

Spring Web Flow

Summary

Spring Web Flow (SWF) is the component of the Spring framework web stack that concentrates on definition and execution of a page flow in the web application.

System allows to get the logic flow of a web application like self-sufficient module that can be used again at other location. Such flow guides the single user through implementation of business process and express the single user conversation. Flow is sometimes executed for HTTP request and has status. It shows the transactional feature and dynamic, and will be operated for long periods of time.

The Spring Web Flow exists in the higher level of abstraction, and is integrated like independent page flow engine within the basic framework such as Struts, Spring MVC, Portlet MVC and JSF. SWF is declarative, has high portability and excellent management ability, providing the function to obtain page flow of application explicitly.

Description

The Spring Web Flow is structured like a self-sufficient page flow engine with several request dependence on other API. All dependence is managed carefully.

Most users will insert SWF as component into bigger web application development framework. SWF will focus on controller technology that expects calling system to deal with response expression and calling mapping.

In this case, this user will depend on thin integration piece for environment.

For example, execution flow in Servlet uses Spring MVC integration that deals with expression responsible for SWF view selection and dispatch for calling of SWF.

It is important to know that Spring Web Flow is the layered framework that is packaged in a way to allow using necessary parts, like Spring.

Important gain of SWF is to define reusing module of self-sufficient controller that can be executed in any environment.

Before examining it in details, let's take a picture of Hello World.

- [Hello world](#)

As basic sample of Spring Web Flow, Hotel Booking is provided in Spring Source.

We'll explain based on Spring Web Flow reference document and sample of Hotel Booking.

Hotel Booking Sample Demo : <http://richweb.springframework.org/swf-booking-faces/spring/intro>

SWF Configuration

- [SWF System Configuration](#)
- [Spring Web Flow and MVC Interlock](#)
- [Securing Flows](#)
- [Flow Managed Persistence](#)

SWF

- [Getting Started -Hello world](#)
- [Flow Definition](#)
- [Expression Language](#)
- [Rendering Views](#)
- [Executing actions](#)
- [Flow Inheritance](#)

N. Reference

- [Spring Web Flow reference 2.0.x](#)
- [Introduction to openframework swf](#)