Subject: Re: Multi-page Wizards
Posted by AJM on Mon, 22 Jan 2007 10:56:17 GMT
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I tend to avoid multi-page transactions that store intermediate data in memory, and not write anything to the database until the last page has been processed, for the simple reason that if anything fails before the final database update then all that user input is lost and has to be re-entered.

I prefer to write each completed page to the database with a status of 'PENDING' so that no data is ever lost. The status is not changed to 'CONFIRMED' until the last page is processed.

In this way it does not matter if the server crashes, their PC crashes, or the line goes down and drops the connection, no data (apart from fresh input on the current screen) will be lost.

You can either use a single database table with PENDING and CONFIRMED status, or use separate tables for the PENDING details.