample application

Click to download
(http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v630/UsingWorklightApplicationAsAContainerProject.zip)
the Studio project.