Chapter XII

Struts Framework

When Java servlets were first invented, many developers quickly realized that they were faster and more powerful than the standard CGI. They were also portable and extensible.

But writing HTML to send to the browser in an endless stream of println() statements was not practical. The next framework — Java Server Pages (JSP) — turned servlet writing inside out. JSP allows developers to mix HTML markup with Java code, and to therefore enjoy all the advantages of servlets along with easy development with HTML.

The next stage was the realization that Java Server Pages and servlets could be used in mutual cooperation in Web applications. The servlets could serve as controllers and drive control flow, and the JSPs could concentrate on producing HTML pages. This actually was the rediscovery of the classic MVC pattern that was first abstracted in the famous Smalltalk MVC framework (Burbeck, 1987).

Struts in Web Service Endpoint

The Struts architecture can be fully described by the MVC2 paradigm. The Struts project was started in 2000 by Craig R. McClanahan to provide a standard MVC framework to the Java community. Struts provides its own