New in CFMX 6&7

What did you miss?

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Topics

- Why worry about what came in 6&7?
- More than just "two releases"
- About the major features
- More than just the "major" features
- More than just CFML changes
- Migration issues
- What we've learned since each release
- Resources for learning more
- About the day-long CFUnited classes

About Charlie Arehart

- Independent consultant
  - Formerly CTO, New Atlanta (BlueDragon), 4/03-4/06
- 10 yrs CF experience (25 in Enterprise IT)
  - Member, Adobe Community Experts
  - Certified Adv CF Developer (4 - 7), Cert. Adobe Instructor
  - Co-author, ColdFusion MX Bible (Wiley)
  - Contributor to upcoming CF8 WACK books
  - Frequent contrib. to ColdFusion Dev Journal, blogs, lists
    - Tech Editor, CFDJ (2001-2003)
  - Until recently, President, Atlanta ColdFusion User Group
  - Now co-lead (w/ Ray Camden) of Online ColdFusion Meetup (http://coldfusion.meetup.com/17)
  - Frequent speaker: UGs, conf's worldwide
  - Living in Alpharetta, Georgia (north of Atlanta)
- Web home at www.carehart.org
  - Hosts my blog; lists all my past articles, presentations
  - UGTV: recordings of dozens of CFUG speakers
  - AskCharlie: per-minute telephone & web-based CF support

Why worry about what came in 6&7?

- Many still running CF 6, or even 5
  - Of those on 7, some only recently
- Either way, many have done no new coding
  - May not have paid attention to new features
- May especially have missed out on introductions from Adobe and others
  - and user experiences shared
- This class hopes to make clear what you may have missed

More than just "two releases"

- Besides major releases, we've had:
  - Hotfixes
  - Updaters
  - Point releases
- Each may have introduced important new functionality

Timeline of releases

- May 2002 – CFMX 6 ("Neo")
  - Mar 2003 – MX Updater 3
- Oct 2003 – CFMX 6.1 ("RedSky")
  - Aug 2004 - 6.1 updater
- Feb 2005 – CFMX 7 ("Blackstone")
  - Jul 2005 – 7 Cumulative hotfix 3
- Sep 2005 - 7.01 ("Merrimack")
  - Nov 2005 – 7.01 Cumulative hotfix 1
  - Mar 2006 – 7.01 Cumulative hotfix 2
- Jun 2006 –7.02 ("Mystic")
  - Nov 2006 – 7.02 Cumulative hotfix 1
  - Mar 2007 – 7.02 Cumulative hotfix 2

About the major features

- Most press and talk focuses on major features
  - the ones that will sell new copies of CF
- Some of these also may focus on end users or a class of developers

Major features of CFMX 6

- Build Advanced Applications with ColdFusion Components

- Effortlessly Consume or Publish Web Services

- Make Your Sites More Compelling with Flash Remoting

- Easily Work with XML Data

Major features of CFMX 7

- Great User Experience
  - Printable Web Content
  - Structured Business Reports
  - Flash Forms and Controls
  - XML Forms
  - New CFCHART Engine
  - Ready-to-Use Chart Styles
  - Improved Text Searching Capabilities

Major features of CFMX 7 (cont.)

- Rapid Development
  - Dreamweaver Extensions
  - Improved Form Validation
  - Parameter Validation
  - Strong Encryption
  - Integrated NT Domain Authentication
  - Improved XML Functionality
  - In-memory Query Metadata Support
  - Debugging Improvements
  - Cross-site Scripting Attack Prevention
  - Application Event Traps
  - Enhanced Web Services Support

Major features of CFMX 7 (cont.)

- Flexible Deployment
  - Enterprise Manager
  - EAR/WAR Deployment
  - Sourceless Deployment
  - Administrator API
  - License Usage Scanner

Major features of CFMX 7 (cont.)

- New Classes of Application Development
  - SMS Gateway
  - Lotus Sametime Gateway
  - XMPP Gateway
  - File System Gateway
  - CFML Asynchronous Gateway
  - Extensible Gateway Architecture

More than just the "major" features

- Other big CFMX 6 enhancements
  - Build Tag-based UDFs with CFFUNCTION
  - Enable User Authentication and Authorization with CFLOGIN
  - Implement Developer Resource Controls with Sandbox/Resource Security
  - Dynamic Charting with CFCHART
  - Improved Debugging and Tracing with CFTRACE
  - Internationalization of Your Applications

More than just the "major" features

- Still more CFMX 6 enhancements
  - Several Regular Expression support changes
  - CFTHROW can now throw an OBJECT
  - CFLOG now always writes thread, date, and time
  - CFHTTP reading text file in as query, new FIRSTROWASHEADERS attribute
  - Verity K2 Server Improvements
  - New commenting flexibility

More than just the "major" features

- Still more CFMX 6 enhancements
  - Dreamweaver MX
  - Database Connectivity
  - Query of Query Enhancements
  - Several CFLDAP changes
  - CFMAIL spooling option changes
  - Sort order in ListSort, ArraySort
  - Date processing functions have short, medium, long formats
  - Localization functions now follow Java standard rules

More than just the "major" features

- Some CFMX 6 hidden gems
  - CFLOCATION and Cookies
  - Compilation/PreCompilation of CF Templates
  - Extensibility of Built-in Web Server
  - CFIMPORT of CF Custom Tags
  - Server-side Redirect
  - CFMX Tag Updater for CF Studio

More than just the "major" features

- More CFMX 6 hidden gems
  - CFSETTING RequestTimeOut
  - Optional UUID for CFTOKEN
  - URLSessionFormat() Function
  - Exception Handling in CFSCRIPT
  - Evaluation Within Expressions
  - New Variable Scopes Available as Structures
  - Appending Arrays to One Another

More than just the "major" features

- **Will review same for CFMX 7**
  - And the point releases and updaters in between
- **Will also discuss**
- Admin changes
  - New features
  - Removed features
  - Changes in defaults
- Doc changes
- Configuration changes
- Tool and Editor changes
- Platform changes
  - Running on Java
  - Servers and OS's supported
  - Axis
  - Xmpp gw
  - DB drivers

Resources for learning more

- ## ColdFusion MX 7 Upgrade Guide
  - http://www.adobe.com/products/coldfusion/productinfo/upgrade/

- ## CF7 Migration Guide
  - http://download.macromedia.com/pub/documentation/en/coldfusion/mx7/cfmx7_migrating.pdf

- ## CF7 Evaluator's Guide
  - http://www.adobe.com/products/coldfusion/whitepapers/evalguide_frameset.html

- ## Edition Comparison Matrix (5,6,7)
  - http://www.adobe.com/products/coldfusion/productinfo/product_editions/cf_feature_matrix.pdf

About the day-long CFUnited classes

- Day-long classes held Monday, Tuesday
  - 4 each day
  - Separately purchased from CFUnited ticket
- Listed at http://cfunited.com/go/classes
- Classes run 9-5
  - Lunch provided
  - Cost US$449 (credit cards accepted)
- Register for my class at:
  - http://www.teratech.com/go/classdetails?trainingaction=detail&TID=281

Questions on presentation

- Charlie Arehart
    - charlie@carehart.org
- I'd really appreciate your feedback
    - http://carehart.org/feedback/
- Also available for setup and implementation consulting
    - Also other developer productivity coaching, system admin and tuning support, and more
    - Remote or on-site
- New Per-minute Phone/Web support
    - http://carehart.org/askcharlie/