

Manager servlet

Activating the manager servlet into Fedora requires some stuff to configure.

Overview

Fedora is now providing the [Fedora Service Framework](#) which allows the developer community to enhance the capabilities of the Fedora repository with new servlets. Debugging requires frequent starting and stopping of the Tomcat container, overall in this development step. But, by default, Fedora's Tomcat bundle does not activate the manager servlet which can help developers (and administrators) (un)deploy new services WAR archives more easily. In this howto, I will show you how you can activate the manager servlet and enjoy developing new Fedora services.

Technical Details

As we can see from the Tomcat documentation, the activation of the manager servlet is linked to the tomcat-users.xml file. Checking in your Fedora server, you can see to add a "manager" role to activate the manager servlet. So that will be the first step!

Tomcat manager role

Add this piece of code to your tomcat-users_fedoraTemplate.xml file:

```
...
<role rolename="manager" />
<user name="admin" password="admin" roles="manager"/>
...
```

You can change the name and the password of the user allowed access to the manager section.

At this point, I think most of Fedora's folks tried to restart Fedora to enjoy the manager servlet... but some other things are needed to do that.

The missing manager.xml file

A file is missing in the Fedora Tomcat bundle that's required for the manager servlet to run. The file is the manager.xml file which should be created under the folder:

```
$FEDORA_HOME/server/$TOMCAT_DIR/conf/Catalina/localhost/
```

The manager.xml file contains the following code:

```
<Context path="/manager" docBase="$
```

```
Unknown macro: {catalina.home}
```

```
/server/webapps/manager"
```

```
debug="0" privileged="true">
<ResourceLink name="users" global="UserDatabase"
type="org.apache.catalina.UserDatabase" />
```

```
</Context>
```

Now we need to configure the UserDatabase realm in the server_fedoraTemplate.xml file.

Configuring the server_fedoraTemplate.xml

At this point we need to insert some code in the server_fedoraTemplate.xml to notify Tomcat about the resource the manager required to run.

Add the following code before the <service> tag:

```
<GlobalNamingResources>
<!-- Used by Manager webapp -->
<Resource name="UserDatabase" auth="Container"
type="org.apache.catalina.UserDatabase"
description="User database that can be updated and saved">
</Resource>
<ResourceParams name="UserDatabase">
<parameter>
<name>factory</name>
<value>org.apache.catalina.users.MemoryUserDatabaseFactory</value>
</parameter>
<parameter>
<name>pathname</name>
<value>conf/tomcat-users.xml</value>
</parameter>
</ResourceParams>
</GlobalNamingResources>
```

You have to activate the UserDatabase realm in the <Engine> section:

```
<Realm className="org.apache.catalina.realm.UserDatabaseRealm"
debug="0" resourceName="UserDatabase" />
```

That's all 😊! Now you have to restart your Fedora server in order to get the manager running.

Greetings

Thanks a lot to Fedora's folks asked me to submit this howto.

See Also

- [Fedora Service Framework](#)
- [Tomcat Manager application](#)