

Using CF9's ORM Features Under Tomcat

Posted At : August 28, 2009 9:10 AM | Posted By : Bob Silverberg

Related Categories: ColdFusion, CF ORM Integration, Tomcat

I've set up my local development environment to run my CFML engines under **Tomcat**. Thanks to **Matt Woodward** for his **thorough blog post** and to both Matt and **Jamie Krug** for some additional help it wasn't too onerous a setup. This allows me to easily run multiple CFML engines (e.g., CF8, CF9, Railo and OpenBD) simultaneously. I just ran into a problem trying to use ColdFusion 9's ORM features under this setup, and that's what the remainder of this post is about.

When trying to test some of CF9's ORM features I ran into a strange problem. Whenever I called a function that interacted with Hibernate I would just get a blank screen returned to me. No ColdFusion error message, no output, just a blank screen. This was a bit difficult to debug, but when I checked ColdFusion's application.log I saw an error message. It said:

```
javax.transaction.Synchronization The specific sequence of files included or processed is: /Applications/tomcat/webapps/cfusion9/index.cfm, line: 10
```

Thanks to an email from **Dave Shuck** to a forum, I saw that someone else was experiencing a similar problem. It had to do with a some JEE functionality that is missing from Tomcat. Thanks to some additional information from **Elliott Sprehn** and **Rupesh Kumar** I was able to locate and install the jar file required, after which everything worked.

Here are some step-by-step instructions on how to fix this issue:

1. Download the latest copy of the JTA classes from Sun.
 1. Browse to <http://java.sun.com/javaee/technologies/jta/index.jsp>
 2. Under **Downloads**, click on the first **Download** button for class files. Currently that button follows a label for *Class Files 1.1*, and takes you to a page titled *Java Transaction API Classes 1.1*.
 3. Check the box labelled *I agree to the Software License Agreement*, and click the *Continue* button.
 4. Click on the filename, which is currently *jta-1_1-classes.zip*. I do not recommend using Sun's Download Manager, as it involves a few extra steps. Simply clicking on the filename should allow you to download the zip file to your machine.
2. Copy the downloaded file into ColdFusion's *lib* folder. On my machine (OS X) that's at */Applications/tomcat/webapps/cfusion9/WEB-INF/lib/*.
3. Rename the file from *jta-1_1-classes.zip* to *jta-1_1-classes.jar*.
4. Restart Tomcat (or you can probably just restart the CF9 webapp from Tomcat's manager), and you're good to go.