Returning values from mySQL in a select query as Yes/No rather than 1/0

Posted At : 5 March 2010 11:48 | Posted By : Shaun McCran Related Categories: Coldfusion, SQL

Whilst writing a ColdFusion based query to create a JSON response I thought I'd look up returning data values as a "Yes/No" string rather than "1/0". Then I wouldn't have to transform it in any way to use in the JSON build script.

The mySQL version allows you to do this by evaluating the value, and matching a string if the condition is met, like this:

SQL version:				
SELECT	intid, varuserfname, varusersn	name, IF(intactive<>0, "Yes", "No")		
	FROM	table.users		

This does not work in ColdFusion at all. An error is thrown:

The web site you are accessing has experienced an unexpected error. Please contact the website administrator.

The following information is meant for the website developer for debugging purposes.		
Error Occurred While Processing Request		
[Table (rows 10 columns INTID, VARUSERFNAME, VARUSERSNAME, IF(INTACTIVE<>0, 'YES', 'NO')): [INTID: coldfusion.sql.QueryColumn@1dba911] [VARUSERFNAME: coldfusion.sql.QueryColumn@38c306] [VARUSERSNAME: coldfusion.sql.QueryColumn@8bc73b] [IF(INTACTIVE<>0, 'YES', 'NO'): coldfusion.sql.QueryColumn@c53365]] is not indexable by IF(INTACTIVE<>0		
ColdFusion cannot determine the line of the template that caused this error. This is often caused by an error in the exception handling subsystem.		

After a little tweaking it seems that if you alias the field it does work. In the example code below I've simply aliased the field with its own name.

I'm not exactly clear why, as the error message above isn't all that helpful.

	CF version:					
SE	SELECT intid, varuserfname, varusersname, IF(intactive<>0, 'Yes	, 'No') as intactive				
	FROM table.users					