

Adding a Dynamic jQuery Progressbar to the ColdFusion Twitter/Google Maps Mashup

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Because my [ColdFusion driven Twitter/Google Maps Mashup](#) is so slow, I decided that it would be nice to have a dynamic progress bar, which updates the status as each of the user's friend's addresses are being looked up. I knew that the [jQuery UI project](#) has a [Progressbar widget](#), so I did a quick Google for "jQuery Progressbar ColdFusion", and, no big surprise, came across a [blog post](#) by [Ray Camden](#) on the topic. That was enough to get me started, but Ray didn't cover creating a dynamic progress bar that is updated by the currently running page.

I figured that I could build something using cfflush, and I was not mistaken. Here's a summary of what I did:

When the form is submitted I first load the required CSS and JS files, and then create a div for my Progressbar and Status message, after which I attach the Progressbar to the div. Then I call cfflush to push all of that to the browser.

```
<cfoutput>

<link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" href="jquery-ui-1.7.1.custom.css" />

<script src="jquery-1.3.2.js"></script>

<script type="text/javascript" src="ui.core.js"></script>

<script type="text/javascript" src="ui.progressbar.js"></script>

<div id="pb" style="width: 500px;"></div>

<div id="status" style="width: 500px;" align="center">Status: Asking Twitter for your friends...</div>

<script type="text/javascript">

    $("#pb").progressbar({value:0});

</script>

</cfoutput>

<cfflush />
```

Next I'm asking Google Geocode to look up the user's location, so I update the status:

```
<cfoutput>

<script type="text/javascript">

    $("#status").text("Status: Looking up your location...");

</script>

</cfoutput>

<cfflush />
```

Then I loop through all of the user's friends, trying to look up their location. Note that this snippet is abridged to just show the status update code:

```
<cfloop array="#personArray#" index="friend">

<cfset pbValue = Int((friendsToFind-myFriendsCount+1)/friendsToFind * 100) />

... snip ...

<cfoutput>

<script type="text/javascript">

    $("#status").text("Status: Looking up your friends locations - #pbValue% complete...");

    $("#pb").progressbar('option','value',#pbValue#);

</script>

</cfoutput>

<cfflush />

</cfloop>
```

This all works perfectly well on my dev machine, using Apache as the web server, but it didn't seem to work quite as well in my online demo. I did some googling and it seems that there are some issues with cfflush and IIS, which I am in the process of investigating. Expect an update in the near future.

As always, the complete code for the mashup is attached to this post.