

## Mobile Web Application Course

### Lab # 4

#### Form Handling

The objective of this lab is to learn and understand how to create server-side scripts for handling forms.

#### Exercise 1: Creating a form

There are two main attributes in any form: method and action. The method indicates the type of form handling or protocol (i.e. Post or Get), and the action indicates the URL to which the data of the form should be sent/forwarded.

Create a file called Lab4a.cfm that contains the following form elements:

- Input textbox for First name (name attribute: FirstName)
- Input textbox for Last name (name attribute: LastName)
- Drop down menu for color selection (name attribute: MyColor)
- Check box button for image display option (name attribute: Image)
- Submit and reset buttons

Add the name attribute to all of the form elements as follows:

```
<input type="textbox" name="FirstName">.....
```

Add four color choices into the “MyColor” drop down menu as follows:

- **Choice: Yellow**                      **value: #FFFF00 (default)**
- Choice: Red                            value: #FF0000
- Choice: Green                         value: #00FF00
- Choice: Blue                          value: #0000FF

Make the yellow color the default color for the drop down menu. Also, set the default value for the image checkbox to 1. The following form should look something like this:

First Name	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Background Color	Yellow <input type="button" value="v"/>
Display Image	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="button" value="Create Page"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/>	

Download any image and use it for display purposes based on the choice of the “Display Image” option.

*HINT: You can create a table with two columns and five rows and begin inserting the form elements into the corresponding cells as shown above.*

The following should appear in the BlackBerry device.



**Question:** *What will happen if you click on the submit button?*

In order to process the form, you will need a handler that will handle the information from the form. The form handler, or the action page, is the page that is responsible for retrieving or collection the values of all form elements which can then be processed by the action page.

Create an action page called Lab4b.cfm and begin collecting the information from the form elements in lab4a.cfm. To achieve this, use the following format to create local variables in the action page and assign the values of the form elements to them as follows:

```
<cfset var_name = #form.element_name#>
```

where var\_name is the local variable name and form.element\_name is the name of the element in the form (from Lab4a.cfm).

Assign the background color from the form element MyColor. Also, use a conditional statement (using <cfif>) to check whether the checkbox element Image is set to 1. Based on the choice of the checkbox element, determine whether to display the image or not.

Display the results of the form in the action page in a simple table format. The following output should appear in the BlackBerry device.

*Input Form (Lab4a.cfm)*



*output with image selected*

