Zend_Filter_Null - Thomas Weidner

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Zend Framework: Zend_Filter_Null Component Proposal

Proposed Component Name	Zend_Filter_Null
Developer Notes	http://framework.zend.com/wiki/display/ZFDEV/Zend_Filter_Null
Proposers	Thomas Weidner
Zend Liaison	TBD
Revision	1.0 - 14 June 2009: Initial Draft. (wiki revision: 5)

Table of Contents

1. Overview
2. References
3. Component Requirements, Constraints, and Acceptance Criteria
4. Dependencies on Other Framework Components
5. Theory of Operation
6. Milestones / Tasks
7. Class Index
8. Use Cases
9. Class Skeletons

1. Overview

Zend_Filter_Null is a component which allows to accept empty values as NULL in case of a database useage.

2. References

[ZF-3808]

3. Component Requirements, Constraints, and Acceptance Criteria

- This component **will** change values to be NULL
- This component **will** allow to change which values should be changed

4. Dependencies on Other Framework Components

- Zend_Filter_Null

5. Theory of Operation

This component will filter input values to be null. This is needed for databases when a '0' or '' is not equal to NULL. You can edit which inputs are changed to NULL. Per default the values '' (empty string), 0 (integer or string 0), and false (boolean false) are changed to NULL.

The filtered value itself can then savely be stored in a database without any change.

6. Milestones / Tasks

- Milestone 1: [DONE] Proposal finished
- Milestone 2: [DONE] Proposal accepted
- Milestone 3: [DONE] Coding finished
- Milestone 4: [DONE] Unit tests finished
- Milestone 5: [DONE] Documentation finished
- Milestone 6: [DONE] Component moved to core

7. Class Index

- Zend_Filter_Null

8. Use Cases

UC-01

```
$filter = new Zend_Filter_Null();
$filter->filter(''); // returns NULL
```

UC-02

```
$filter = new Zend_Filter_Null(Zend_Filter_Null::ZERO_INT);
$filter->filter(0); // -> NULL
$filter->filter('0'); // -> '0' -> no change as it's no integer zero
```

UC-03

```
$filter = new Zend_Filter_Null(Zend_Filter_Null::ZERO_INT);
$filter->setType(Zend_Filter_Null::ZERO_INT && Zend_Filter_Null::ZERO_STRING)
       ->filter(0); // -> NULL
$filter->filter('0'); // -> NULL
```

9. Class Skeletons

```
class Zend_Filter_Null {
    const ZERO_INT;
    const ZERO_STRING;
    const EMPTY_STRING;
    const EMPTY_ARRAY;
    const FALSE_BOOLEAN;
    const ALL;

    public function __construct($options = ALL);
    public function setType($type);
    public function getType();
    public function filter($value);
}
```

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