

Using the Unplug Plugin



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Simplicity is Good



ElectricCommander plugins are a great way to customize the user experience.

The unplug plugin was developed to provide a way to experiment with plugins without having to make a huge investment in the overhead commonly associated with writing a full GWT plugin.

The “Unplug” plugin

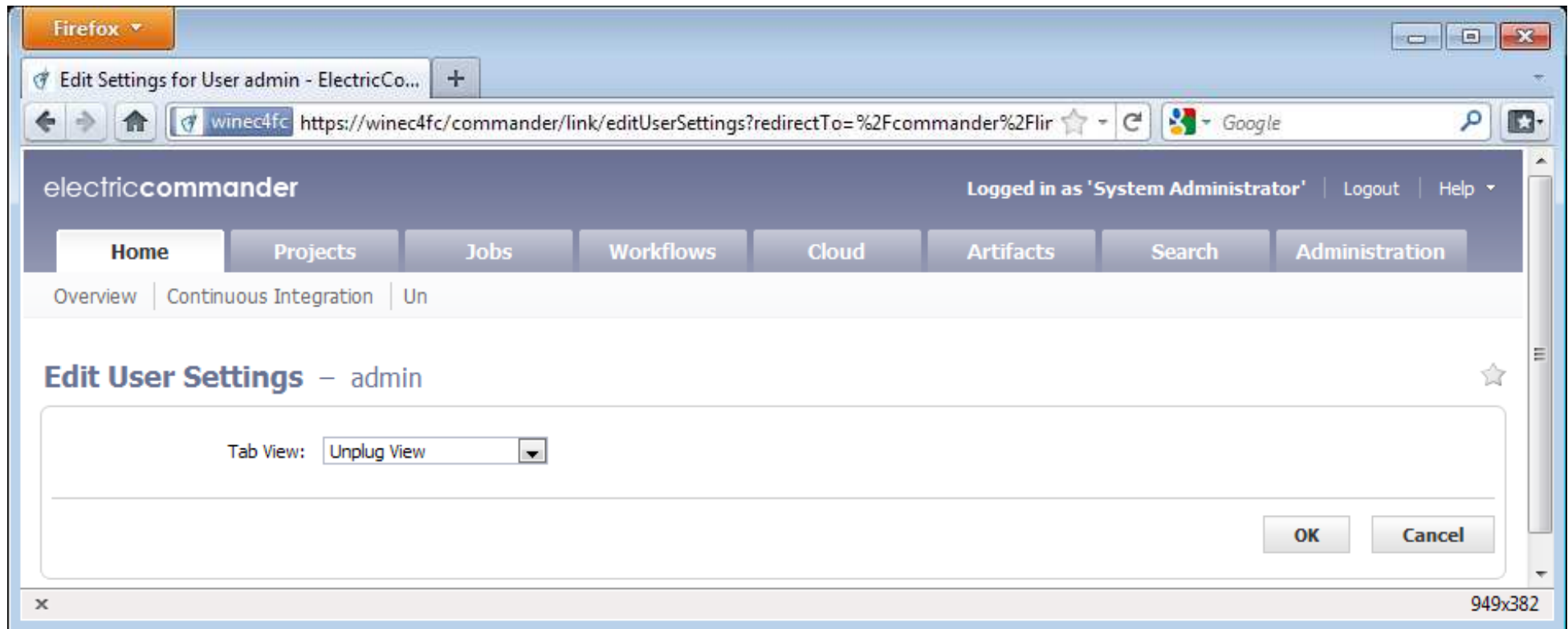


- What is “Unplug”?
 - An easily-customized CGI plugin that can be added to the Commander UI
 - A framework ideally-suited for rapid prototyping of plugin logic and presentation
 - A quick and easy way to learn the basics of Commander UI plugins

How Do I Use It?



- Install and promote in the normal fashion.
- Select the unplug view to display the 'un' tab.



Initial (example) Content



Firefox

unplug 1.3 - ElectricCommander

winec4fc https://winec4fc/commander/pages/unplug/un_run?s=Home&ss=Un

electriccommander

Logged in as 'System Administrator' | Logout | Help

Home Projects Jobs Workflows Cloud Artifacts Search Administration

Overview | Continuous Integration | Un

Acme Corporation Environment Build Status

	Test Environment	Staging Environment	Production Environment
Application 1	Current build: 1008 Prev build: 1007 (revert)	Current build: 1006 Prev build: 1005 (revert)	Current build: 1002 Prev build: 1001 (revert)
Application 2	Current build: 1911 Prev build: 1902 (revert)	Current build: 1153 Prev build: 1022 (revert)	Current build: 1022 Prev build: 1021 (revert)
Application 3	Current build: 1911	Current build:	Current build:

Help preserve wildlife -- pickle a squirrel today!

x 910x519

Changing What's Displayed



- What's displayed is determined by the property `/server/unplug/v`

A screenshot of a web browser window displaying the ElectricCommander interface. The browser's address bar shows the URL: https://winec4fc/commander/link/server?s=Administration&ss=Server. The page content includes a table of permissions and a section for custom server properties.

Property Name	Value	Description	Actions
Repositories	Read permission allows access to the getRepository API function. Modify permission allows access to the createRepository, deleteRepository, modifyRepository and moveRepository API functions.		
Resources	Modify permission allows access to the createResource and deleteResource API functions.		
Session	Execute permission allows access to the login API function.		
Workspaces	Modify permission allows access to the createWorkspace and deleteWorkspace API functions.		

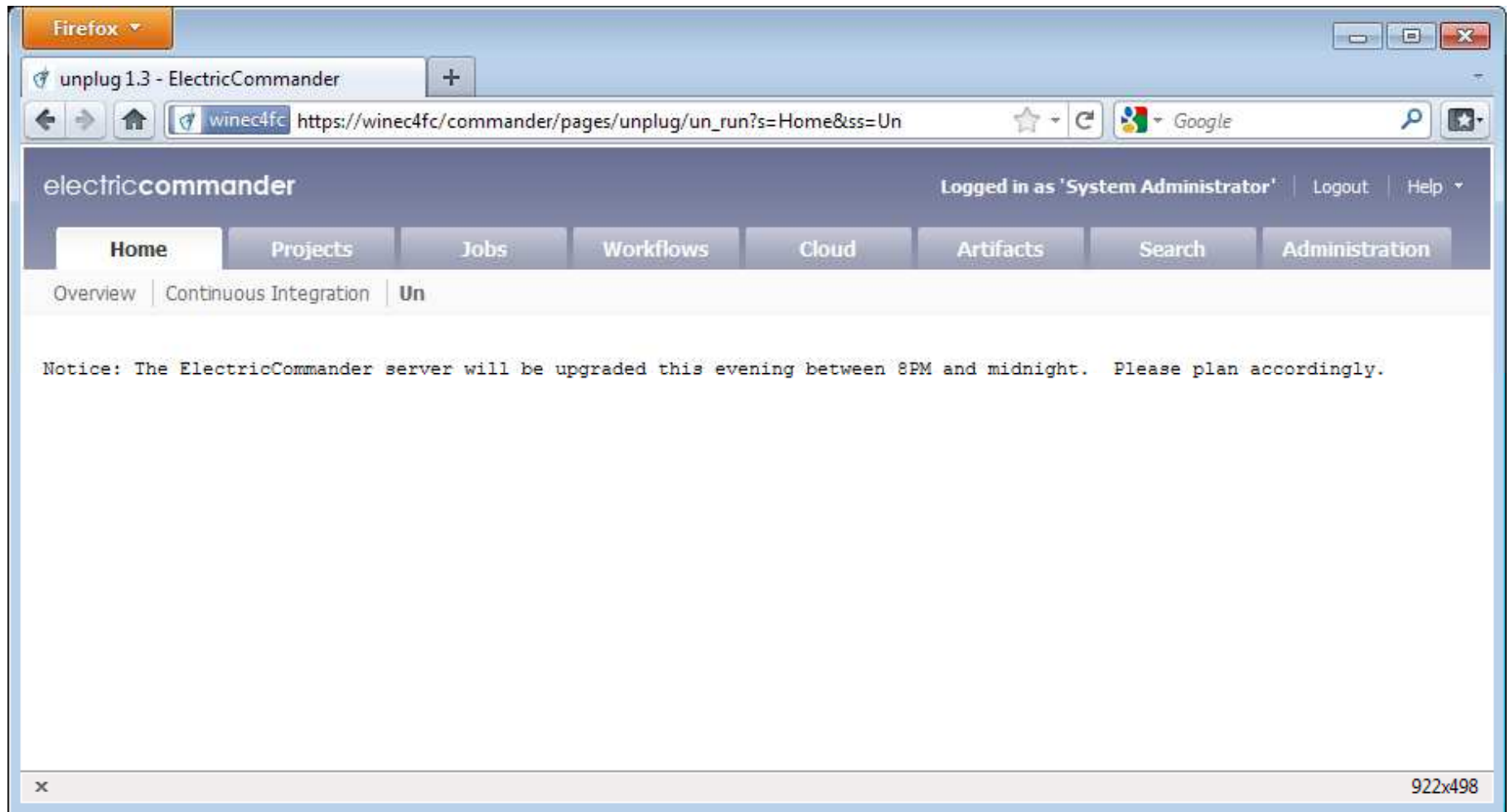
Custom Server Properties [Create Property](#) | [Create Nested Sheet](#) | [Access Control](#)

Top-level Properties / **unplug**

Property Name	Value	Description	Actions
v	Notice: The ElectricCommander server will be upgraded this evening between 8PM and midnight. Please plan accordingly.		Delete

(Note: The examples in this presentation are all packaged for your convenience with the plugin itself)

Changing What's Displayed



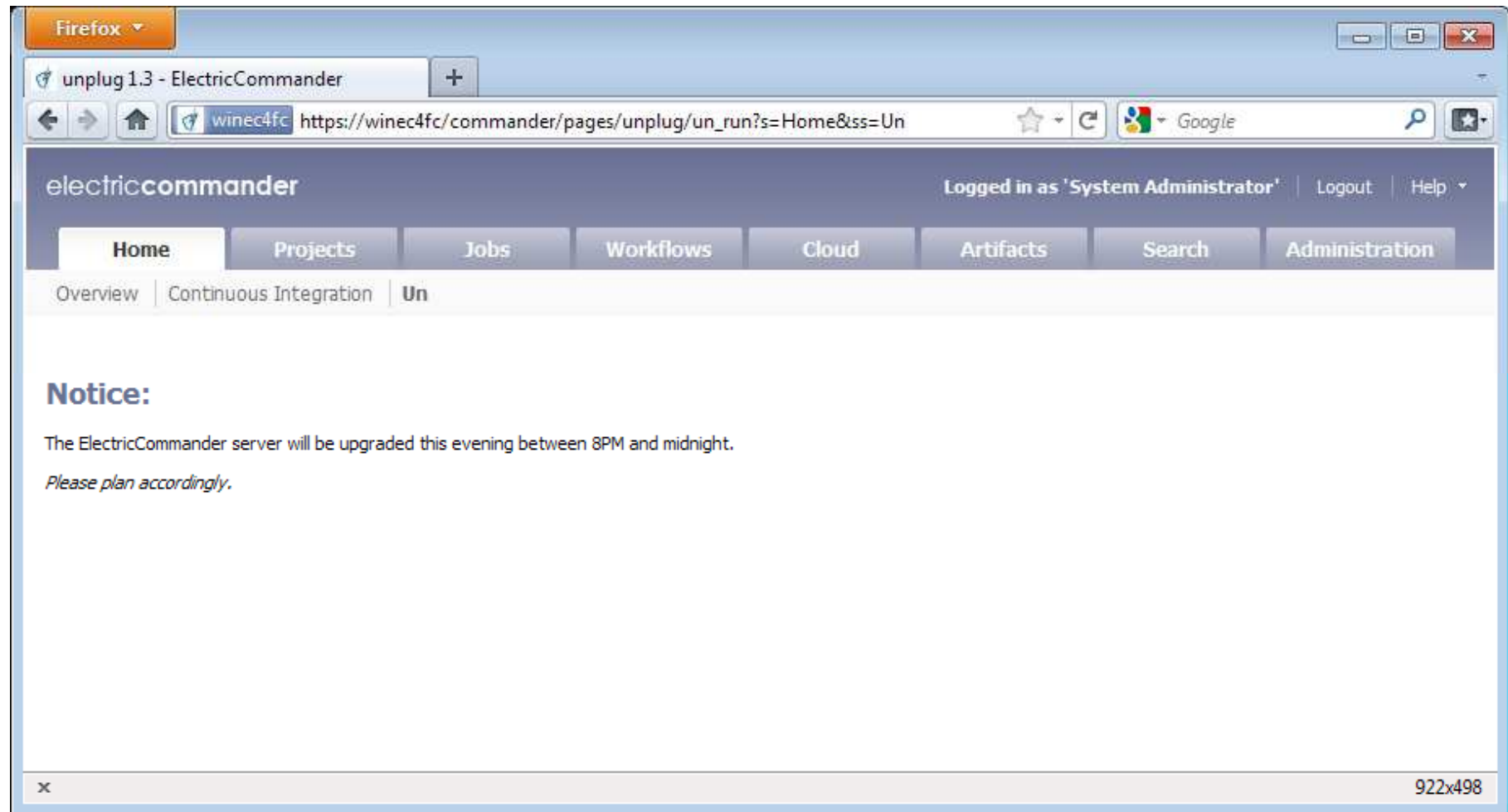
Displaying HTML



- If the first line of the property's value includes what looks like a tag containing the string "html", unplug treats the content as raw HTML:

```
$ ectool getProperty /server/unplug/v
<!--html-->
<h1>Notice:</h1>The ElectricCommander
server will be upgraded this evening
between 8PM and midnight.<p/>
<i> Please plan accordingly.</i>
$
```


Displaying HTML



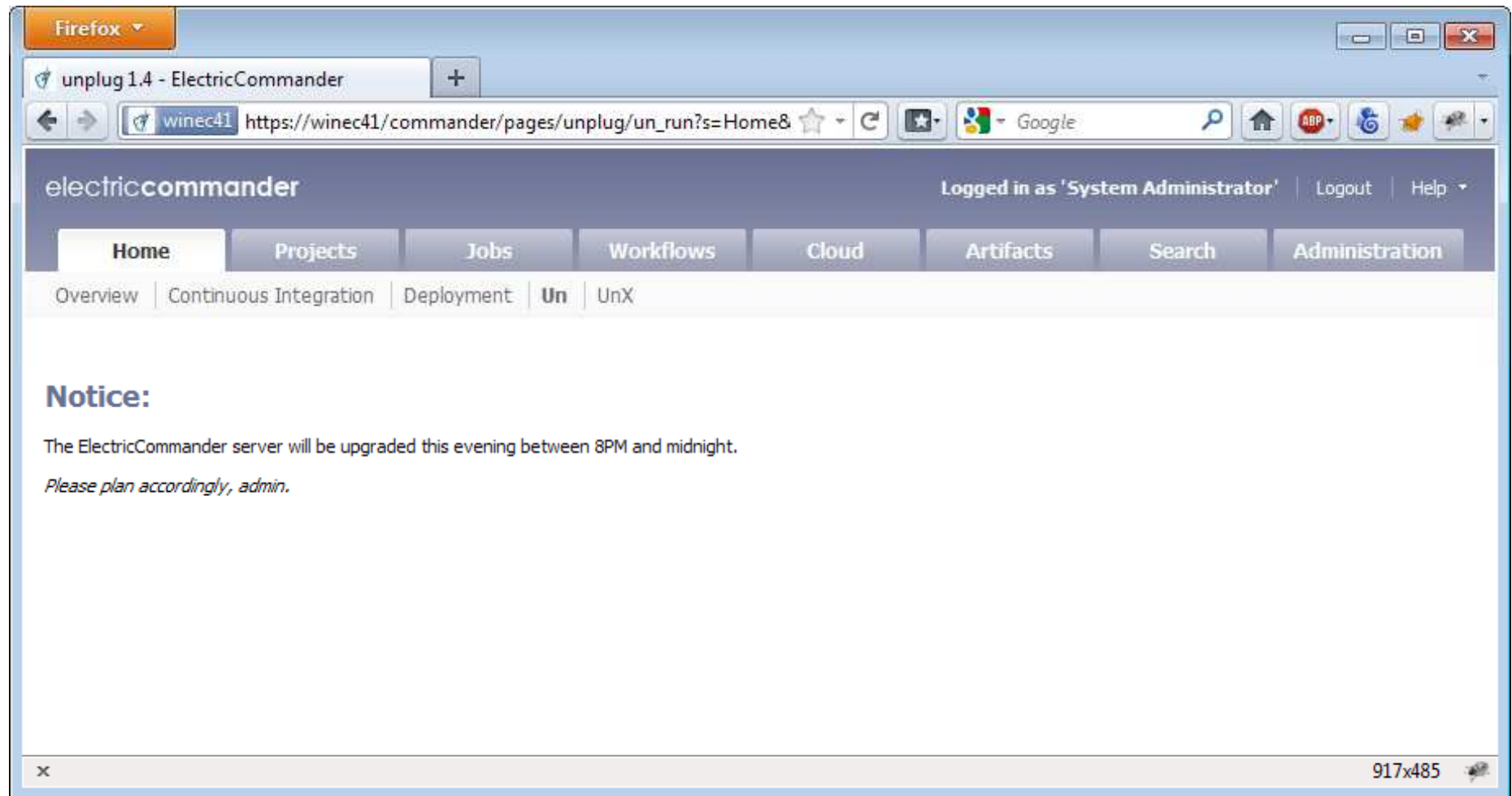
Using Property Expansion



- Property expansion works just like any other property in Commander:

```
$ ectool getProperty /server/unplug/v
<!--html-->
<h1>Notice:</h1>The ElectricCommander
server will be upgraded this evening
between 8PM and midnight.<p/>
<i> Please plan accordingly,
$[/myUser/userName].</i>
$
```

Displaying HTML



Quick UI Mockup (HTML)



A screenshot of a Firefox browser window displaying a web application mockup. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'https://winec4fc/commander/pages/unplug/un_run?s=Home&ss=Un'. The application header includes the 'electriccommander' logo, a login status 'Logged in as System Administrator', and links for 'Logout' and 'Help'. A navigation bar contains tabs for 'Home', 'Projects', 'Jobs', 'Workflows', 'Cloud', 'Artifacts', 'Search', and 'Administration'. Below this, a sub-navigation bar shows 'Overview', 'Continuous Integration', and 'Un'. The main content area is titled 'Acme Corporation Environment Build Status' and contains a table with build information for three applications across four environments. A footer message reads 'Help preserve wildlife -- pickle a squirrel today!' and the bottom right corner shows '914x520'.

Adding Perl Logic



```
$ ectool getProperty /server/unplug/v
```

```
#!ec-perl
```

```
$HTML .= "<h1>Notice:</h1>";
```

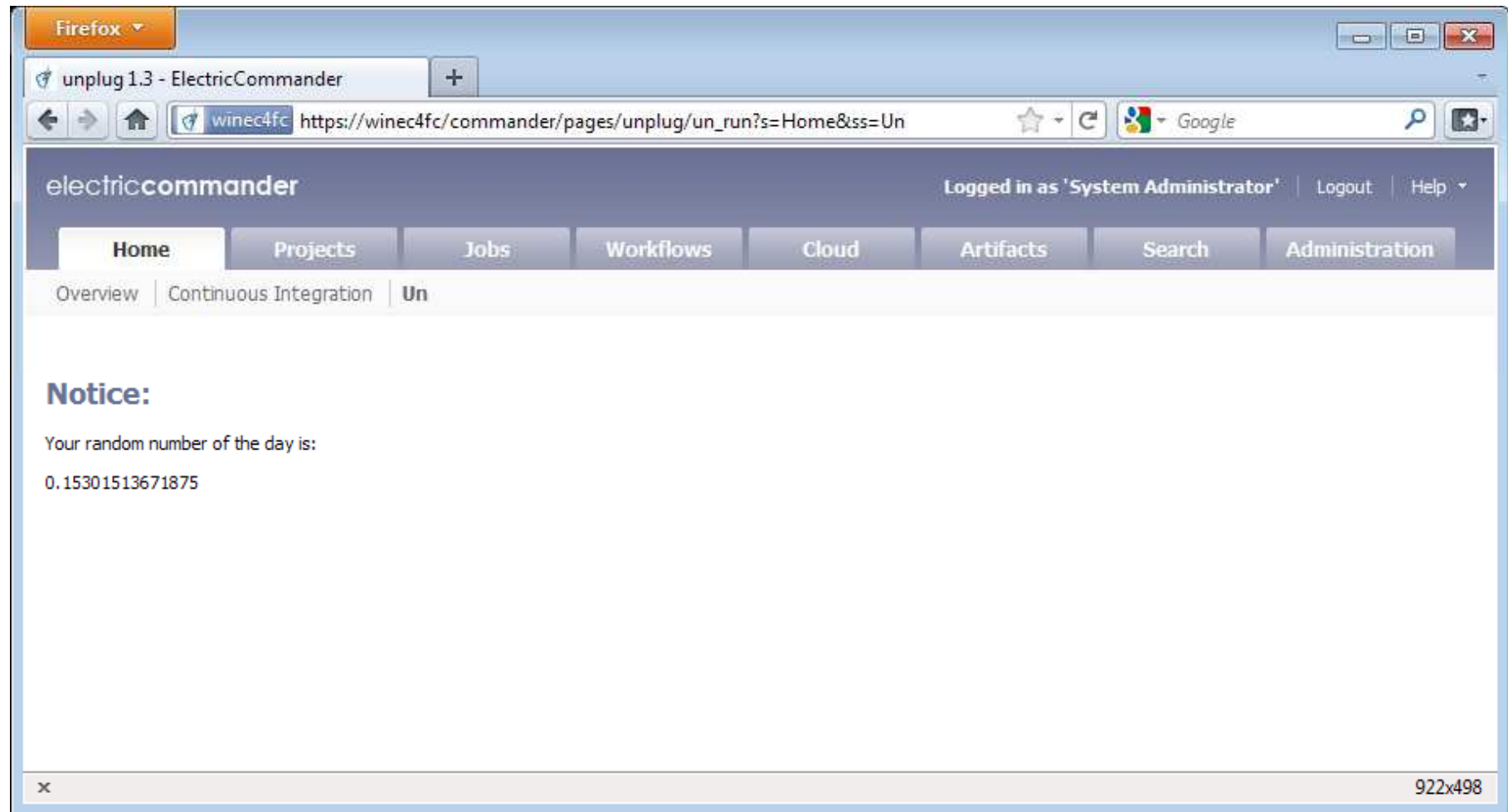
```
$HTML .= "Your random number of the day is: ";
```

```
$HTML .= "<p/>";
```

```
$HTML .= rand( );
```

```
$
```

Adding Perl Logic



Use Case: Job Status Display



- The Problem:

“We have too many jobs running in Commander, and as a result, the jobs tab in Commander is not suitable to our needs. Even if we select the maximum number of jobs per page, our operations team can’t view the status of all the jobs we expect to have active at any given time.”

Use Case: Solution



electriccommander

Logged in as 'System Administrator' | Logout | Help ▾

Home

Projects

Jobs

Workflows

Cloud

Artifacts

Search

Administration

Overview

Continuous Integration

Deployment

Un

UnX

7978	7901	7883	7882	7881	7880	7879	7878	7877	7876	7875	7874	7842	7840	7839	7837	7836	7834	7809	7800
7799	7798	7797	7796	7795	7794	7793	7792	7791	7724	7723	7707	7706	7705	7704	7703	7702	7701	7700	7699
7698	7660	7659	7655	7648	7647	7646		7644	7642	7641				7636	7633				
	7625	7624	7621	7620	7619	7617	7615	7612	7512	7511	7510	7509	7508	7507	7506	7505	7504	7503	
7421	7420																		
7419	7418	7417	7410	7401	7400	7399	7398	7397	7396	7395	7394	7393	7392	7391	7390	7389	7388		
7387		7385	7384		7382	7380				7370	7369		7367					7335	7333
7331	7329	7326	7325	7322	7321	7320													
7299	7298	7297	7296	7268	7267	7266	7265	7264	7263	7262	7261	7260	7259	7258	7256	7255	7254	7253	7251
				7210	7204		7147	7146	7145	7144	7143	7142	7141	7140	7139	7138		7089	7088
7085	7084			7080	7035	7034	7033	7031	7030	7029	7028	7027	7026	7024			7020	7016	7010

Job Status Grid

Job Status Grid

Selecting the Right Tool



	Unplug/CGI	GWT
Visual Appearance	✗	✓
Dynamic Updates	✗	✓
General Responsiveness	✗	✓
Server Load	✗	✓
Java	✗	✓
Simple	✓	✗
Fast Prototyping	✓	✗
Flexibility	✓	✗
Reusability	✓	✗
Perl	✓	✗