

How to

Use the Login Handler

- Tools:** Application Manager,
Presentation Server Administration,
Altio DB Manager.
- Duration:** 10 minutes
- Skill Level:** Easy
- Summary:** An introduction to understand the core
concepts of the Login Handler and
of the User Manager.

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Introduction

Welcome

As a new AltioLive developer you should use this document to help you:


- Understand the core concepts of the Demo Login Handler
- Access the User Manager to configure the Demo Login Handler

No exercises are included in this document. It provides a general introduction to the Login Handler.

What you will need

You should have already completed the **Introduction to the Smart Client** and the **Getting Started with the Designer** documents. You will need a basic understanding of web applications and XML.

Should you need help

The online help (available from the AltioLive console or by clicking the  button in any of the Altio tools) gives detailed instructions on all features of AltioLive, and includes a detailed troubleshooting section.

License Terms

The software is licensed under the terms committed to when the software was explicitly licensed or under the terms you (or someone else) committed to when they installed the software.

Demo Login Manager concepts

The Demo Login Manager is used to create user sessions so that users can access your prototype application from outside AltioLive Studio through a login page.

The Demo Login Manager uses an xml file to store users' login info of an application. Password and view file has to be set when creating user accounts. By default, no user accounts are created, when you create a new project in Studio. These must be added manually. Sample applications and techlets however do have test user account created. If you want to control who can access them, you shall remove these test user accounts.

The interface to the login manager is the User Manager. This allows you to add and delete users.

The login handler does not need to be used until you are ready to have your application tested from outside Studio environment.

When deploying a real application, you should use your own login handler; this means you can use a graphical presentation specific to your application.

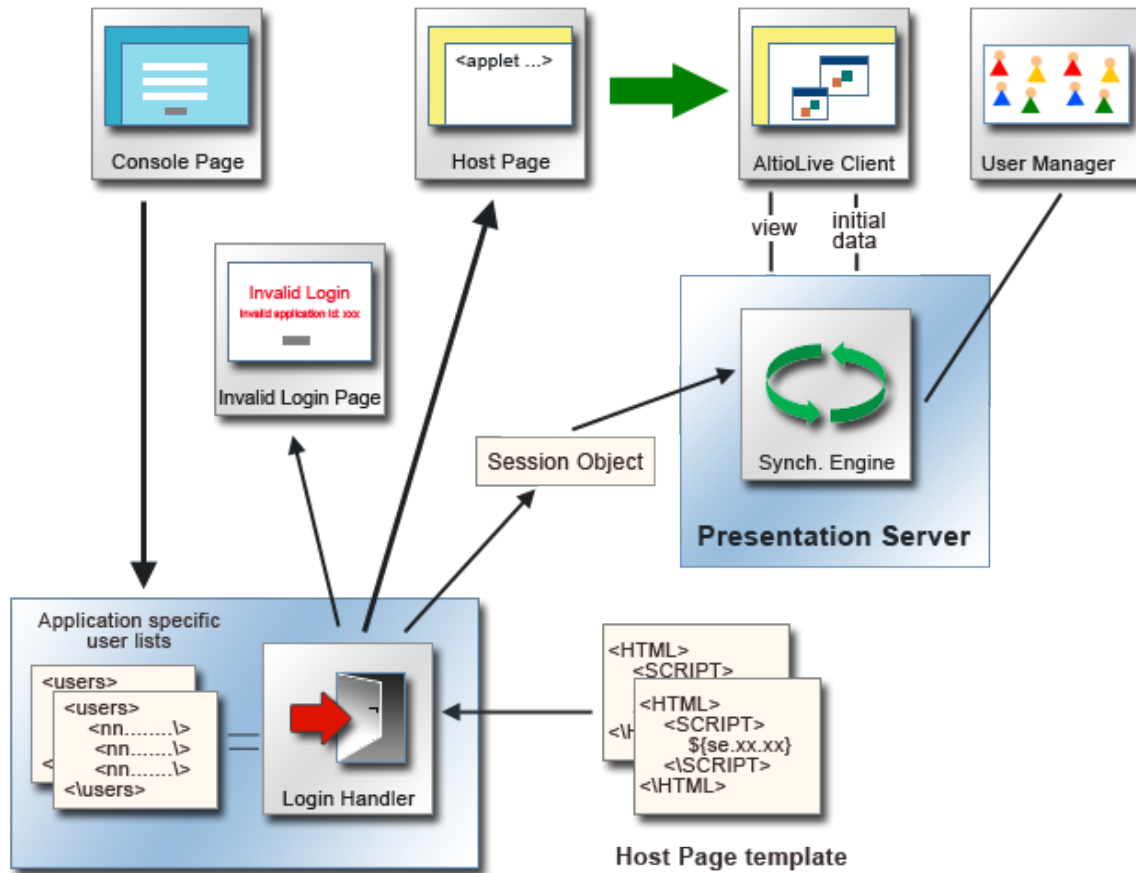
A custom login handler gives you the option of getting additional custom details from users; such as a company name. Alternatively, a login page may not be required so that users could login automatically without identifying themselves.

You can get examples of a no login handler and a custom login handler from Altio website. Go to **Developers->Library** to get the sample codes.

How the Login Handler works

The logon process uses the following steps:

1. Users access the login console page by typing the URL or following a link.
2. Users enter their login details to access the application.
This invokes the login handler, which will check that the user's details match one of the user accounts defined in the application specific user list, and that the application is active.
3. If any of the login details are incorrect, or if the application is inactive, the user will be redirected to an **Invalid Logon** page.
4. On successful login, the login handler creates a session object on the Application Server. If, during this process, the Presentation Server is found to not be already operational, it will be started.
5. The browser is redirected to the host page for the application and passed the session cookie.
6. The host page loads the AltioLive Smart Client from the server (or a local cache).
7. The AltioLive Smart Client requests its View and associated initial data using the session cookie to identify the session.
8. The view and the initial data for the application will be downloaded to the browser.
9. Data Updates are either streamed to, or polled from, the Client. If streaming is used, the streaming connection is opened in response to the first Data Update request and any available new data is sent to the Client. If polling is used, the first poll occurs after logon. Any available new data is sent to the Client.



Details of the Host Page are specified in the Host Page template (a text file containing HTML named **htmltemplate.txt**), which is specific to each Application.

The HTML code defines the look of the host page; the Altio applet may occupy the whole page or share the page with HTML defined areas around the applet space. To give the host page a different look, modify the file for your own application.

The template also contains session parameters that are substituted by the Presentation Server. For example, the standard HTML template checks whether the session should use a secure request or not.

User Manager

The User Manager configures user accounts for AltioLive Demo Login Handler.

If you have your own login servlet, you will usually not need to use the User Manager.

Start Presentation Server

Presentation Server must be started before using AltioLive. Tomcat application server is bundled with AltioLive studio.

Log in to AltioLive Studio

1. From your **Start** Menu, select **Programs | AltioLive Studio... | Start Presentation Server**.
2. After the tomcat server finished loading, select **Programs | AltioLive Studio... | AltioLive Studio**.
3. Expand an existing project or create a new project by right-clicking on **My Projects** node and select **New Project...**
4. Double-click **altioappusers.xml** to open the **User Manager** application.

User Manager features

New User

Accounts can be defined for specific usernames and passwords. This can be useful if you want to give users different View files.

If you want all users to login, and not have separate accounts, you can use the ***** character for the username. This also means all users will use the password you specify.

Edit/Delete a User

User details can be edited or deleted.

HTML template

You can nominate a different HTML template file to be used for some users. Usually this would only be necessary if you wanted the web page to have a different look (e.g. for Administrator users). The path is relative to the application directory (e.g. `/${context}/WEB-INF/classes/apps/appName`).

View file

The View file controls which Application View the user is given. This affects which functionality is available to the user. The path is relative to the application directory (e.g. `./${context}/WEB-INF/classes/apps/appName`).

URL to access your application

After creating a user with the **User Manager**, you can access your application using the following demo login page:

<http://localhost:8077/altio54/demo-console.jsp>

or directly accessing the demo login handler (Servlet) via following url:

http://localhost:8077/altio54/servlet/com.altio.login.AltioLogin?TYPE=LOGIN&APP_ID=ROS&USER_NAME=demo&PASSWORD=demo

where **ROS** is the ID of your project. If you are running AltioLive Studio, you can find out the ID of your project by right-clicking the project node and select **Edit Project....** The example url above shows user name and password are both demo.

Other sources of help

- **Online help**

More troubleshooting help is available in the online help, which can be accessed by clicking the question mark icon on any Altio window, or from the Altio Console.

- **Developer Center**

<http://www.altio.com/developer/> - a community-gathering place where you'll find the technical resources, knowledge, and peer advice that will assure your success in building and deploying Altio applications.

<http://www.altio.com/forums/> - a wealth of questions and answers from members of the Altio community.

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