**The ActionSupport Class**

The **com.opensymphony.xwork2.ActionSupport** class is the default action class. Struts will create an instance of this class if an action declaration does not specify an action class. You may also want to extend this class when writing action classes.

Since **ActionSupport** implements the **Action** interface, you can use the static fields **ERROR, INPUT, LOGIN, NONE**, and **SUCCESS** from a class that extends it. There's already an implementation of the **execute** method, inherited from **Action**, that simply returns **Action.SUCCESS**. If you implement the **Action** interface directly instead of extending **ActionSupport**, you have to provide an implementation of **execute** yourself. Therefore, it's more convenient to extend **ActionSupport** than to implement **Action**.

In addition to **execute**, there are other methods in **ActionSupport** that you can override or use. For instance, you may want to override **validate** if you're writing code for validating user input. And you can use one of the many overloads of **getText** to look up localized messages in properties files.