

POSCONNECT TIMEOUT TRAP

Overview

The POSConnect Listener timeout trap is a modification of the existing POSConnect code so that when a timeout occurs during a purchase/refund transaction, running the Colleague subroutine XS.TCSPOS.PREPURCH, the XML that will be sent back will have a success status, along with a message indicating that the transaction is still processing in Colleague.

Operational Detail

POSConnect uses UniObjects for Java libraries that are distributed with UniData, which is distributed with Colleague. These libraries provide a mechanism for connecting to a UniData database using Java, running subroutines and handling disconnections and timeouts. The POSConnect listener always included a method for timing out, but before this modification, the error message that was sent would be a database connection error message.

The timeout trap modification changes the database connection error message, and instead sends a successful transaction message as the XML response to the incoming transaction. It works by first detecting the timeout, and then changing the message if the database connection issue was a timeout and if the transaction was a purchase. For all other types of transactions, a database timeout error message will be sent. For each time the portion of this code is executed, a special line to the log file is written, which is later used for parsing and creating a report to check for such transactions.

The timeout is controlled by the POSConnect.properties file that controls the settings for each instance of the listener. Each listener has its own POSConnect.properties file. In this line, the timeout is given in seconds:

```
TCSPOS.database.timeoutInSeconds=60
```

This indicates the timeout for that listener instance is 60 seconds. Each Colleague transaction has to complete in 60 seconds, or a timeout will be reached.

Reporting

In the base POSConnect installation directory, /datatel/services/POSConnect, there are two new scripts. The first one is called cspREPORT and it prints out to the screen all the transactions that timed out for the current day. The second one, called cspMAIL, will e-mail the report as an attachment to the configurable recipient list. To add more recipients, edit the cspMAIL file and add recipients to the end of the last line in the file, separated by spaces. The cspMAIL job can be automated via cron to be run periodically.

Options:

Syntax 1:

```
cspREPORT  
cspMAIL
```

When no arguments are specified it prints or emails all the trapped students for the current live log file. This is the most recent date that the register was used to create transactions.

Syntax 2:

```
cspREPORT yyyy-mm-dd  
cspMAIL yyyy-mm-dd
```

When entering a date in the above format in the command line it prints or emails all trapped students in the log file for the specified date.

Syntax 3:

```
cspREPORT all  
cspMAIL all
```

Entering all in the command line it prints or emails all trapped students for the all log files in the archive including the existing live log file.