

Coldfusion 8 Forms & Ajax: Note To Self

Posted At : July 24, 2007 2:21 PM | Posted By : Jason

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Just a quick note - more to myself than anyone else. But, since I ran into this, I suspect that someone else will to.

I often build multiple input forms on 1 page: form action=#cgi.script_name#. I then add some type of hidden variable the tells the form to move on to step 2 when its been submitted. Better than having 5 pages of forms to manage and helps to not freak out the user when they see huge input forms. I'm sure lots of folks do similar types of things.

Anyway, I'm currently creating an input form with some autosuggest elements and then when the user submits the form (which is now asynchronous), the 'next' form that I display to the user had a second ajax control - a datefield. However - time and time again, after I submit form 1, I got an error telling me that CF didn't load the proper libraries, and couldn't display the datefield properly.

Well, it turns out that all the ajax libraries for the page are initially loaded when form 1 is displayed - but when it is time for form 2 to display - the required datefield scripts are missing. So, quick solution is to use: cfajaximport tags="cfinput-datefield" at the top of your page (even though you may have properly wrapped your elements in a cflayout).

While all of these ajax tools are fantastic - I am finding them a bit quirky at times. I could see someone devoting an entire book to the cf 8 ajax toolkit (take note Ben - you'd get my 30 bucks in a flash.)

```

<!-- Without the import, this would fail -->
<cfajaximport tags="cfinput-datefield"/>
<cfparam name="TripAction" default="1">
<cflayout type="hbox">
<cflayoutarea overflow="visible" >
<cfform name="MyForm" action="#cgi.script_name#" >
<cfif TripAction eq '1'>
<table>
<tr>
<td nowrap valign="top" align="left">
    <div class="PublicLabel">Input 1: </div>
    <cfinput type="text" required="Yes" message="You must enter your xx" name="x" style="width:150px;"
    autosuggest="cfc:/XYZ/cfc/XYZLocal.Getxyz({cfautosuggestvalue})">
</td>
<td nowrap align="left">
    <div class="PublicLabel">Input 2: </div>
    <cfinput required="Yes" message="You must enter your arrival airport" type="text" name="y" style="width:150px;"
    autosuggest="cfc:/XYZ/cfc/XYZLocal.Getxyz({cfautosuggestvalue})">
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td colspan="2" align="right">
<input type="submit" value="Continue" class="PublicSubmit">
</td>
</tr>
</table>
<input type="hidden" name="tripaction" value="2">
<cfelseif TripAction eq '2'>
<tr>
<td nowrap width="240" valign="top" align="left">

```

```
<div class="PublicLabel">Departure Date: </div>
<cfinput type="datefield" name="mydate1" style="width:75px;" class="PublicInputDate">
</td>
<td nowrap width="350" align="left">

</td>
</tr>
<input type="hidden" name="tripaction" value="3">
</cfif>

</cform>

</cflayoutarea>
</cflayout>
```