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Website Templates

AJAX Database Example

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AJAX can be used for interactive communication with a database.

AJAX Database Example

The following example will demonstrate how a web page can fetch information from a database with AJAX:

Example

Alfreds Futterkiste ▾

CustomerID	ALFKI
CompanyName	Alfreds Futterkiste
ContactName	Maria Anders
Address	Obere Str. 57
City	Berlin
PostalCode	12209
Country	Germany

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Example Explained - The showCustomer() Function

When a user selects a customer in the dropdown list above, a function called "showCustomer()" is executed. The function is triggered by the "onchange" event:
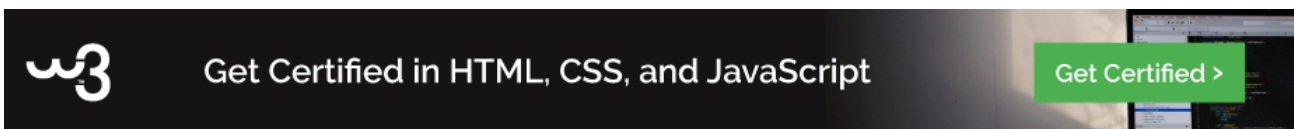
showCustomer

```
function showCustomer(str) {
  var xhttp;
```

```
    if (str == "") {
      document.getElementById("txtHint").innerHTML = "";
      return;
    }
    xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
    xhttp.onreadystatechange = function() {
      if (this.readyState == 4 && this.status == 200) {
      document.getElementById("txtHint").innerHTML = this.responseText;
      }
    };
    xhttp.open("GET", "getcustomer.asp?q="+str, true);
    xhttp.send();
  }
```

The showCustomer() function does the following:

- Check if a customer is selected
- Create an XMLHttpRequest object
- Create the function to be executed when the server response is ready
- Send the request off to a file on the server
- Notice that a parameter (q) is added to the URL (with the content of the dropdown list)

The AJAX Server Page

The page on the server called by the JavaScript above is an ASP file called "getcustomer.asp".

The server file could easily be rewritten in PHP, or some other server languages.

Look at a corresponding example in PHP.

The source code in "getcustomer.asp" runs a query against a database, and returns the result in an HTML table:

```
<%
response.expires=-1
sql="SELECT * FROM CUSTOMERS WHERE CUSTOMERID="
sql=sql & "'" & request.querystring("q") & "'"

set conn=Server.CreateObject("ADODB.Connection")
conn.Provider="Microsoft.Jet.OLEDB.4.0"
conn.Open(Server.Mappath("/datafolder/northwind.mdb"))
set rs=Server.CreateObject("ADODB.recordset")
rs.Open sql,conn

response.write("<table>")
do until rs.EOF
  for each x in rs.Fields
```

```
    response.write("<tr><td><b>" & x.name & "</b></td>")
    response.write("<td>" & x.value & "</td></tr>")
  next
  rs.MoveNext
loop
response.write("</table>")
%>
```

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