

# Federal Health Architecture RHEx Direct Installation Notes

An Installation Aid for Direct Project Java based bare metal installation

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#### 1 Introduction

The following document offers a set of Direct installation notes starting with download, installation, operation and database configuration of all aspects related to a java-based Direct Health Information Service Provider (HISP). The document records the steps that were taken as part of a pilot Direct HISP effort. Along the way, we participated in a Direct connect-athon which validated the overall workings of our installation. It is with hopeful intent that these notes can aid others in their installation of a Direct HISP.

## 2 Direct Installation Overview

The Direct project specifies a trusted patient health information based email system. To quote the Direct Project Overview:

"The Direct Project specifies a simple, secure, scalable, standards-based way for participants to send authenticated, encrypted health information directly to known, trusted recipients over the Internet"

The Direct standard-based approach to exchanging email can be realized by following its specification and implementing, from the ground up, a HISP end point or effectively a dedicated email server, Domain Name Server (DNS) responder, and a certificate management component. While this approach is viable, the Direct project offers several "bare metal" installation, a Java and a .NET version. When downloaded onto a newly created Linux or Windows server, a set of detailed instructions is provided to guide one step by step.

This document describes installation notes for the Java bare metal install for the **rhex.us** domain with the ultimate goal of being able to exchange email as <u>tjones@direct.rhex.us</u> with other Direct HISPs

# 3 Helpful Links

The Direct project has several important resource pages to aid in the installation of Direct.

This link is the top level for the implementation group: <a href="http://wiki.directproject.org/Reference+Implementation+Workgroup">http://wiki.directproject.org/Reference+Implementation+Workgroup</a>



The java reference implementation is predominantly in use today, and its main Wiki page is here:

http://wiki.directproject.org/Java+Reference+Implementation

The java bare metal project – HISP is the specific component that is to be installed. It has a step-by-step guide, here:

http://wiki.directproject.org/Bare+Metal+Project+-+Java+%28HISP+only%29

The steps described on this page were followed explicitly and will be described in turn below. Also, along the way a few issues were found, so further instructions will be described as well.

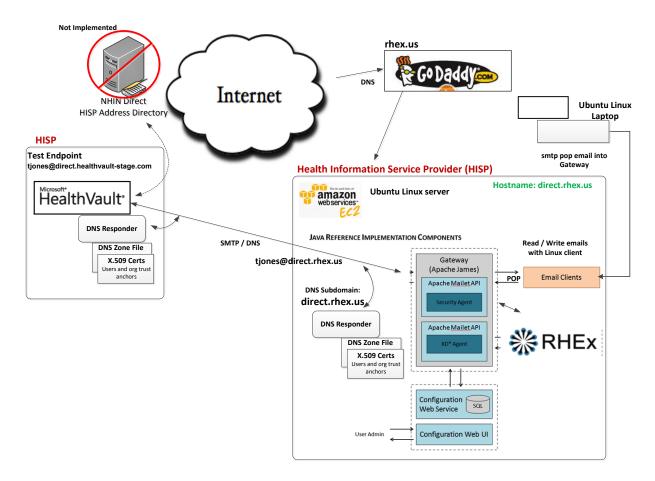
A critical and very helpful document was found at this link, which contained many more details of the Direct install:

http://api.nhindirect.org/java/site/assembly/stock/1.3.1/users-guide/depl-hisp-only.html#HISP\_Only\_Deployment\_no\_source



# 4 Component Overview

To begin, the diagram below describes the components needed and their relation to each other.



From a Direct perspective, the HISP contains three major components, a DNS responder, an Apache James email server, and the Direct gateway which runs as a web app on top of an Apache Tomcat JSP server.

## 4.1.1 Assumptions

In the Assumptions section of the guide, the installation assumes that the mail exchanger (MX) and related DNS records have been setup up prior to the installation. This is actually



a tricky and challenging area. Briefly, goDaddy.com hosts the rhex.us DNS domain. In turn, it contains DNS pointers to the Direct sub-domain direct.rhex.us which points to an Amazon EC2 virtual machine and together this machine is known as the **direct.rhex.us** HISP. For more details, I have listed individual screen shots to aid in the DNS setup. See the first Appendix of this document for a step by step description on how this was accomplished.

# 4.2 Component Installation

#### 4.2.1 Linux OS setup

Java 6 SEJDK 1.6 along with JCE\_1.4.2 is the specific version of Java that is needed. On Ubuntu Linux, due to a license dispute, the JDK 1.6 cannot be downloaded using the standard Ubuntu install OS methods. Instead, the site below has specific instructions on downloading and installing JDK1.6:

https://help.ubuntu.com/community/Java

The Java Cryptographic Extensions (JCE\_1.4.2) installed without incident.

# 4.2.2 Obtain and Install the Assembly

I followed the download link here to secure a copy of 1.3.1: https://oss.sonatype.org/content/repositories/releases/org/nhind/direct-project-stock/1.3.1/direct-project-stock-1.3.1.tar.gz

After unzipping, all installed well.

# 4.2.3 Direct Configuration

The Direct java code runs on top of Apache Tomcat as stated earlier. In order for the James email server and the DNS responder to function properly the Direct HISP configuration needs to be established. The configuration has three main areas, DNS, anchor and user certificates. See the appendix for the DNS configuration.



#### 4.2.4 Anchor cert

The anchor certification establishes the public/private keys for the Direct HISP. The Direct Project reference implementation assembly ships a tool called certGen for generating root CAs and certificates for the purpose of pilots and interoperability testing.

Direct provides a simple Java UI tool to help generate the needed X.509 certificates. The tool is located here - direct/tools/certGen.sh

An example anchor cert:

CN direct.rhex.us

Country US State MA

Location Bedford Org FHA

Email < blank >

expr date: 365 key strength 1024

password: < your password >

This generates two files, the public and private key certificates or better known as your HISP trust anchors.

```
direct.rhex.usAnchorPublic.der Public key direct.rhex.usKey.der Private key
```

The public trust anchor file should be given to organizations that you have established a Direct trust relationship with and is required to be in place before Direct emails can be exchanged.

#### 4.2.5 User Certificates

For each Direct email user, a user certificate must be generated and installed. Again, using the certGen.sh tool, reload your anchor cert into the tool. Next select generate leaf node. Below is an example user certificate:

CN Tom Jones

Country US



State MA

Location Bedford

Org FHA

Email tjones@direct.rhex.us

expr date: 365 key strength 1024 password none

Once create is selected, three files are created:

tjones.der Public certificate file tjonesKey.der Private certificate file

tjones.p12 A certificate which both priv/pub keys

The p21 file is critical and must be loaded into the Direct Config UI as described in the next steps.

### 4.2.6 Direct Config UI

The configuration UI is located at:

direct.rhex.us:8081/config-ui

The instructions do a fairly good job of describing the necessary steps, and in summary they are as follows:

- 1. Create a domain under manage domains
- 2. Add anchor cert
  - a. Click on sub tab under your domain (for example, direct.rhex.us)
  - b. Load the public X.509 cert (direct.rhex.usAnchorPublic.de)
- 3. Add user certs
  - a. Under manage certificates, add user certificates
  - b. Load the p12 file for each user (e.g. tjonesKey.p12)

Now that this is complete, it is recommended to change the password of the Direct Config admin account. The Linux steps are indicated below.

cp \$DIRECT\_HOME/apache-tomcat-7.0.23/webapps/config-ui/WEB-INF/config-servlet.xml \$DIRECT\_HOME/apache-tomcat-7.0.23/webapps/config-ui/WEB-INF/config-servlet.xml.orig



sed -i "s/adm1nD1r3ct/your\_new\_password/g" \$DIRECT\_HOME/apache-tomcat-7.0.23/webapps/config-ui/WEB-INF/config-servlet.xml

sh bin/shutdown.sh sh bin/startup.sh

At this point, the Direct user configuration is complete, however the bare metal install uses an in-memory database (Derby), which means that each time the apache tomcat server is restarted the configuration above will be deleted. It is recommend that either Derby's configuration be changed to persist the DB to a file or an alternative SQL database be used. MySQL was used as the persistent store for this example, see the appendix II for details.

#### 4.2.7 Apache James email server

The James email server is the "front-end" or internet facing component of Direct. It is responsible for the actual sending and receiving of email. It has several parameters that need configuration.

Set the email server domain name cd direct/james-2.3.2 sh bin/setdomain.sh direct.rhex.us

Add email users run james sudo -E sh bin/run.sh > james.log 2>&1 &

telnet localhost 4555 root root adduser tjones < password >

Ensure the HISP server ports are open through the firewall: ports 110 for pop port 25 for smtp

Change the James root password for the email Config server:
Edit: james-2.3.2/apps/james/SAR-INF/config.xml
and look for management port password and change to < your root password >



### Email client configuration settings

Email Server name: mail.direct.rhex.us Default ports: pop 110, send port 25

Username: tjones

Password: < password >

For read and send

No SSL

Authentication type: Password

# 4.2.8 DNS Responder

The last component is the DNS responder. Use the following commands to start the service:

cd direct/DirectDNSServices/DirectDNSServer
sudo ./bin/DirectDNSServer start



# 4.3 Adding a Direct User

```
####
#### Direct User create steps
# connect to HISP Config app
direct.rhex.us:8081/config-ui
# click on the certificates tab
# confirm new to be created name does not exist.
## step outside of the config tool and create the user's cert
## assumption - anchor has been created and is ready for use
## certGen.sh provided by the Direct java baremetal team
./certGen.sh
# click on load Cert
# load public anchor cert under "Certificate Authority File:"
# browser for file
    direct.rhex.usAnchorPublic.der
# open
# load private key anchor file under "private key file"
# browser for file
   direct.rhex.usKey.der
# open
# enter anchor password and press load
# will get a dialog box that states "CA certificate and private key loaded successfully"
# press ok
## Now ready to make a user cert
# press "Create Leaf Cert" button
#
CN
                     Tom Jones
Country
                     US
State
                     MA
                     Bedford
Location
```



FHA Orq Email tjones@direct.rhex.us expr date: 365 1024 key strength password < blank > # do not check remaining boxes # will get a dialog asking about blank password - press ok # will get a SUCCESS dialog, press ok # close all remaining certGen windows ## creates three files tjones.der Org certificate file tjonesKey.der Org certificate private key file tjones.p12 Org certificate PKCS12 file (has both priv/pub keys) # tjones.p12 is the file to load into the Direct Config tool ## Back in Direct Config tool web interface # add user cert # navigate to Certificates # click "choose File", find the .p12 file and load # set status to enabled # click "add certificate" ## confirm the new user is in the list of user certificates ## Note, the "Addresses" tab under manage domains is not for users, but is the postmaster email address(s) in case something should go wrong ## ## Add user to James email server ## ssh into direct.rhex.us box # telnet to james email server telnet localhost 4555 root < password >

## add username password



```
adduser tjones < password >
listuser
quit

## setup email client
## ensure test computer is connected directly to the internet

###
## Send a test message!
```

# 4.4 Testing and Troubleshooting Direct

Direct Config log files

```
direct/tomcat/logs/catalina.out
```

This log file is critical and contains any errors that may occur when running the Direct Config server.

James email log files

```
direct/james/james.log
```

This log file is critical and contains output and errors regarding the actual transfer of mail as well as CERT resolution errors.

HISP Shutdown and restart procedures

#### Startup

```
cd direct/apache
bin/startup.sh

cd direct/DirectDNSServices/DirectDNSServer
sudo ./bin/DirectDNSServer start

cd direct/james
sudo -E sh bin/run.sh > james.log 2>&1 &
```

#### Shutdown



cd direct/apache
bin/shutdown.sh

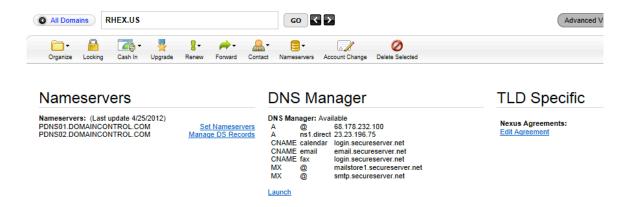
cd direct/DirectDNSServices/DirectDNSServer
sudo ./bin/DirectDNSServer stop

##
cd direct/james
ps -eaf | grep james
kill <pid>



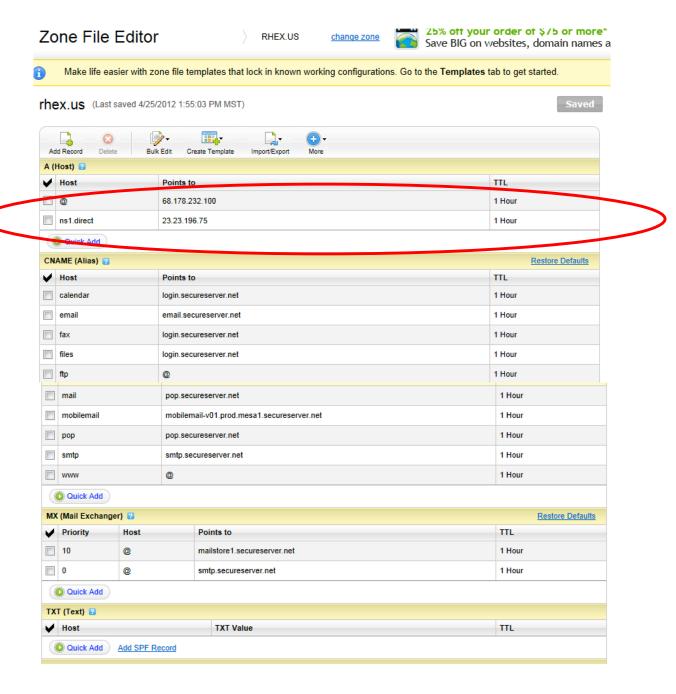
# 5 Appendix I – DNS Configuration

For Direct, a DNS subdomain is recommended. For this example, rhex.us was chosen as the DNS domain, and direct.rhex.us is the sub-domain. Go-Daddy hosts the rhex.us domain name, which then has DNS records that point to the IP address of the Direct DNS responder machine, which is the Amazon EC2 instance described in the overview section. Each will be discussed in turn below.



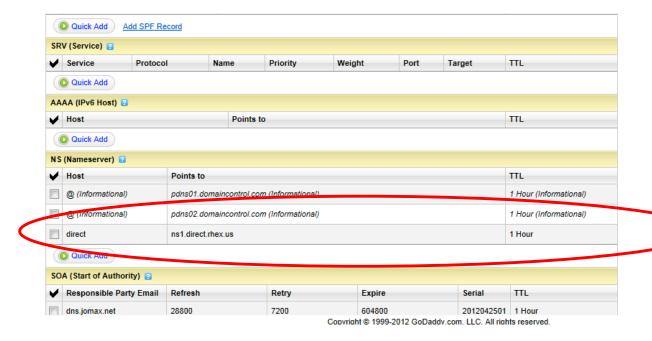
Two entries into the rhex.us zone file are needed. The first is a host entry to indicate where the direct.rhex.us subdomain nameserver is located, in this case ns1.direct can be found at the IP address 23.23.196.75. See the red circle below





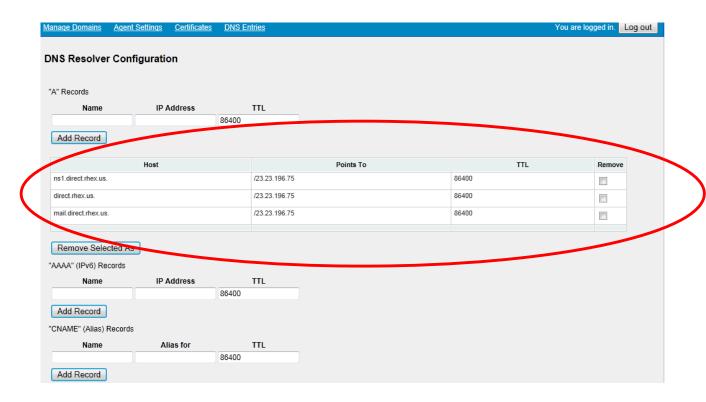
The second entry is a name server (NS) which responds ties the host direct to ns1.direct.rhex.us. So, essentially, when a dns query is requested, godaddy will respond with the direct.rhex.us DNS machine. Together, these records are referred to as "DNS glue records". Interestingly, some domain name companies, do not allow DNS glue records. For example, during setup, ZoneEdit was used and it did not allow configuration of DNS glue records.



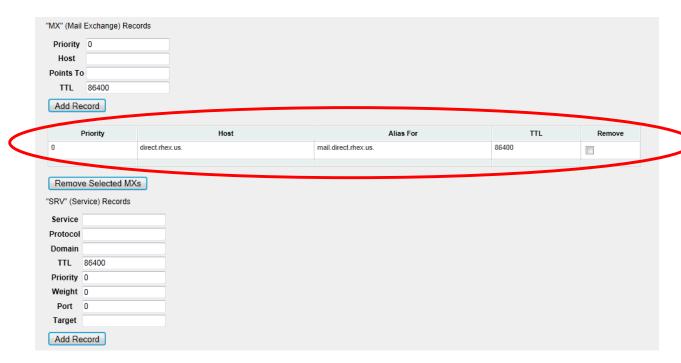


The Direct DNS responder for direct.rhex.us is next to configure which is found on the DNS Entries tab of the Direct configuration gateway (:8081/Config-ui). A total of 6 entries are necessary for proper configuration. The first are three host records, which resolve ns1, direct, and mail.direct.rhex.us respectively.





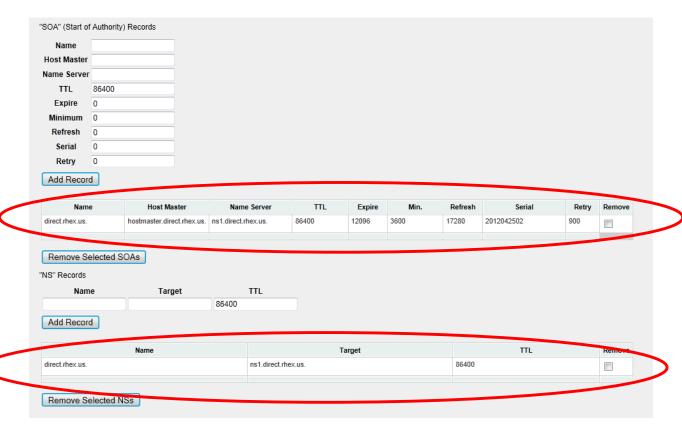
The next is a MX record such that outside email servers can find and exchange emails with the Direct James email server.





A start of authority (SOA) record is needed to establish that this DNS responder and name server is where the sub-domain direct.rhex.us origin is. This allows DNS clients to find the source of the direct.rhex.us sub-domain. The individual parameters are fairly generic and can be duplicated in other setups if desired.

Finally, an NS record is needed establish that direct.rhex.us has ns1.direct.rhex.us as its name server which happens to reside on the same machine.



Once all of the above entries are in place, SAVE the configuration!! Next start or restart the Direct DNS responder to ensure all values are in place. I found the following list of commands invaluable to ensure the DNS configuration is in place and working, because without it, the Direct gateway will not function properly.

The "dig" utility is an excellent tool to send DNS queries, coupled with the short response, one can quickly discern positive results.



The next commands test the GoDaddy configuration to ensure rhex.us is responding correctly. As you can see most answers redirect you to the Direct DNS responder on the 23.23 network which is the expected behavior.

```
dig -t A rhex.us +short
68.178.232.100
dig -t A direct.rhex.us +short
23.23.196.75
dig -t NS direct.rhex.us +short
ns1.direct.rhex.us
dig -t A ns1.direct.rhex.us
23.23.196.75
Utilizing the @<name server> dig options, we are able to
directly query the direct.rhex.us DNS responder
dig -t A direct.rhex.us @ns1.direct.rhex.us +short
23.23.196.75
dig -t NS direct.rhex.us @ns1.direct.rhex.us +short
nsl.direct.rhex.us
dig -t SOA direct.rhex.us @ns1.direct.rhex.us +short
ns1.direct.rhex.us tjones@direct.rhex.us
                                          2012042502 ...
```

Once all of the above tests work properly, your setup is now ready for querying for a Direct email user cert. If the test commands above do not work, one issue might be that most enterprises block DNS UDP traffic through their firewalls, so it is important to ensure that your test machine has a clear and direct network path to the internet.

The Direct DNS cert lookup test is the final and most important test to try. Utilizing the "cert" DNS type, the dig command sends a request to the direct.rhex.us DNS responder for the tjones.direct.rhex.us X.509 cert. The result below should be the correct response. If this does not work, it is likely an issue with the certificate that was loaded using the Direct configuration UI as described above. It is recommended to go back to this step and revisit.

```
dig -t cert tjones.direct.rhex.us @ns1.direct.rhex.us
;; ANSWER SECTION:
```



tjones.direct.rhex.us. 86307 CERT PKIX 34517 RSASHA1 ΙN MIIDJzCCApCgAwIBAgIIY/IhiEopa34wDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEFBQAwVTEX MBUGA1UEAwwOZGlyZWN0LnJoZXgudXMxCzAJBgNVBAYTA1VTMQswCQYD VQQIDAJNQTEQMA4GA1UEBwwHQmVkZm9yZDEOMAwGA1UECgwFTU1UUkUw HhcNMTIwNDI2MTkyNTQwWhcNMTMwNDEwMTkyNTQwWjB6MSUwIwYJKoZI hvcNAQkBFhZnZ2FubGV5QGRpcmVjdC5yaGV4LnVzMRUwEwYDVQQDDAxH cmVnZyBHYW5sZXkxCzAJBqNVBAYTA1VTMQswCQYDVQQIDAJNQTEQMA4G A1UEBwwHQmVkZm9yZDEOMAwGA1UECqwFTU1UUkUwqZ8wDQYJKoZIhvcN AQEBBQADgYOAMIGJAoGBAIBsCSgXUfypdG9RSOkb6rIvBTKj6BNmsl+F i4Y1NtTFFVjsUbQjYhDuJLoq+wsZLzcFhot7PJEq8zROvo8y6e9Q3yeh TiXkTXfnTIIzz5JzdBaovJ+K9uXL6K1Byp725VON24dVVFApGUseUCT0 mM1qLW84zyeAqxachSOkcYbVAqMBAAGjqdowqdcwqYQGA1UdIwR9MHuA FOrOKlhsnfab0WiPPIoC8ifMde/voVmkVzBVMRcwFOYDVOODDA5kaXJl Y3QucmhleC51czELMAkGA1UEBhMCVVMxCzAJBqNVBAqMAk1BMRAwDqYD VQQHDAdCZWRmb3JkMQ4wDAYDVQQKDAVNSVRSRYIIR3jRKsVeMGQwHQYD VR00BBYEFJDPMp7Qjd9FoQSH091ui2phV5nYMAwGA1UdEwEB/wQCMAAw IQYDVR0RBBowGIEWZ2dhbmxleUBkaXJlY3QucmhleC51czANBgkqhkiG 9w0BAQUFAAOBqQDKtOqo2t5b1t3MvjW2e9KEJpp1/Ls04429BFq969a1 lm+U9501DahvN1x5Nnx1opoYknXFQxo5mxnG8LMN4YKLy08oVr0JLVDA 39z5o/sHfaAqFxOBZDj3+1s/3yQ1f7ChdMxckTs4HWk+fkoghq4skgUJ IOOJM5DbHK4VcuZ76w==



# 6 Appendix II – Direct Configuration and James database MySQL conversion

Both components make use of the Derby in memory database, which is unable to retain its data across process restarts, unless it is configured to do so. As a matter of preference, we chose to move both databases to MySQL. The following steps and issues were followed:

MySQL install on server. Below is the list of Ubuntu Linux MySQL libraries I installed.

```
## prep work for DB transition to MYsql
sudo apt-get install mysql-client-5.1
518 sudo apt-get install libmysql++-dev
519 sudo apt-get install libmysql++3
520 sudo apt-get install mysql-server mysql-common
521 sudo apt-get install libmysql-java
522 sudo apt-get install mysql-server-5.1
523 sudo apt-get install mysql-client-core-5.1
524 sudo apt-get install libdbd-mysql-ruby1.9.1
525 sudo apt-get install libmysqlclient16
526 sudo apt-get install libmysql-ruby1.9.1
527 sudo apt-get install sqlline
```

Next, the MySQL.jar library file was installed in several locations:

```
./direct/james-2.3.2/lib/mysql-connector-java-5.1.20-bin.jar
./direct/apache-tomcat-7.0.23/lib/mysql-connector-java-5.1.20-bin.jar
```

Next, the configuration bean configurations for Direct and James were configured

direct/apache-tomcat-7.0.23/webapps/config-service/WEB-INF/beans.xml



```
<!-- MySQL JPA CONFIGURATION TEMPLATE -->
  <bean id="entityManagerFactory"</pre>
               class="org.springframework.orm.jpa.LocalContainerEntityManagerFactoryBean">
               property name="jpaVendorAdapter">
                           <bean class="org.springframework.orm.jpa.vendor.HibernateJpaVendorAdapter">
                                       roperty name="showSql" value="false" />
                                       cproperty name="generateDdl" value="true" />
                                       property name="databasePlatform" value="org.hibernate.dialect.MySQL5Dialect" />
                           </bean>
               </property>
               property name="dataSource" ref="dataSource"/>
               property name="persistenceUnitName" value="config-store" />
   </bean>
   <bean id="dataSource" class="org.apache.commons.dbcp.BasicDataSource" destroy-method="close">
               property name="url" value="jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/nhind"/>
               property name="driverClassName" value="com.mysql.jdbc.Driver"/>
                               roperty name="username" value="nhind" />
                               property name="password" value=
   </bean>
     END MySOL JPA CONFIGURATION -->
```

#### Then the James Config file:

direct/james-2.3.3/apps/james/SAR-INF/config.xml

#### Next, mysql users were created:

```
create database nhind;
CREATE USER 'nhind'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY < password >;
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON nhind.* TO 'nhind'@'localhost' WITH GRANT
OPTION;
```

#### Then found the config-service schema file to load the schema

```
mysql -unhind -p<password> < createMySQL.sql</pre>
```



```
~/projs/rhex/direct-src/java/config/config-store/src/main/resources ] $ ll total 16 drwxr-xr-x 3 staff 102 Jun 21 10:26 META-INF -rw-r--r- 1 staff 2006 Jun 21 10:26 createMySQL.sql -rw-r--r- 1 staff 1980 Jun 21 10:26 createPostgres.sql
```

Doing a quick MySQL login and check showed that all of the Direct DB tables were loaded.



Finally, to test, I restarted the Tomcat server. Unfortunately, the restart did not properly start up the application. A database error was thrown indicating the date and time was incorrect for certain fields. Digging deeper, the TIMESTAMP data type in MySQL has a limited range, essentially from 1970 to present day. So, if a record had a 0 timestamp, the database would thow an exception. The following web site:

http://stackoverflow.com/questions/409286/datetime-vs-timestamp had an excellent explanation.

The DATETIME type is used when you need values that contain both date and time information. MySQL retrieves and displays DATETIME values in 'YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS' format. The supported range is '1000-01-01 00:00:00' to '9999-12-31 23:59:59'.

...

The TIMESTAMP data type has a range of '1970-01-01 00:00:01' UTC to '2038-01-09 03:14:07' UTC. It has varying properties, depending on the MySQL version and the SQL mode the server is running in.

So, basically, all TIMESTAMP data types were replaced with DATETIME and the Direct Config service was able to function properly storing its data in MySQL.