

Form-based authentication in native iOS applications

Overview

This tutorial illustrates the native Android client-side authentication components for form-based authentication. Make sure you read Form-based authentication (../) first.

Creating the client-side authentication components

Create a native iOS application and add the MobileFirst native APIs following the documentation. In your storyboard, add a ViewController containing a login form.



Create a `MyChallengeHandler` class as a subclass of `ChallengeHandler`

We will implement some of the `ChallengeHandler` methods to respond to the form-based challenge.

```
@interface MyChallengeHandler : ChallengeHandler
@property ViewController* vc;
//A convenient way of updating the View
-(id)initWithViewController: (ViewController*) vc;
@end
```

The `isCustomResponse` method of the challenge handler is invoked each time that a response is received from the server. It is used to detect whether the response contains data that is related to this challenge handler. It must return either `true` or `false`.

The default login form that is returned from the MobileFirst server contains the `j_security_check` string. If the challenge handler detects it in the response, return `true`.

@implementation MyChallengeHandler

//...

```
-(BOOL) isCustomResponse:(WLResponse *)response {  
    if(response && response.responseText){  
        if ([response.responseText rangeOfString:@"j_security_check" options:NSCaseInsensitiveSearch].location != NSNotFound) {  
            NSLog(@"Detected login form - return true");  
            return true;  
        }  
    }  
    return false;  
}  
@end
```

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

@implementation MyChallengeHandler

//...

```
-(void) handleChallenge:(WLResponse *)response {  
    NSLog(@"Inside handleChallenge - need to show form on the screen");  
    LoginViewController* loginController = [self.vc.storyboard instantiateViewControllerWithIdentifier:@"LoginViewController"];  
    loginController.challengeHandler = self;  
    [self.vc.navigationController pushViewController:loginController animated:YES];  
}  
@end
```

`onSuccess` and `>onFailure` get triggered when the authentication ends.

You need to call `submitSuccess` to inform the framework that the authentication process is over, and allow the invocation's success handler to be called.

@implementation MyChallengeHandler

//...

```
-(void) onSuccess:(WLResponse *)response {  
    NSLog(@"inside challenge success");  
    [self.vc.navigationController popViewControllerAnimated:YES];  
    [self submitSuccess:response];  
}  
-(void) onFailure:(WLFailResponse *)response {  
    NSLog(@"inside challenge failure");  
    [self submitFailure:response];  
}  
@end
```

In your `LoginViewController`, when the user clicks to submit his credentials, you need to call `submitLoginForm` to send the credentials to the MobileFirst Server.

@implementation LoginViewController

```
/**
 *
 */
- (IBAction)login:(id)sender {
    [self.challengeHandler submitLoginForm:@"j_security_check"
    requestParameters:@{@"j_username": self.username.text, @"j_password": self.password.text
    }

    requestHeaders:nil
    requestTimeoutInMilliseconds:0
    requestMethod:@"POST"];
}
@end
```

Sample application

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(<http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v630/NativeFormBasedAuthProject.zip>)
the Studio project.

Click to download

(<http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v630/iOSNativeFormBasedAuthProject.zip>)
the Native project.

