

How It Works

The ECinteractive web storefront is a self-contained ecommerce site providing fast, convenient shopping in a secure environment. While a guest visitor may be allowed to shop without registering for an account or logging in, checkout requires additional security for the consumer's protection. Additional personalized services such as Favorites Lists, Machine Matching, Account History and so on are secure areas where customers must first login before being granted access.

ECinteractive's internal login page collects and validates a customer's User Name and Password – and authenticates these credentials against registered guest or user records. By default, ECinteractive's login mechanism uses its own User Name and Password form fields.

However, the login page can also accept customer credentials from an external site. As a result, dealers can build and house their own login page or form on their own site, where customers can enter their User Name and Password and log directly into ECinteractive.

This document describes how to build a custom login page and use it to automatically log customers into ECinteractive.

Requirements

Posting user credentials to ECinteractive is safe and easy; however, there are several things that must be in place for automatic login to work properly:

- ❑ **Externally Hosted Web Site:** Some dealers have an existing Web site, hosted by their own Internet Service Provider or IT facilities. The ability to offer automatic login serves as a user-friendly convenience to shoppers, minimizing the number of clicks and page views, and integrating ECinteractive more seamlessly with the rest of their business's Web presence. (If you do not have your own externally hosted site, you can simply use your ECinteractive site hosted at ECi as your Web presence, in which case external login is not necessary.)
- ❑ **Secure Socket Layer (SSL) Encryption and HTTPS connection:** For the protection of consumers' financial data, login credentials in ECinteractive are encrypted and transmission of them using the standard login page is done over an encrypted channel using Secure Socket Layer (SSL). As long as you post to the HTTPS version of the ECILogin.aspx page, you will be transmitting the user's data securely.
- ❑ **Custom Web Page and Form:** To give your shoppers a login box on your site, you must build and maintain your own custom login page or form on your externally hosted site. Two input form fields, named ECinteractiveUN and ECinteractivePW, will be used for your shoppers to enter their user name and password. The visual layout and style of this form is up to your Webmaster. However, for security's sake your HTML form must pass the values using an HTTP POST request. If you attempt to pass credentials using HTTP GET, they will be ignored.

How To Do It

Implementation Checklist

Before you implement changes in a production environment, complete these steps .

- Design and Build Custom Login Page
 - Web Form Uses HTTP POST
 - HTTP POST Points to the HTTPS URL of the ECinteractive Login Page
 - User Name Field is Named “ECinteractiveUN”
 - Password Field is Named “ECinteractivePW”
- Test Automatic Login against ECinteractive
- Place the Form on your Web Site

For more details on each step, read on.

Building a Custom Login Page or Form

Building a custom login page capable of triggering ECinteractive’s automatic login feature is a straightforward process.

Automatic login forms must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The FORM element must contain a **METHOD** attribute whose value is set to “**POST**”,
- 2) The FORM must be submitted to the ECinteractive Login page for your site. In the examples below, the URL to our server’s login page uses a SSL connection (HTTPS), and {your site here} represents your ECi account company name or number.

a. ECinteractive site:

<https://www.ecinteractive.com/{your site here}/ECILogin.aspx>

b. is.D-Force 2 site:

<https://www.dforce2.com/{your site here}/ECILogin.aspx>

- 3) The User Name and Password fields must be specifically named “**ECinteractiveUN**” and “**ECinteractivePW**”, respectively. (The same ECinteractive_ field names apply to is.D-Force 2 sites; do not change the field names).

(Optional) We recommend two links, which experienced shoppers may expect to see near login boxes. In the examples below, {your site here} represents your ECi account company name or number. Again, is.D-Force URLs will start with “www.dforce2.com”.

- 4) Include a link to the **password recovery** page as a convenience to your customers:
<http://www.ecinteractive.com/{ your site here}/ForgotPassword.aspx>
<http://www.dforce2.com/{ your site here}/ForgotPassword.aspx>
- 5) *If you allow **guest shopping** with a credit card*, include a link to your home page.
<https://www.ecinteractive.com/{your site here}/>
<https://www.dforce2.com/{your site here}/>

(For more details, see “Guest User Checkout and Order History” and “User Types and Self-Registration” on the ECinteractive FAQs page)

Sample HTML Code

The sample HTML code below shows the login form, input boxes, button, and links contained in a basic HTML table:

```
<form id="ecLogin" method="post" action="https://www.ecinteractive.com/{your site
here}/ECILogin.aspx">
  <table cellpadding="5" cellspacing="1" style="border: solid 1px #dddddd;">
    <tr>
      <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #eae5d2; font-weight: bold; text-
align: center">
        Shop Online!</th>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td style="text-align: right;">
          User Name:</td>
        <td>
          <input type="text" id="ECinteractiveUN" name="ECinteractiveUN"
style="border: solid 1px #dddddd;
          width: 100px;" />
        </td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td style="text-align: right;">
          Password:</td>
        <td>
          <input type="password" id="ECinteractivePW" name="ECinteractivePW"
style="border: solid 1px #dddddd;
          width: 100px;" />
        </td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">
          <input type="submit" value="Login" />
        </td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">
          <a href="http://www.ecinteractive.com/{ your site
here}/ForgotPassword.aspx">Forgot
          password?</a>
        </td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">
          <a href=" https://www.ecinteractive.com/{your site here}"/>Shop As a Guest
Instead</a>
        </td>
      </tr>
    </table>
  </form>
```

If you use this sample code, replace {your site here} to point to your own site.

Again, ECIinteractive imposes no restrictions on the physical look of the login page. The User Name and Password input boxes can be placed inside any HTML structure. The table formatting and in-line style attributes are optional, and may be controlled by your site's cascading style sheets (CSS) instead. The standard submit button can be replaced with an image using a JavaScript onclick event handler. For assistance, consult your Webmaster.

Test Automatic Login against ECinteractive

Set up a test customer account in ECinteractive with an email account to which you have access.

Place the login form you created on a test page that is not visible to customers yet.

Open the test page in a browser or two (we recommend different versions of Internet Explorer and FireFox), and use your test account name and password to make sure it takes you directly to your ECinteractive home page and identifies your test account name in the header.

If it passes testing, publish your login form in your Web site and publish the navigation links to it.

Troubleshooting Common Problems

Even though implementing automatic login is a simple process, there are several things that must be put into place for it to work properly. The following represents the most common problems encountered when setting up automatic login and their respective solutions.

Problem	Cause	Solution
The ECinteractive login page opens with blank User Name and Password fields.	The custom login page is not posting data to ECinteractive's SSL login page. (The form action URL may begin with the unsecured "HTTP"..)	Ensure your web form is posting to ECinteractive over a secure SSL connection (make sure the form action URL begins with "HTTPS").
	The custom login page form is not using HTTP POST to send data (The form's METHOD may be undefined, or set to GET, which is ignored.).	Ensure the METHOD attribute of the FORM element is set to "POST".
	The User Name field is not named correctly.	Ensure the User Name input field is named "ECinteractiveUN".
	The Password field is not named correctly.	Ensure the Password input field is named "ECinteractivePW".
The ECinteractive login page opens, showing the correct User Name, but the password is blank and there is no error.	The Password entered into the custom login page was incorrect.	There is nothing wrong with the form. The results indicate the transmission of data is working correctly. The user simply entered the password incorrectly, and should try again from the current page.
The ECinteractive login page opens with a "login failed" error.	Both the login name and password entered into the custom login page were incorrect.	Again, nothing wrong with the form. The results indicate the transmission of data is working correctly. The user simply entered the wrong credentials, and should try again from the current page.

As always, contact your ECi Support team for assistance with any issues you may encounter.