

Examples - Address Book With Content Updates

The purpose of this system is to express the creation, extraction, deletion and modification of object content from the domain objects and the selection of the attributes to publish, based on a parameter generated by the user's interaction.

In this case the example is an address book of contacts. Each contact will contain a name, two phone numbers (main and alternative), two postal addresses (main and alternative), an e-mail address and a picture. The page will publish the details of the contact(s) matching a filtering condition.

Design considerations and requirements

The system will offer an initial (home) page with an introductory text, and a filtering condition over the values of the possible attributes of the objects. The user shall provide input to the field and submit such input by using a navigation mechanism (submit button). The objects matching the condition will be published.

For each object the set of its non-empty attributes values will displayed, together with two navigation mechanisms attached to the object (buttons, anchors). The user shall be able to use the navigation mechanisms attached to a specific object to invoke the update or delete operation on the object.

- If case of invoking the delete operation, and after its successful completion, the same page shall be accessed, which shall publish the list of objects, where the deleted object no longer appears. Upon operation failure, the application shall display a different page.
- In case of invoking the update operation, a new page will be displayed that contains an input form that shows the current attribute values of the selected object, and allows their modification. The activated operation modifies the existing object, based on the input values. After the successful execution, the modified object is displayed.

To create new contacts, the initial home page will also contain a button to create a new object, that will display a page with an input form to provide the values of the attributes of the object to be created.

- After successful execution, the newly created object is displayed.
- If the name of the contact already exists, or any other failure situation happens, the application will display a different page.

Creation and update operations can be cancelled while providing the input values of the object attributes, using the appropriate "cancel" button that will be available in the input form page.

Aspects of a RIA (Rich Internet Application):

- Address fields provide an auto completion function to provide possible completions e.g. for the city.
- The format of the E-Mail address will be checked.
- The search results and the functionality to create and update a contact are displayed on the lower part of the main page. (Error)messages overlay this area.