

Introducing the Adobe CF Extensions for Eclipse

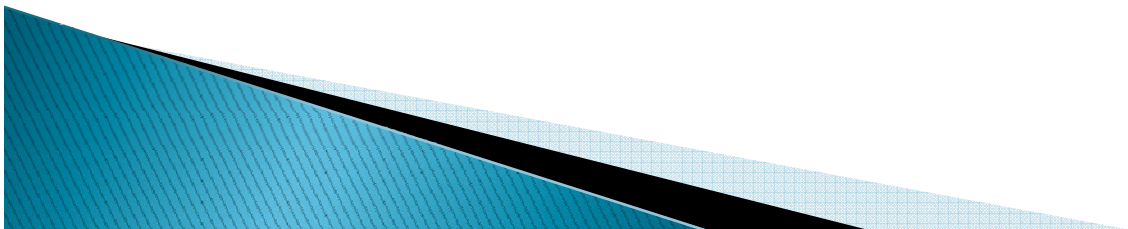


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Produced June 11, 2009

Outline

- ▶ Introduction (Audience, Misconceptions)
- ▶ Installation of the Extensions
- ▶ Leveraging the Features / Demos
- ▶ Learning More



About Charlie Arehart

Independent Consultant

- 12 yrs CF experience (26 in Enterprise IT)
- Member, Adobe Community Experts
- Certified Adv CF Developer (4-8), Cert. Adobe Instructor
- Frequent speaker to user groups, conferences worldwide
- Run the Online ColdFusion Meetup (coldfusionmeetup.com)
- Living in Alpharetta, Georgia (Atlanta)

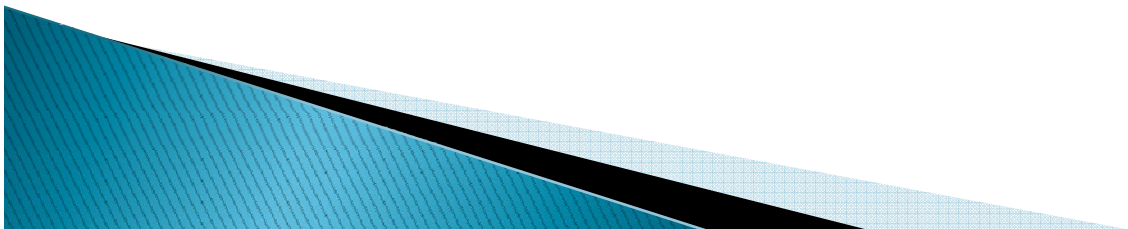
Web home at www.carehart.org

- Host ~300 blog entries, 70+ articles, 90+ presentations
- UGTV: recordings of 300+ presentations by 200+ speakers
- CF411.com – 700+ tools/resources in 100+ categories
- Consulting: available for CF troubleshooting, tuning; training
 - Remote or on-site

Introduction

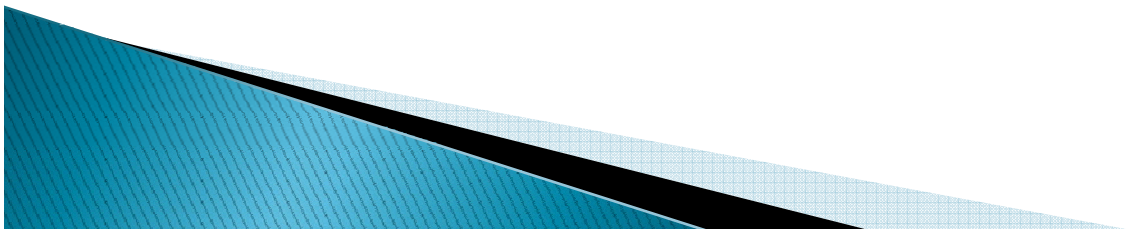
Audience for this talk

- ▶ At least four:
 - Those not yet using Eclipse at all yet
 - Or tried and gave up
 - Those using Eclipse/CFEclipse
 - But not yet the Adobe CF Extensions
 - Those who have tried Adobe Extensions
 - But never really full explored them, or had problems
 - Those anticipating Bolt
 - New Adobe CF IDE, not yet released
 - Also based on Eclipse and incorporating many of these features, and more
- ▶ Any other audiences/perspectives to consider?



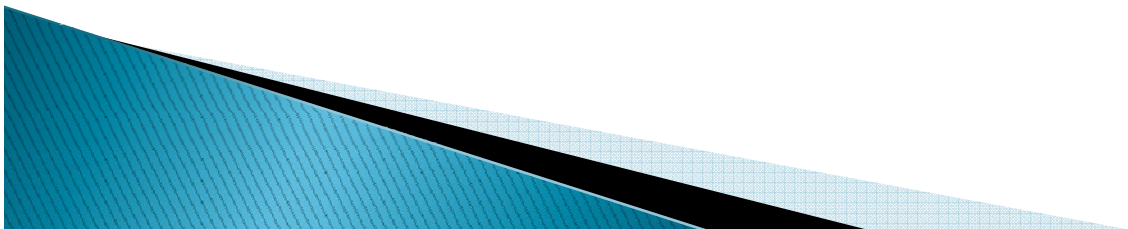
What the talk is not

- ▶ Not focused on persuading you to use Eclipse (or Bolt) if you're not inclined
 - That's a whole talk of its own, discussing benefits of Eclipse base, plug-ins, CFEclipse, and more
 - This is just about showing the Adobe CF Extensions for Eclipse, for the audiences above
- ▶ But in case you may be persuaded...
 - Eclipse is a free code editor (eclipse.org)
 - If you don't use Eclipse yet, may want to
 - Has many features not in DW or HS+ /CF Studio
 - Though reverse is true as well



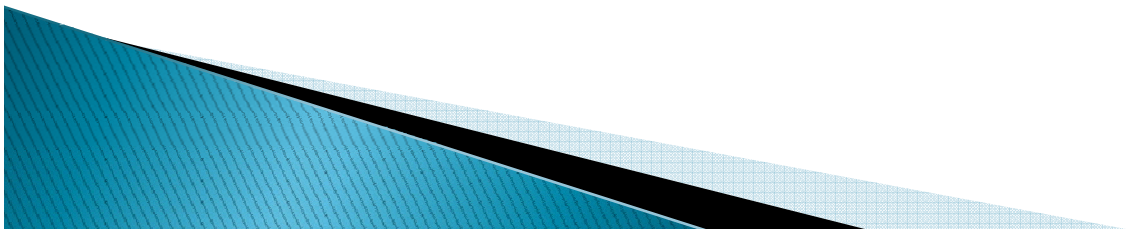
But what about...

- ▶ CFEclipse? They are not the same
 - That added CFML code editing features
 - More at cfeclipse.org
 - This topic is about Adobe extensions
 - Which work with (or independently of) CFEclipse
- ▶ CF7? These Adobe extensions work for CF 7
 - Except for CFML Debugger, which is in 8 only
 - (There was a 7.02 version of these extensions)
 - And extensions were called “ColdFusion Extensions for Flex Builder”
 - Same thing, just an older variant (some minor differences)



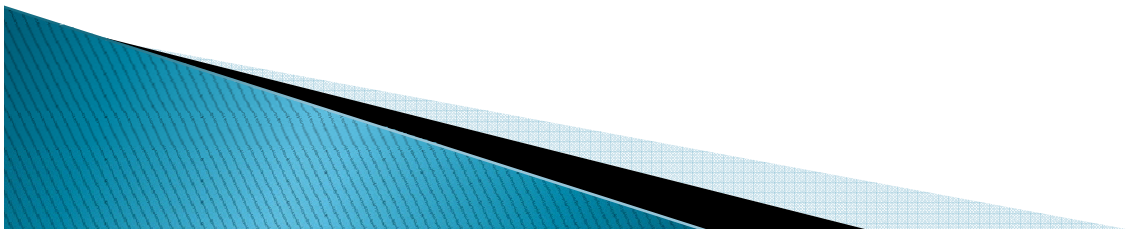
But what about...

- ▶ Bolt? Will have these things built-in, and more
 - See labs.adobe.com/wiki/index.php/Bolt
 - Good to learn about these now, while awaiting that
 - Beta now open:
<http://www.adobe.com/go/boltprerelease>
 - Frequent question: will the extensions be updated to standalone after Bolt is out? No word yet



So why are we here?

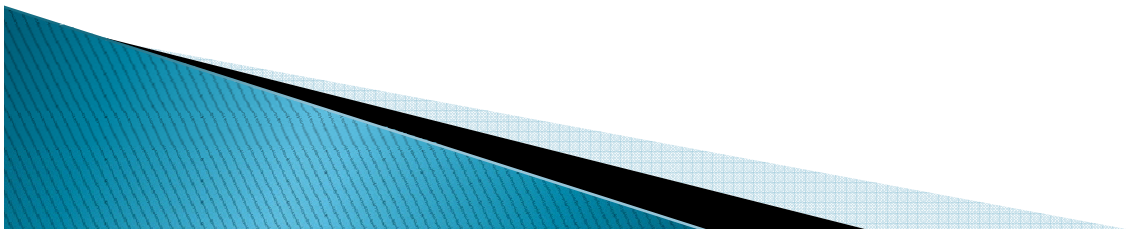
- ▶ Features bring powerful functionality to Eclipse/CFEclipse
 - Query builder, code generators, debugger, much more
- ▶ Will discuss installation, configuration, reliance on RDS for most features
 - Will be mostly demos, with some notes
 - But not enough time to demonstrate every aspect
- ▶ Will identify some features you might otherwise miss
 - And some challenges you may hit



Installation

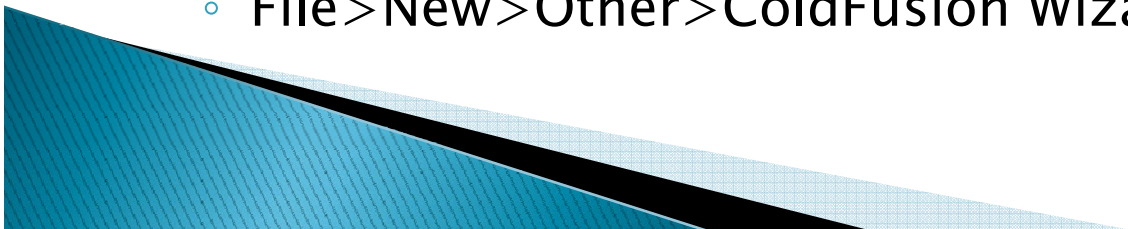
Installing Eclipse

- ▶ Obtain Eclipse if you don't have it (free)
 - Obtain Eclipse (eclipse.org)
 - Will also need Java JDK, if not already installed (java.sun.com)
 - Unzip it into a directory, and run its eclipse.exe
 - More details and intro at various resources
 - <http://ist.berkeley.edu/as-ag/tools/howto/install-eclipse-win.html>
 - See also free chapter from Lynda.com CF8 class
 - <http://www.lynda.com/home/Player.aspx?lpk4=29292>
- ▶ Download the Adobe CF 8 Extensions for Eclipse
 - <http://www.adobe.com/support/coldfusion/downloads.html#cfdevtools>
 - Save zip file locally for next step
 - Cannot use feature in Eclipse to install from Adobe as Remote site



Installing Adobe CF Extensions

- ▶ Install into existing Eclipse, FlexBuilder, Aptana, etc.
 - Supported for 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
 - Works on 3.4 with at least one bug (more later)
 - Use Eclipse update feature to install
 - Help>Software Updates>Find and Install>New Archived Site
 - 3.4.2 Help>Software Updates>Available Software>Add Site>Archive
 - See CF docs for details (listed at end of preso)
 - Note there are at least two versions of the extensions
 - 1.0.176376 (in cf8_extensions_for_eclipse.zip, older)
 - 1.0.191910 (in CF801-Extensions-for-Eclipse.zip, what's currently available at Adobe)
- ▶ Once installed, new Eclipse features enabled
 - Window>Show View>Other>ColdFusion
 - File>New>Other>ColdFusion Wizards



Enabling RDS

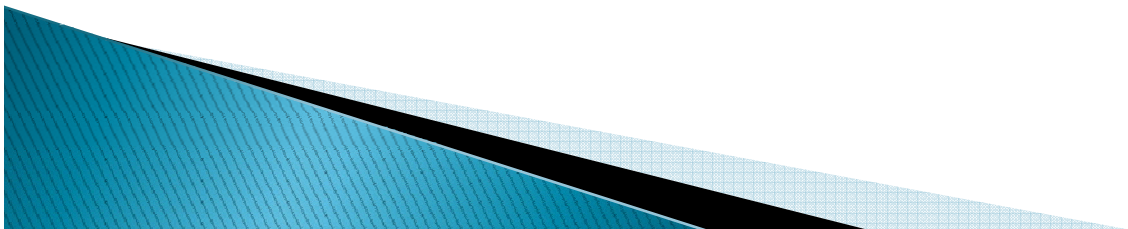
- ▶ Many features rely on RDS connection to CF server (all but logviewer, web svc browser)
 - Via RDS can connect to local or remote server
 - RDS must be enabled on server, accessible from your workstation, and you must be authenticated
 - Configuring RDS support in Eclipse
 - 3.2: window>preferences>ColdFusion
 - 3.3+: window>preferences>Adobe
 - See CF docs for details (see Resources)
 - Can also right-click on any existing RDS server in RDS DataView and RDS Fileview (discussed later)
 - For more on using RDS (on server and in editor) see my article, presos in resources
- ▶ Related topics
 - Enabling RDS when disabled in CF Server
 - http://www.adobe.com/go/tn_17276
 - Enabling multiple user control for RDS
 - See my article for details ((see Resources)



Leveraging the Features

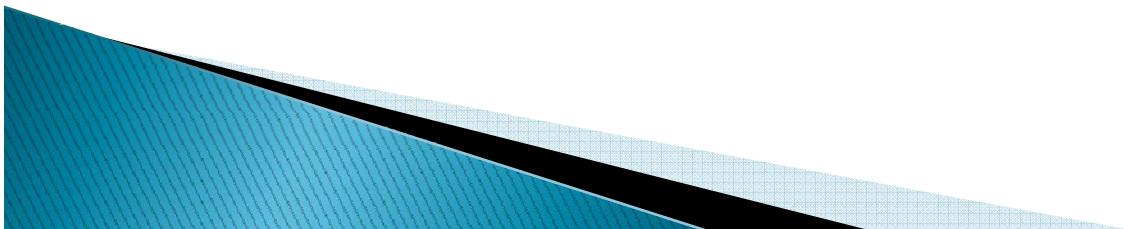
RDS Dataview

- ▶ Expand to see available dsns, their tables, their cols
 - Bug in Eclipse 3.4: expand fails. Use right-click, “Go Into”
- ▶ RDS query viewer (right-click on table)
 - Build, execute queries against tables
 - View data in tables (“show table contents”)
 - Available visual query builder
 - Note that this feature is in Windows only
- ▶ Yes, you can view server databases from your workstation, via RDS
 - if enabled/authenticated



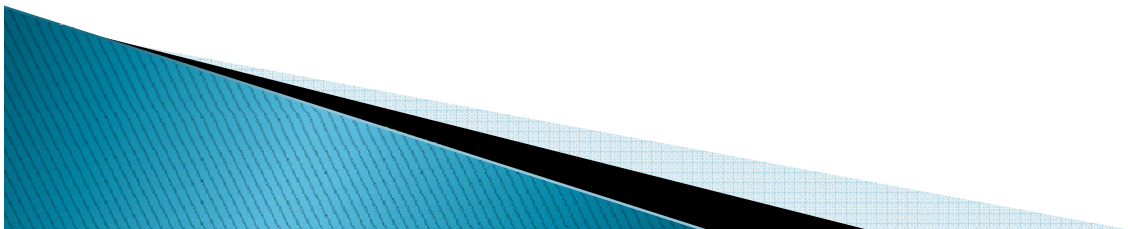
Various Wizards

- ▶ CRUD Wizard (right-click on table)
 - Active Record CFC
 - Bean CFC & DAO CFC
 - Flex Data Service Assembler CFCs
 - Learn more, including demos
 - Via Lynda.com (see Resources)
- ▶ Flex/Ajax wizards (file>new>other)
 - Learn more via Adobe videos in Resources
- ▶ ActionScript/CFC wizards (right-click .as file/cfc value object)



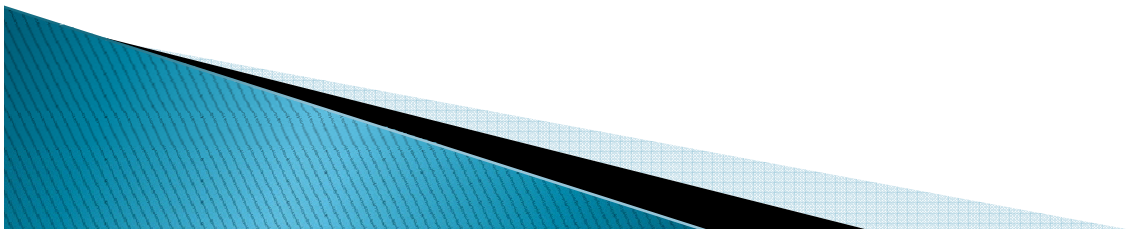
Services Browser

- ▶ Expand to see available CFCs on server
 - Can browse any/all CFCs on server
 - Unless restricted by RDS sandboxing
 - Be careful: can take a long time on first request and after restart
 - Can create code from them
 - Right-click on methodname (must have a CFML file open into which code could be places)
 - Can restrict to showing only those defined as public/private/remote/package
 - Can show/hide System CFCs
- ▶ Bug in Eclipse 3.4: expand of server fails. Use right-click, "Refresh"
- ▶ Can also browse/gen code for any web service
 - RDS support not needed/used
 - Provides same browse/code gen features above



Other Features

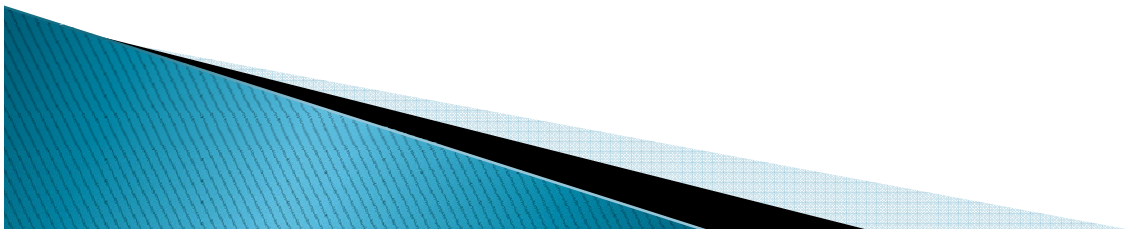
- ▶ **RDS Fileview**
 - Expand to see available server drives, their dirs, their files
 - Bug in Eclipse 3.4: expand fails. Use right-click, “Go Into”
 - Can view/edit and create/delete/rename all files and dirs on server
 - Unless restricted by RDS sandboxing
- ▶ **CF Log Viewer**
 - Can technically point to any logs local to Eclipse
 - Does not rely on RDS (so can't look at remote logs)
 - Only useful for base CF logs (not runtime/out logs)
 - Not too smart either:
 - Pulls in entire file
 - Columns are not sortable. No filtering mechanism
- ▶ **CFML Interactive Line Debugger**
 - Warrants entire session. Will demo if we have time
 - I've done several talks, articles. See resources coming up



Learning More

Adobe resources

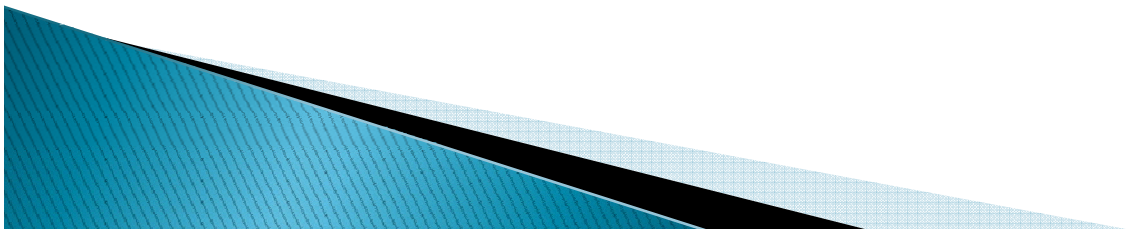
- ▶ Extensions download site
 - <http://www.adobe.com/support/coldfusion/downlo ads.html#cfdevtools>
 - Note also available “CF 8 Help Files for Eclipse”
- ▶ CF Docs discussing extensions
 - Installation: “Installing and Using CF”
 - http://livedocs.adobe.com/coldfusion/8/htmldocs/oth ertechnologies_11.html
 - Use: “CF Developers Guide”
 - http://livedocs.adobe.com/coldfusion/8/htmldocs/hel p.html?content=cfwizards_1.html



Other Resources

▶ Articles

- **“Customizing the Eclipse IDE for robust ColdFusion application development”**
 - http://www.adobe.com/devnet/coldfusion/articles/eclipse_extensions_05.html
- **“Using the ColdFusion 8 step-through debugger for Eclipse”**
 - <http://www.adobe.com/devnet/coldfusion/articles/debugger.html>
- **“Building your first data management application with ColdFusion and Flex”**
 - http://www.adobe.com/devnet/coldfusion/articles/data_app_03.html



Other Resources

▶ Books

- Covered in the “ColdFusion 8 Web Application Constructions Kit” books

▶ Video Training (free, from Adobe)

- “Using ColdFusion Extension wizards to create ColdFusion and Flex applications”

- <http://www.adobe.com/devnet/coldfusion/articles/wizards.html>

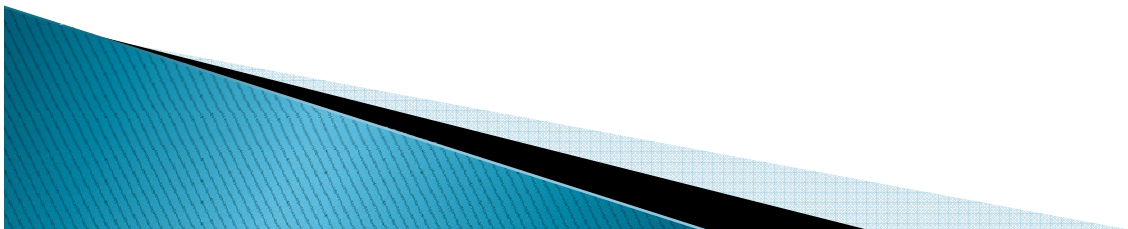
▶ Video Training (commercial, Lynda.com)

- “ColdFusion 8 Essential Training”

- <http://www.lynda.com/home/DisplayCourse.aspx?lpk2=433>

- “Beyond the Basics”

- <http://www.lynda.com/home/DisplayCourse.aspx?lpk2=432>



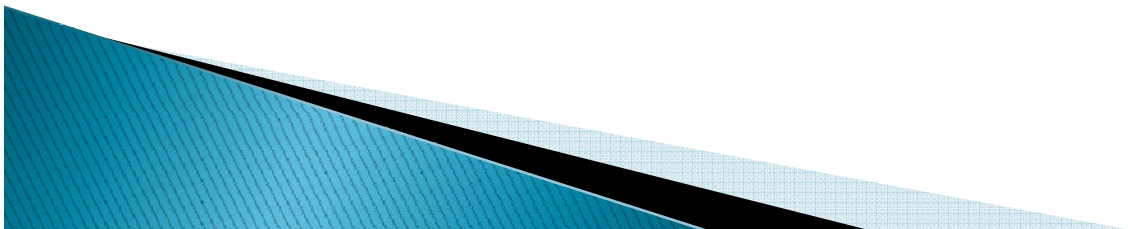
Learning More: My resources

- ▶ **Related articles I've written**
 - **The ColdFusion 8 Debugger Explained: Interactive Step Debugging for CF 8**
 - http://www.carehart.org/articles/#2008_4
 - **Using the CF8 Debugger (25 page chapter)**
 - http://www.carehart.org/articles/#2008_2
 - **Enabling multiple user access to the ColdFusion Administrator and RDS**
 - http://www.carehart.org/articles/#2009_1
 - **ColdFusion Security, Part One: Understanding Sandbox/Resource Security**
 - http://www.carehart.org/articles/#2002_11
 - **ColdFusion Security, Part Two: Sandbox/Resource Basics**
 - http://www.carehart.org/articles/#2002_10



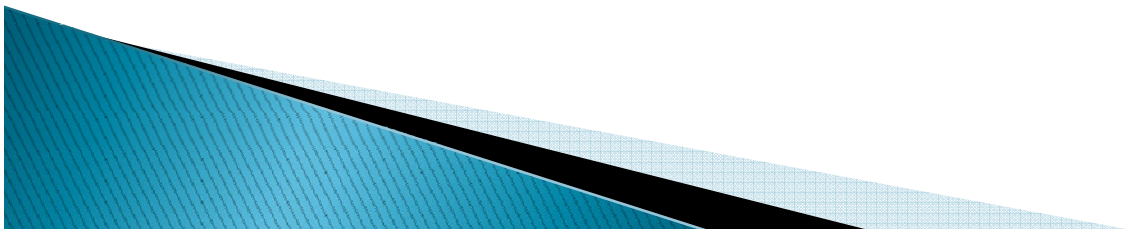
Learning More: My resources

- ▶ Related presentations I've given
 - Leveraging RDS in Eclipse, DW, and HS+: Secure, Useful
 - <http://www.carehart.org/presentations/#rds2>
 - Step Debugging in CF 6/7/8 with the CF8 Debugger and FusionDebug
 - <http://www.carehart.org/presentations/#debuggers>
 - CF 8 Enterprise Multi-User Admin & RDS Feature
 - <http://www.carehart.org/presentations/#multiuser>



Conclusion

- ▶ Adobe CF Extensions for Eclipse
 - Are NOT same as CFEclipse
 - Are free, add features not in CFEclipse
 - Many of the same features will be in Bolt
- ▶ Some features based on RDS
 - Need to configure that correctly in Eclipse and server
- ▶ Features available for viewing server databases, files, CFCs, web services
 - Features for building code: drag and drop, wizards
- ▶ Many resources to learn more



Questions On Presentation

- ▶ Charlie Arehart
 - charlie@carehart.org
- ▶ I'd really appreciate your feedback
 - <http://carehart.org/feedback/>
- ▶ Available for ColdFusion troubleshooting, setup, implementation consulting
 - Also system admin and tuning support, developer productivity coaching, and more
 - Remote or on-site
 - For as little as days, hours, even 15 minutes
 - <http://carehart.org/consulting/>