

Microsoft® Virtual Labs

**Using Accelerators and Web Slices in
the Enterprise**

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Using Accelerators and Web Slices in the Enterprise

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be better able to:

- Use Web Slices and Accelerators in IE8
- Develop Accelerator and Web Slice-enabled services and content

Prerequisites

Before working on this lab, you must have:

- Working knowledge of basic web development practices.

Scenario

As a developer for Northwind Traders, you have been assigned the task of creating new functionality for the sales department. A large portion of sales staff time is spent on locating background information on sales leads before calls may be made since sales pitches must be tailored to clients' specific needs. This is referred to as "prospect research".

Northwind Traders has deployed Internet Explorer 8 to all of their corporate computers and most prospect research takes place utilizing various trade websites containing public information about companies and their staff. You will create an "Add Contact Information" Accelerator to allow the sales assistants to rapidly collect potential background information on prospects.

Sales assistants fill in the gaps in the profiles that have been developed on prospects. These profiles are reviewed and approved by sales representatives. Occasionally, a sales representative will determine that a completed profile requires more information before a sales call may be made and will return the profile to the sales assistants' queue for further investigation.

With all this background information being collected, the sales reps need a quick way to retrieve the information. You will create a "View Added Contact Information" Web Slice to allow easy recovery of information that was captured with the previously created Accelerator.

To save time, certain components have been pre-installed and pre-configured. These components include SQL Server 2005 Express, Internet Information Services (IIS), and IE8. You will be using Notepad for HTML editing.

Estimated Time to Complete This Lab

45 Minutes

Computers used in this Lab



The password for the Administrator account on all computers in this lab is:
P@ssword

Exercise 1

Develop an Accelerator for the Enterprise

Scenario

In this exercise you will use the Notepad application to build a new Accelerator, and then deploy it to the server for use by IE8.

The people who perform prospect research now use their intranet application to sift through each lead’s missing information. This involves searching known public sites, and then copying and pasting the information back into their application. You will create an “Add Contact Information” Accelerator to allow the sales assistants to rapidly collect background information on the prospects. This Accelerator will send the highlighted text into the intranet site **Data Found** page directly rather than requiring the user to do this manually.

The information you need to create the Accelerator is in the table below.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Intranet page URL | http://localhost/northwind-ie8/DataFound.aspx |
| Parameter Type | Text |
| Parameter Name | Data |
| Accelerator Type | Add |
| Accelerator Name | Add Contact Information |


Accelerators are created in XML using the OpenService Accelerator Format.

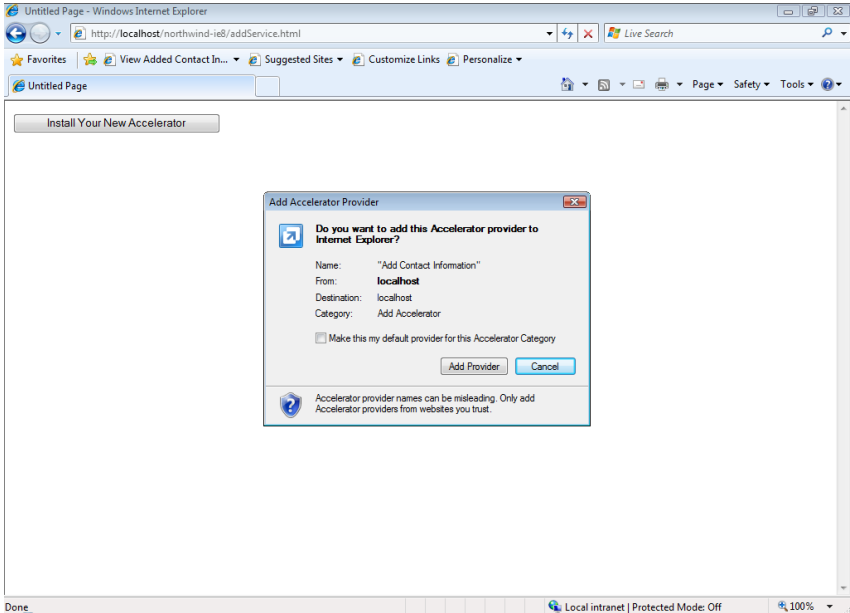
The XML namespace for Accelerators is: <http://www.microsoft.com/schemas/openservicedescription/1.0>

The Accelerator format specification requires three elements:

- **homepageUrl**
- **display**
- **activity**

You will go over each of these as you build the Accelerator.

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|---|---|
| <p>Complete the following tasks on:</p> <p> Win7DSK</p> <p>1. Deploying the Accelerator</p> | <p>Note: In this task you will create the script required to install your new Accelerator. The next step is to deploy it to the site so users can install it. The file has to be saved onto the server, in the same domain, usually with a name like “Get<Accelerator>.xml”, such as “GetAdd.xml”. For an enterprise application, you will want to place this in a standard intranet page location, such as on the home page so it can be discovered. If the Accelerator is specific to a particular role or function, you can install it on any page relevant to the particular role.</p> <p>Note: To allow users to install the service, the convention is to add a button to a logical, convenient page that will add the service when clicked. The necessary JavaScript call is <code>window.external.AddService(<Accelerator URL>)</code>. In this exercise the URL will be http://localhost/northwind-ie8/GetAdd.xml.</p> <p>a. For the application, an HTML page was created called addService.html located in folder <code>c:\inetpub\wwwroot\northwind-ie8</code>. Open that file as administrator in Notepad, add a button titled “Install Your New Accelerator” to the page, save and close Notepad.</p> <p>Your HTML should look like this between the body tag:</p> <pre><button onclick="window.external.AddService(' http://localhost/northwind- ie8/GetAdd.xml')"> Install Your New Accelerator</button></pre> |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|--------------------------|---|
| <p>2. Install</p> | <p>Note: <i>In this task you will install the new Accelerator in your browser, just as a user would.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To install it into your browser, point your browser to: http://localhost/northwind-ie8/addService.html. The information bar displays that it has restricted the page from running the script. Click the bar, then click on Allow Blocked Content. Click Yes to run the active content. Click Install Your New Accelerator. Internet Explorer will prompt to verify you wish to install the new Accelerator. Click Add. Once installed, close the browser. <p>Note: <i>If Internet Explorer says there is an error with the provider's content, double-check your XML.</i></p>  |
| <p>3. Testing</p> | <p>Note: <i>In this task you will test that the Accelerator functions properly.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Point your browser to http://localhost/northwind-ie8/ and log on using the username assist1 and the password P@ssword. You will be logged in to the application as the Assistant role. <p>Note: <i>All web pages used in these exercises are mock-ups served from your local machine. The page the Sales Assistant sees shows those sales prospects with either blank phone number or address information. Their status is Further Action Required or Being Processed. The navigation buttons are active and will scroll through records, but Art Braunschweiger is a good record that will meet the needs for this exercise.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Click on Internet Explorer to open another browser. Browse to http://localhost/northwind-ie8/search.aspx. This opens the public search site, AnySearchUSA.com, and passes the name of the person you are looking for as a URL parameter. <p>Note: <i>Depending on who you searched for, AnySearchUSA.com will return any information on that person. For the record, it returns the following:</i></p> |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|-------|--|
| | <div> </div> <p> c. Here is where you can test out your new Accelerator. Highlight the full text returned for the customer as you would for cut and paste. Once highlighted, the Accelerator button will display. Click on the Accelerator button to open the context menu. If the Accelerator button does not display, right-click to open the context menu. d. Click on the All Accelerators menu item, and then click on the Add Contact Information Accelerator. That sends the information to your update intranet page, and the resulting confirmation that data was saved. In the past, the user had to manually copy/paste this into a separate page for later verification. </p> <div> </div> <p> Note: If Preview was used for your Accelerator, hovering over it would show an image of what the site will return. </p> <p> e. Now, switch back to the Sales Assistant’s page for this customer. On the Change Account Status combo box select Being Processed. Click Save to update this record. It is now ready for the Sales Representative role to verify this information — you will use this later for the Web Slice exercise. f. Close all browser windows. </p> |

Exercise 2

Develop a Web Slice for the Enterprise

Scenario

In this exercise you will use the Notepad application to build a new Web Slice by modifying then deploy it to the server for use by IE 8.


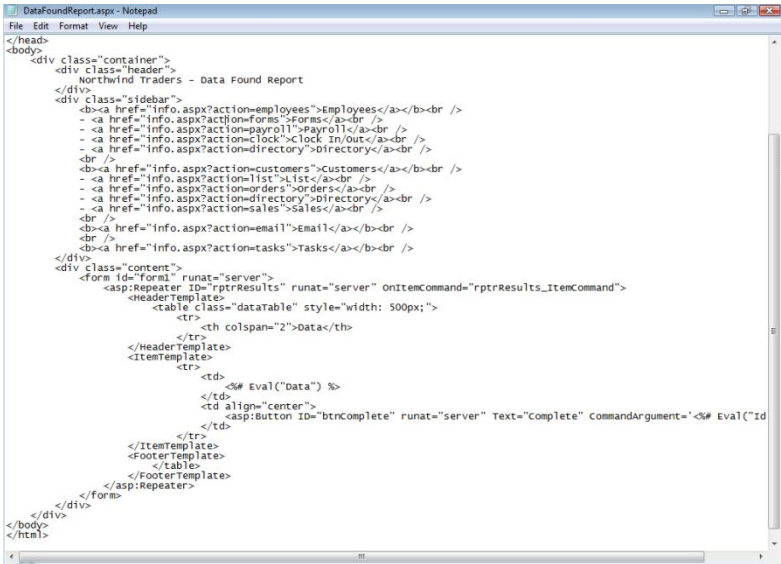
The people who perform sales prospect research now use their intranet application to sift through potential background information. This involves checking the “Data Found” page report to see if new information is available, and then trying to validate that contact information. You will create a “View Added Contact Information” Web Slice to allow easy recovery of information that was captured with the previously created Accelerator. The Web Slice will notify the sales representative when new information is available on that page rather than having them continually check the page.

Web slices are enabled by adding HTML annotations directly to the Web page. Web slices use a combination of the hAtom Microformat and the Web Slice format to describe a subscribable portion of a web page.

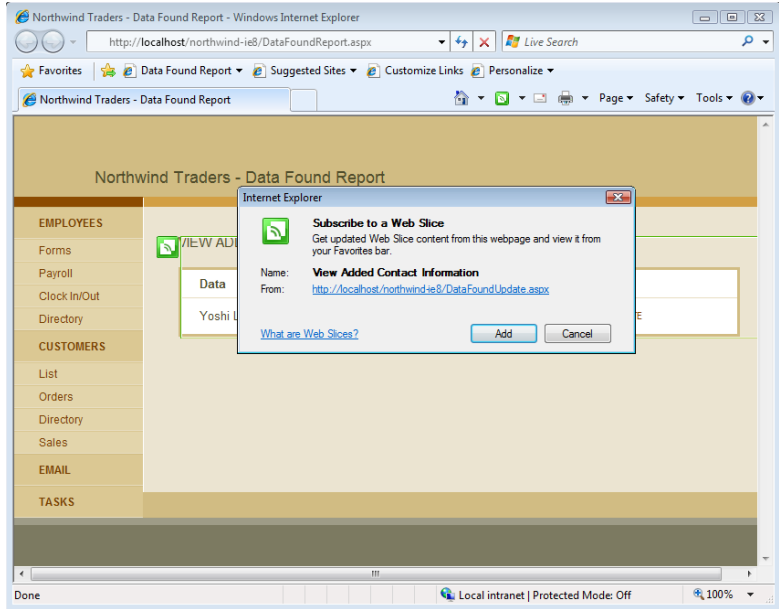
In this exercise, you will be adding Web Slice support to the report. You add web slice support to a page by adding HTML tags around the desired content.

The main components to the web slice format are:

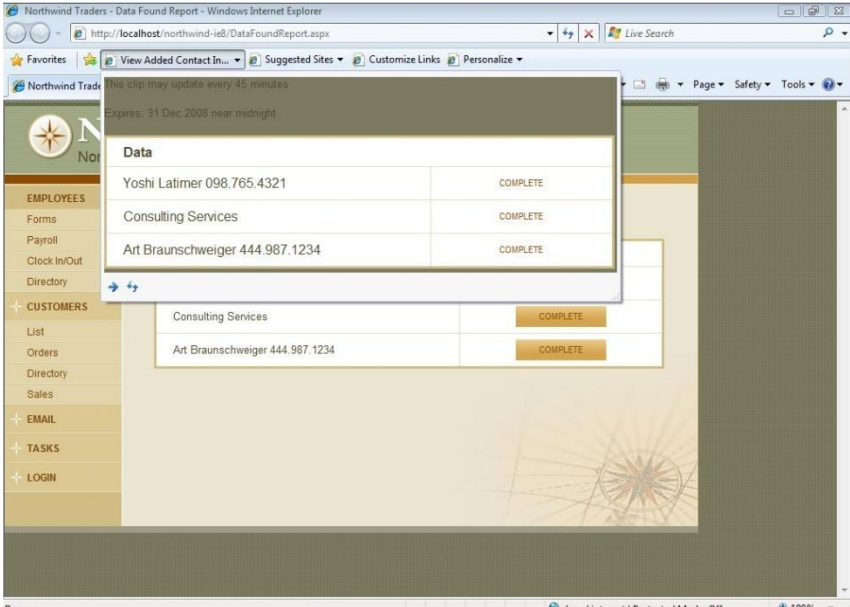
- Web Slice container (required)
- Entry Title (required)
- Entry Content (optional)

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|---|---|
| <p>Complete the following tasks on:</p>  Win7DSK | <p>Note: In this task you'll go over each component as you build the Web Slice.</p> <p>a. To begin, open Notepad as administrator, open DataFoundReport.aspx located in the c:\inetpub\wwwroot\northwind-ie8 folder. You will see the following. Since you will add your Web Slice to the content portion of the page, look for the “content” division.</p>  |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|---|--|
| | <p>Note: Notice that this report includes a form, holding only a Repeater control. That’s the content you want to focus on for the Web Slice.</p> <p>To begin, you need an element using class name hslice. The element must also include an ID. This is the entire region of a Web Slice, with title, description, and other properties.</p> <p>b. Between the Form and Repeater elements type:</p> <pre><div class="hslice" id="myslice"></pre> <p>Note: You need an element with class "entry-title". This class name is defined in the hAtom Microformat. You can have more than one per Web Slice. The title is what is displayed in the button on the Favorites bar.</p> <p>c. After the hslice division line type:</p> <pre><p class="entry-title">View Added Contact Information</p></pre> <p>Note: This property is not required. It displays when the user previews the Web Slice on the Favorites bar. This class is also defined in the hAtom Microformat. You need an element with class "entry-content". Like Entry Title, you can have more than one per Web Slice.</p> <p>d. After the entry-title line type: <pre><div class="entry-content"></pre></p> <p>e. To finish the Web Slice, just close off the open elements between the Form and Repeater closing tags by entering:</p> <pre></div> </div></pre> <p>f. Save the file and close Notepad. That’s it — the Web Slice is now ready for use by IE8 users once published to the site. There is no separate installation process like for Accelerators.</p> <p>Note: For this exercise, the server points to the folder where you modified the file, so no upload is required.</p> |
| <p>2. Subscribe to the Web Slice</p> | <p>Note: In this task you will discover and subscribe to the Web Slice.</p> <p>a. Point your browser to http://localhost/northwind-ie8/ and log on using the username rep1 and the password P@ssword. You will be logged on as the Sales Representative role.</p> <p>b. Click on the Data Found button. This opens the Data Found Report page showing any data pending for verification, if prompted, click No.</p> <p>c. Click on the web slice split button on the command bar. This prompts you to add the Web Slice to your browser Favorites bar.</p> |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|-------|--|
| |  <p>d. Click on the Add to Favorites Bar button. The Web Slice now shows up on the Favorites bar. It will flash when any updates are detected to title or the content.</p> <p>Note: Some web content expires, such as auction items. WebSlices can have an expiration time associated with them. Web slices are considered active until the expiration is reached, and warn when they are about to expire. It is specified using the endtime class.</p> <p>To add this to a web slice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Uses class name endtime. ▪ Uses the abbr-design-pattern to encode the date and time (wrap class in an abbr element). ▪ Date/time is encoded using ISO 8601 (RFC3339) <p>Time values can be expressed as a 24-hour clock with timezone offset using the ISO 8601 international standard for Date and Time on the Internet: Timestamps (RFC3339). The date/time string follows the common format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ YYYY - MM-DDThh:mm:ss[Z (+ -)hh:mm]. ▪ YYYY - 4-digit year ▪ MM - month, 01 through 12 ▪ DD - day, 01 through 31 ▪ "T" - date/time separator ▪ hh - hour, 00 through 23 ▪ mm - minute, 00 through 59 ▪ ss - second, 00 through 59 (optional) ▪ "Z" - GMT/UTC timezone, <u>OR</u> a specific offset as follows: ▪ ("+" "-")hh:mm - hour and minute of timezone <p>The date/time value is specified in the title attribute so the inner text of the element can be used for a user-friendly time representation.</p> <p>In the example below, the web slice expires on August 28 at 5 P.M, Pacific Standard Time, accounting for Daylight Savings Time.</p> |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps |
|--|--|
| | <pre><div class="hslice" id="1"> <p class="entry-title">Item - \$66.00</p> <div class="entry-content">high bidder: buyer1 </br> <p>End time:<abbr class="endtime" title="2008-08-28T17:00:00-07:00">28 Aug 08, 5pm PST</abbr></p> </div> </div></pre> <p>Note: If a user has Internet Explorer 8 open, the Web Slice button indicates expiration by glowing around 5 minutes before 5 P.M. After 5 P.M. the text on the button is gray, meaning that the web slice has expired. The button is still active in the expired state, so that users can navigate to the Web page.</p> <p>The standard update interval for Internet Explorer 8 is every 24 hours. The user may make this as small as 15 minutes through the web slice properties dialog. To conserve bandwidth from excessive refreshes, a web slice may be given a minimum time to wait before Internet Explorer 8 will check for an update. For example, if a web slice specifies a value of 180 minutes, the download engine will not check for updates more frequently than every three hours, even if the user has set the scheduled interval to 60 minutes.</p> <p>This minimum time set in the web slice is called time to live (ttl). To add this functionality to a web slice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Uses class name ttl in a span element. ▪ The value of the Time-to-Live element must be an integer. ▪ Represents the concept of RSS 2.0 ttl. <p>In the example below, the web slice is set to have a minimum update of 30 minutes.</p> <pre><div class="hslice" id="1"> <p class="entry-title">Item - \$66.00</p> <div class="entry-content">high bidder: buyer1 </br> <p>This clip updates every 30 minutes </p> </div> </div></pre> |
| <p>3. Delete Previous Web Slice</p> | <p>Note: In this task you'll remove the previous web slice.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> On the Data Found Report window, right-click the View Added Contact Information button on the Favorites bar. On the context menu, click the Delete menu item. Click Yes to confirm delete. Close open browser windows. |
| <p>4. Add TTL and Expiration To Web Slice</p> | <p>Note: In this task you'll update the Web Slice adding a 45 minute time to live.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To begin, open Notepad as administrator, open DataFoundReport.aspx located in the c:\inetpub\wwwroot\northwind-ie8 folder. After the entry-content division line, type: <pre><p>This clip may update every 45 minutes </p></pre> After the TTL line, type: <pre><p>Expires: <abbr class="endtime" title="2008-12-31T23:59:59Z">31 Dec 2008 near midnight</abbr></p></pre> <p>Note: IE8 will flash the web slice on the Favorites bar when expiration is within three and seven minutes. For this exercise, you may modify the title attribute to reflect current date and appropriate time in the future to see it approach and actually expire.</p> |

| Tasks | Detailed Steps | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|--|--|---------------|--------------|----------|---------------------|--|----------|--------------------|--------------|----------|
| | <p><i>Keep in mind to use “-hh:mm” rather than “Z” to use a local time—it will depend on time zone and Daylight Savings Time.</i></p> <p>d. Save and close the file.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>5. Subscribe to the Updated Web Slice</p> | <p>Note: <i>In this task you will discover and subscribe to the Web Slice.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Point your browser to http://localhost/northwind-ie8/ and log on using the username rep1, password P@ssword. This will log you on as the Sales Representative role. Click on the Data Found button. This opens the Data Found Report page showing any data pending for verification Click on the web slice split button on the command bar. This prompts you to add the Web Slice to your browser Favorites bar. Click on the Add to Favorites Bar button. The Web Slice now shows up on the Favorites bar. It will flash when any updates are detected to title or the content. Click on the View Added Contact Information Favorites button. You’ll see the updated preview with the new content.  <p>The screenshot shows a web browser window titled 'Northwind Traders - Data Found Report'. The address bar shows 'http://localhost/northwind-ie8/DataFoundReport.aspx'. A modal window titled 'Data' is open, displaying a table with contact information:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Data</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yoshi Latimer</td> <td>098.765.4321</td> <td>COMPLETE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Consulting Services</td> <td></td> <td>COMPLETE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Braunschweiger</td> <td>444.987.1234</td> <td>COMPLETE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The background page shows a navigation menu with categories like EMPLOYEES, CUSTOMERS, EMAIL, TASKS, and LOGIN. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Local intranet Protected Mode: Off'.</p> | Data | | | Yoshi Latimer | 098.765.4321 | COMPLETE | Consulting Services | | COMPLETE | Art Braunschweiger | 444.987.1234 | COMPLETE |
| Data | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yoshi Latimer | 098.765.4321 | COMPLETE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consulting Services | | COMPLETE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Art Braunschweiger | 444.987.1234 | COMPLETE | | | | | | | | | | | |