

Fusebox Workshop

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What is this about?

- A short history of Fusebox
- An overview of “modern” Fusebox
- Getting started with Fusebox 5.1
 - Installation and your first application
- Preview of Fusebox 5.5
- Questions & Answers

Who am I?

- Freelance Consultant
- CTO, Scazu Inc.
- Previously
 - Manager, Hosted Services, Adobe
 - Senior Architect, Macromedia
- Blogger – An Architect's View – since 2002
- ColdFusion developer since 2001
- Web Developer since 1997

History

- Originally a methodology in 1997
 - Structuring code with `<cfswitch>` / `<cfinclude>`
- Fusebox 2.0 brought a few core files in 2000
- Fusebox 3.0 was first true “framework” in 2001
- Fusebox 4.0 introduced XML config in 2003
 - Mach II also appeared as an offshoot of Fusebox
- Fusebox 5.0 (2006) – a complete rewrite – was the first major release that provided backward compatibility

Terminology

- Based on electrical metaphor
- Central control through a **Fusebox**
- Related functionality organized into **circuits**
- Individual files are **fuses**
 - Actions – business logic
 - Queries – database access
 - Display – presentation code
- Circuits define **fuseactions** that execute fuses

Modern Fusebox

- XML files to specify behavior:
 - Application configuration: fusebox.xml
 - Circuit specification: circuit.xml
- XML grammar can be extended (Fusebox 5.x)
- High-performance: XML compiled to CFML
- Supports Model-View-Controller
- Supports OO development

Getting Started

- Download the core files and skeleton app:
 - <http://fusebox.org/go/fusebox-downloads/core-files>
- Unzip the files:
 - **fusebox5** under your webroot
 - **skeleton** under your webroot
 - <http://localhost/skeleton/> - test the installation
- Can use **ant** to build new skeleton applications
 - Edit **build.xml** to set target directory and application name and then run the build file

Demo 1

- Show download / installation / test
- Show build of new application / test

Demo 2

- Show Scazu structure
 - Model-View-Controller
 - Controller has no fuses
 - Model has fuses but also uses CFCs
 - View has its own controller
 - Manages multiple layouts and output formats
 - Has display sub-circuit
 - Has layout sub-circuit

Fusebox 5.5 Themes

- Two themes
 - Simplify – remove barriers
 - Make it easier for newbies
 - Make building applications faster by favoring convention over configuration
 - Extend through extensibility
 - Provide new functionality outside the core
 - Add plugins, lexicons, even standardized circuits

Fusebox 5.5 Features (1)

- Application.cfc support
- Dynamic “do” feature
- Optional scaffolding generator

Demo 2

- Show Application.cfc support
- Show dynamic do

Fusebox 5.5 Features (2)

➤ **XML is optional**

Demo 3

- Show FUSEBOX_PARAMETERS
- Show auto-discover circuit.xml
- Show CFC-as-circuit
- Show auto-discover fuse CFML file

Resources

- <http://fusebox.org/> - Official Fusebox website
 - <http://fusebox.org/go/about/history> - History
- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fusebox5/> - Fusebox 5.x mailing list
- <http://corfield.org/> - An Architect's View

Questions?

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