

# Busting the Work Confluence

Thursday night on the couch, having a day off friday, I decided to do some layout work on the Confluence we use at my workplace (just for the fun of it, as my work is my hobby - sort of anyway).

I had created a new User Macro, that I wanted to implement on the Dashboard, so I started editing in the Global Layouts in Confluence to place it on the Dashboard:

Decorator	Operations
<b>Main Layout</b> Defines the generic header and footer for all pages in Confluence.	< default > · <a href="#">Create custom</a> · <a href="#">View Default</a>
<b>Global Layout</b> Defines the appearance of the dashboard and a user's profile.	<a href="#">Edit</a> · <a href="#">Reset Default</a> · <a href="#">View Default</a>
<b>Popup Layout</b> Popup windows such as the user history popup are displayed using this layout.	< default > · <a href="#">Create custom</a> · <a href="#">View Default</a>
<b>Printable Layout</b> The layout used to display the page when the user clicks the "printable" icon in the top-right of the page.	< default > · <a href="#">Create custom</a> · <a href="#">View Default</a>

As part of the changing of the Dashboard code, I entered:

```
{html}<font size="4">Space Quick Select</font>{html}
```

pressed "Save" and:



the Confluence went down - just giving me a "Service Unavailable" from the Traffic Manager.

Shit, I restarted the instance- no improvement.....so starting to diagnose:

```
npn@docs01:~$ wget -O - localhost:8080
--2014-01-30 21:46:27-- http://localhost:8080/
Resolving localhost... ::1, 127.0.0.1
Connecting to localhost|::1|:8080... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 500 Internal Server Error
2014-01-30 21:46:28 ERROR 500: Internal Server Error.

npn@docs01:~$
```

Hm, error 500, diagnosing further:

```

root@docs01:/pack/confluence-data/logs# tail -f atlassian-confluence.log
caused by: java.lang.RuntimeException: Error rendering template for decorator global
at com.atlassian.confluence.setup.velocity.ApplyDecoratorDirective.render(ApplyDecoratorDirective.java:186)
caused by: org.apache.velocity.exception.ParseErrorException: Encountered "4" at /decorators/global.vmd[line
38, column 87]
Was expecting one of:
    "," ...
    ")" ...
    <WHITESPACE> ...

at org.apache.velocity.Template.process(Template.java:141)

```

So, It seems the code I put in the Global layout makes the Confluence crash totally, not just rendering the Dashboard, but TOTALLY!!!

I fired up for MySQL and looked at the DECORATORS table:

```

mysql> select DECORATORID,DECORATORNAME FROM DECORATOR;
+-----+-----+
| DECORATORID | DECORATORNAME |
+-----+-----+
|      64913409 | decorators/global.vmd |
|      48300036 | decorators/page.vmd |
|      59080705 | decorators/page.vmd |
+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>

```

Now, 2 choices are available:

1. Fix It
2. Delete the DECORATORID=64913409 record.

All though I am pretty sure number 2 works (same as using "Reset Default"), I went for number 1:

First, I shut down Confluence completely.

Then I made a complete dump of the Confluence Database:

```
mysqldump -uconfluence -p confluence > confluence.sql
```

After securing the backup, I dumped the DECORATOR table:

```
mysqldump -uconfluence -p confluence DECORATOR > DECORATOR.sql
```

After that, I changed the DECORATOR.sql file i the "vim" editor - stripping off everything but the record for DECORATORID=64913409, and change the "INSERT INTO" to an "UPDATE" so it looked like:

```
UPDATE DECORATORS SET `body`='### ...code...code...code.' WHERE DECORATORID=64913409
```

And the whole point being that I removed the "{html}<font size=\"4\">Space Quick Select</font>{html}" from the body code.

Finally, I put back the decorator:

```
mysql -uconfluence -p confluence < DECORATOR.sql
```

And started the Confluence Instance:



- up and running again