18 Different Seminars

3 Topic Categories

The One Day Seminars
For ColdFusion Developers
Presented By Charlie Arehart

New CFMX Talks

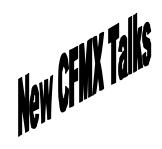*Offered Publicly and On-Site, Soon Online*

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Covering topics that CF developers want to know about

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Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

Who is Charlie Arehart?

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What Makes These Seminars Unique?

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Created by a CF Developer With Proven Experience in Presenting CF Topics

Focused on Topics that Aren't Covered in Other CF Courses

Lecture-style Format Permits Presentation Anywhere

Offered in Both Public and On-Site Presentations

How Can You Attend or Arrange A Seminar?

Costs for each seminar are shown on its page

Public dates vary with community interest and include lunch, continental breakfast, and breaks

Let me know if you'd like to see a seminar held in your area

Discounts available for seminars arranged through CFUG managers

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The CFMX Series

This is a series of talks that focus on some of the new features of CFMX, the latest release of ColdFusion, which is based on the J2EE platform. While there are many new features of CFMX, and Macromedia will heavily promote certain ones (such as CFC's, Flash integration, and more), other features that may interest the average CF developer may not get as much press. There are also some new aspects of CFMX that we CF developers may have tried to ignore until now but probably ought to face. The times they are a changin'.

The topics in this series currently are:

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Other topics may be added as time and community interest permit.

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What's New in CFMX: Opportunities & Challenges

ColdFusion MX, or CFMX, is the next release of ColdFusion that brings much, much more to the table than just new CF features. Driven by Macromedia's drive to create an entirely new set of web application development tools (linking Flash, DreamWeaver, and more), it also brings to CFers the tools needed to take part in the latest development trends, including XML, web services, .NET and J2EE integration, and lots more.

In fact, there's really a lot more to CF than just those things. Sure, you may have heard about the ColdFusion component (CFC) capability, as well as the new graphing capabilities, etc. But did you know that there's really quite a bit more to CFMX than those top features that are marketed so heavily?

If you attended my seminar of a similar name and focus about CF 5, you know that we identified lots of things that you didn't hear as much about and that indeed you might not have easily found on your own. This seminar follows the same format, exploring the less popular but often more powerful and productive new features of CFMX. Of course, we'll also briefly highlight those most popular and well-discussed features as well.

As a bonus, there are many features you can leverage in CFMX that aren't discussed in any CFMX documentation, because they're really features of the underlying J2EE infrastructure. We'll point those out as well. Cool stuff!

Partial List of Topics:
- The big-name features: Components (CFCs), Web Services, XML Integration, and Flash remoting
    - With pointers to getting started with Flash for CFers
- Leveraging Java/J2EE integration
    - Including J2EE sessions, servlet filters, JSP custom tags, JSP/servlet integration, and more
- Other Important features
    - New login security and developer sandbox security capabilities
    - Enhanced UDFs with CFFUNCTION
    - New debugging capabilities
    - Supporting internationalization, and more
- Hidden Gems such as
    - Precompiling CF templates, extending the built-in web server, & more
- Migration issues, Resources for learning more
- Lots more

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Flash for CFers: Getting Over the Hump

Are you a newcomer to Flash, and Flash Remoting? But an experienced CF developer interested in what Flash can do, but who's had trouble getting started?

Perhaps you've heard all the hype, and you're likely impressed, until you open the program--or a typical book about it. There's so much focus on graphics, drawing, animation, and sounds, etc. If you just want to get started with it to spice up your forms and add new client-server interactivity, it can be overwhelming. But it doesn't have to be.

In this seminar, frequent CFUG speaker and CFDJ author Charlie Arehart will bring his unique style and perspective to help get you over the hump of getting started with Flash. This presentation doesn't presume you have any Flash experience, unlike so many articles and chapters on Remoting. Indeed, Flash Remoting (and CFMX) is just one of several ways to interact between Flash and the server. If you're using an older release of CF, or PHP, or even an older version of Flash, you can still take advantage of Flash Integration. This seminar will get you off on the right foot.

Partial List of Topics:
- Why getting into Flash is worthwhile
  - The possibilities with just a little help getting started
- The challenge of getting started on your own
  - Getting into a tool built for designers, and past preconceptions
  - Focusing on the key things we need to know
  - Getting started right: great resources
- Understanding the Flash interface: the least you need to know
  - Building widgets and forms you can use right away
  - Adding them to your applications
  - Using the built-in user interface components
  - Extending the tool with components from the MM Exchange and DRKs
- Understanding ActionScript: the least you need to know
  - Foundations in JavaScript, fundamental language features
- Server integration: sending and receiving data
  - Connecting to CFMX, .NET, and J2EE with Flash Remoting
  - Connecting to those and CF5, PHP, and more with loadvars, loadvariables
  - Connecting to any server with XML
- Debugging your applications
  - With the interactive and NetConnection debuggers
- Common challenges and concerns
  - Dealing with issues of browser support, accessibility, printing, and more
  - Selling your colleagues and Management

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Implementing Application and Developer Security in CFMX

ColdFusion MX introduces new possibilities for adding powerful security controls for your applications, in terms of authenticating and authorizing users as well as protecting your code from other developers on your server. Administrators will want to reign in the great power and file access CF gives to developers if unchecked.

These are two sides of the security coin, and in this daylong seminar we'll introduce each, with a focus on the challenges you may find if you try to use these on your own. The docs are quite sparse (and sometimes wrong or misleading). Clearly the security features were changing right up to the release of CFMX.

Still, once you fully understand the capabilities, it's then easy to use them and considerable control to your applications and CF server configuration.

The new features for login processing offer new features unavailable in CF before, including tracking login timeouts separately from session timeouts (indeed, tracking logins without sessions at all) as well as logouts that occur on browser close (finally!).

The new features for developer resource controls are very easy to setup but have not been explained to most developers, let alone administrators. Both audiences should understand them fully, and even CFMX Professional users should setup some minimal server-wide controls.

Partial List of Topics:
- Authentication (Login) and Authorization (Permissions) Processing
    - o CFLOGIN and CFLOGINUSER Processing; The CFLOGIN structure
    - o Logout: On Timeouts (vs Session Timeout), LOGOUT, Browser Close
    - o Prompting Users Through Forms (Simple and J_Username), Programmatic, and Declarative Basic Authentication
    - o Authenticating Against Databases, LDAPs, NT Domain, and more
    - o Authorizing Users In Code Segments and Component Methods
- Developer Resource Controls
    - o Understanding Sandbox/Resource Security (and the difference)
    - o Why Restricting Resource Access May Be Important
    - o Understanding, Enabling, Configuring Sandbox/Resource Security
    - o Configuring Resource Controls (Datasources, Tags/Functions, Files/Dirs, Servers/Ports)
- Learning More

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

Getting Started with XML and Web Services in CFMX

XML processing. What does it mean to you? This isn't a talk that explains, "What is XML?" XML itself isn't all that interesting. It's how it's used that makes it compelling, how it allows information exchange between companies—or more specifically, between web applications.

Are you interested in knowing how to create and consume XML in ColdFusion MX? CFMX makes it extremely easy to do so. In this seminar, we'll uncover the benefits of leveraging XML in CFMX, with primary focus on the capabilities in CFMX.

Along the way, we'll also introduce you to web services and the features in CF that make them also so easy to consume and produce.

Partial List of Topics:
- Understanding XML
- Retrieving XML via CFHTTP
- Parsing existing XML
    o Looping through XML
    o Understanding and leveraging XPATH
- Generating XML documents with CFXML and more
- Transforming XML with XSLT
- Understanding Web Services, SOAP, WSDL, and more
- Creating web services via components in CFMX
- ColdFusion Component browser
- Consuming web services
- Learning more

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

DreamWeaver MX For CF/Studio Users

Have you started looking at DreamWeaver MX (DWMX)? You may have heard that Macromedia has axed CF Studio (and JRun Studio) in favor of this tool, which certainly does bring a lot of capability to CF Developers.

The thing is, many have bad recollections of its earlier incarnations as a tool focused more on web page/HTML design rather than CFML. Indeed, it had a tendency to botch your CFML if you tried to edit CF templates. Moreover, its WYSIWYG design may have made sense to those creating static pages, but it really didn't work well for CF page development. Worst of all, the tool seemed to have been designed for…well…designers. When you opened it up, it had a sea of floating toolbars that just left most of us numb, and distinctly NOT interested in giving up Studio.

And now Macromedia has pulled the rug out from under us and we have no choice but to get used to DWMX—or stick with Studio. But is that really true? Maybe not. First of all, DWMX is a very different animal from DW. For one thing, it brings in the features of the former DW UltraDev, which brought the opportunity to generate CF code (as well as ASP and JSP). Even then, most of us think we can do better than any tool to create our code. That may be so.

But DWMX represents a response to many of the concerns that developers raised in using DW and DWUD. More than that, because they knew it would replace Studio, the designers also pulled in features that we Studio users loved and cherished (like the SQL Builder, tag insight, and more). They also added a new "coder" style of workspace that's much more familiar to us. And for those who really prefer Studio, they've kept a variant of it called HomeSite Plus that you can install as well.

So now DWMX really is an attempt to bring us the best of all worlds. What many Studio fans may not realize is that there are many tools that DWMX has that truly are new and unique—and valuable—to us. And things we liked that are still available.

Partial List of Topics:
- Getting used to the DWMX interface, breadcrumbs for Studio developers
- Setting up "sites", using Database panel/SQL builder, RDS support
- Leveraging local versus remote development options
- Using tag editors, tag choosers, snippets, validation, live server debugging
- Code testing, debugging features
- Live data editing: far more powerful than Studio's "internal browsing"
- Support for XML editing , CFC and web service introspection
- Support for introspecting JSP custom tag libraries
- What doesn't work as we'd expect, missing features
- Leveraging CSS, XHTML support, and accessibility features

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Understanding Java/J2EE Integration in CFMX, For Those With No Java Experience

ColdFusion MX is CF running atop the Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE) platform. Are you ready to take full advantage of that integration? You certainly don't NEED to learn about Java to use CFMX. But it's certainly easier to integrate and leverage Java than before, and there are some powerful new aspects of CFMX that are based on the underlying J2EE platform. For some, you do need to know more about the underlying J2EE platform. But you don't always need to know Java!

In this seminar, you'll learn not only how to get started in leveraging Java and the J2EE platform from a CF developer's perspective. You'll discover just what you do need to learn to go from here.

The class won't focus on programming servlets, teaching JSP tags, or the Java language. But you will learn how you can leverage those things without knowing Java in CFMX. The seminar can, however, serve as a preface to an introductory JSP/Servlet class or can stand alone as an overview of Java and J2EE for both experienced CF developers and technical managers.

The focus will be the Standalone version of ColdFusion MX running atop JRun. Most aspects of the talk will translate to the newer CFMX for J2EE product.

Partial List of Topics:
- Part 1: "No Java Needed" J2EE Features
    o Reuse JSP Tag Libraries Like ColdFusion Custom Tags, with CFIMPORT
    o Augmenting Application.cfm with Servlet Filters
    o Bonus: Understanding the New Java Directory Structure
- Part 2: Servlet/JSP Integration
    o Running Java Servlets and JSPs in CFMX
    o Interactions Between CFML and JSPs/Servlets
    o Leveraging J2EE Sessions
    o Bonus: Getting Into JRun
- Part 3: Direct Java Integration
    o Leveraging the Java API With CFOBJECT
    o Built-in CFMX Java Objects
    o Leveraging User-written and 3rd Party Classes/APIs
    o Java CFX Custom Tags
    o Creating Your Own Custom Tags and Java Classes
- Other Java Integration Topics

Cost: $269 per person at public classes; $2699 for an on-site presentation

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The Effective Developer Series

For all the cool new things in CFMX, there are certain timeless aspects of CF development that won't change. Indeed, CF developers who focus only on the most popular language features of CF miss the boat. There is a lot more to effective CF development than just knowing how to use the top 20 tags and functions. This series introduces you to the topics and techniques that separate the effective developer. These may not be earth-shattering ideas, but so many developers fail to fully leverage these important aspects of CF development.

The topics in this series currently are:

- 1 Day: Intermediate SQL Techniques and DB Design for CFers

- 1 Day: Caching in: Improving Performance by Caching at Several Levels in CF

- 1 Day: Making the Most of Studio

- 1 Day: Toward Better Error Handling

- 1 Day: Effective CF Development I

Other topics may be added as time and community interest permit.

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Intermediate SQL Techniques and DB Design for CFers

As a CF developer, you've certainly come to realize that there's a lot more to developing web apps than simply knowing how to sling CFML. Almost every app you create involves database interaction. The thing is, most CF developers focus on just the most basic SQL (SELECT/INSERT/UPDATE/DELETE), but there's a whole lotmore that you really should know about. Too often, developers use CF to do what SQL can do more effectively.

Are you familiar with using aggregate functions (COUNT, SUM, MIN, MAX, AVG)? Do you know when and why you should use an outer joins? Nested and correlated subqueries? These aren't just esoteric features—they can be the key to solving real problems you frequently face. You may just be doing things the hard way.

Then there are the more advanced features that some databases offer, such as views and stored procedures. Are you using those? Do you realize why you should? And what the performance and organizational benefits are? Did you know that you can use these even in a simple DBMS like Access (yes, you can even use CFSTOREDPROC against Access, as we'll see)? But this isn't a talk for only Access developers. Whether you're using SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, or something else, you'll learn things that will work for you.

We'll also cover some fundamentals of database design. Not a boring review but just focusing on the things that you should know—and should study more after this class. We'll also talk about datasource configuration and database selection. You'll get the information you need to go back to work much more capable and ready to learn more at your own pace.

Partial List of Topics:
- The SQL you need to know beyond the basics
- Advanced variations of SELECT
- Using aggregate functions
- Understanding joins, especially outer joins
- Why nested and correlated subqueries are cool, powerful, and offer key solutions
- Leveraging Views, Stored Procedures, and more
- The least amount of DB Design you need to know
- DB configuration (datasource definition) alternatives worth knowing about
- Choosing among DB alternatives

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Caching in: Improving Performance by Caching at Several Levels in CF

Are you leveraging all the great caching capabilities in CF? Do you know all the ways you can? There's a lot more than just query and page caching.

In this broad-reaching seminar, we'll cover caching at several levels including things you can do in your code and things your administrator can do. You also need to be aware of things your end user can do in their browser setup that can effect caching. In fact, there are things that can happen between your server and the browser—by way of a proxy—that can have an impact. Caching indeed occurs on many levels in ways that few developers fully understand. As with all these seminars, the focus is on those aspects that you really ought to know, not just knowledge for knowledge's sake.

The simplest and yet most powerful caching you may be able to leverage is query caching. We'll look at the two available types, caching by way of CFQUERY attributes and storing in persistent variables. You'll finally understand what the CACHEDAFTER is about. It's not very well documented. Beyond query caching, there's also the matter of caching that takes place in the DBMS and possibly the database driver between CF and the DBMS.

Then there's caching your page output, whether caching the entire page or from some point onward (CFCACHE), or the new CF5 tag CFSAVECONTENT that allows caching of some portion of your page. Furthermore, when your code is compiled, there's caching of that compiled CF code (even in CFMX). And then there's that browser and proxy caching that may automatically take place. There are ways you can be hampered by that or improve control of it.

In this seminar, we'll discuss all these mechanisms and show you not only what changes you can make, but also the performance benefits of doing so.

Partial List of Topics:
- Query caching: CACHEDWITHIN and CACHEDAFTER
- Query caching: storing query results in application, session, and server variables
- Database caching in the DBMS and/or driver
- Page and partial page caching with CFHTTP and CFSAVECONTENT
- Code template caching and how to monitor it
- Browser and proxy caching, what it means and how you can and can't control it

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Making the Most of Studio

Are you using either ColdFusion or JRun Studio or HomeSite? Then you know each is an excellent editor for HTML, CFML, JSPs, ASPs and other tag-oriented languages. But are you taking full advantage of its capability? There's a lot more to Studio than most would imagine. With the tips you'll learn in this seminar, you'll be far more productive in your daily coding efforts: and you'll almost surely learn about many very practical features and techniques that could save you hours per week.

In this seminar, we'll discover not only many hidden gems in Studio/HomeSite, but also more important, how to apply these techniques in your day-to-day development. We won't waste time with features you won't use every day. Sure, you can build wizards with WizML, but that's not the sort of practical benefit we'll focus on. Similarly, we won't drag through a full-scale demo of every little nook and cranny of the Studio interface.

CF developers can and have figured many things out on their own, but hundreds have been helped who struggled with features they couldn't get to work. And even experienced Studio users have been shown hidden gems who were amazed at what they'd missed for so long.

In terms of value for money, this seminar will pay for itself in no time. Plus, it will help make your coding life more enjoyable and less hassled. Come enjoy a day with fellow developers who share your pain, and bring along your own hidden gems to share!

Partial List of Topics:
- The top 10 Studio customizations you need to make as soon as it's installed
- Easy to remember keyboard shortcuts to save you lots of time
- Understanding the Remote Developer Services, and getting them to work
- Leveraging the internal AND external browser features, and browsing CF templates anywhere you have them
- Leveraging the Studio Database Tools, both against local and distributed databases (even without RDS!)
- Searching and replacing across entire directories, projects, and more
- Adding support for Source Code Control, for local and remote source code repositories
- Leveraging the Studio debugger
- Solving common hassles, and resources for learning more

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Toward Better Error Handling

Your code's humming along in the hands of your users, but do you know when things aren't working as expected? Are you notified when errors occur? Are you aware of the several levels of "error handling" available in CF, from system-wide, to application-wide, to code-specific try/catch processing?

In this talk, we'll review all the approaches available for error handling, including those above and more. By the time the talk is done, you'll have a very clear grasp on the alternatives and their appropriate use in various situations.

Partial List of Topics:
- The problem with CF's default error message, security and aesthetics
- Administrator settings affecting error messages
- Old style error handling with CFERROR
    o CFERROR Type="Request"
    o CFERROR Type="Validation"
- Next generation error handling
    o Application-level exception handling: CFERROR Type="Exception"
    o Site-wide error handling
    o Code-level error handling: CFTRY

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Effective CF Development I

Do you feel fully effective as a developer? Are you leveraging all the features available to make development in CF easier and more productive? Those who leverage all these techniques are capable of dramatically increased speed of development. Their code is better tested, can be better managed, and even performs better. Perhaps you know the tools are there, but you've felt that nothing explains how they work (and work together).

In this seminar, we'll tie together several topics not covered in most other ColdFusion training courses, revealing tips, techniques, and hidden gems that make for more effective development.

Sharing practical, real-world experiences and the benefit of observing the development practices of many, we'll demonstrate that ColdFusion developers can be much more effective than they typically are, having learned on their own. Many CF features remain untapped, even if they've read books and articles on ColdFusion, taken other classes, and even read the CF manuals cover to cover (if you knew there were manuals and had access to them). Some things are not well documented, if at all. We'll uncover these and lots more in an information-packed day!

Partial List of Topics:
- Understanding Locking Issues: it's more than just about shared variable scopes
- Testing your code with the CFMLSyntaxCheck tool, "Full Lock Checking", and more
- Understanding caching opportunities: p-code, CFCACHE, CFSAVECONTENT, cached queries
- Toward better error handling: at the site-, application-, template-, and code-levels
- Maximizing use of Studio for turbo-charged development
- Creating Next-N interfaces to allow users to scroll forward/backward in result sets
- Encoding code so that it can't easily be read when sharing it (with a caveat)
- And several other features and tools, including third-party code-generation tools
- Dozens of available CF resources to peruse yourself and learn still more

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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The Discovery Series

And beyond CF itself are a number of topics and tools that you may have heard about but just not had the time to investigate. Or maybe you've heard about them, but not quite fully understood them, or didn't know what to make of the talk about them. The topics in this series cover a spectrum of possibilities that even expand beyond normal CF development, including such diverse topics as Fusebox (wondering what to make of it?), administration (we developers need to understand it, as do those who are given the task but aren't CFers to start with), testing, transitioning to J2EE, and more.

The topics in this series currently are:

- 1 Day: Fusebox for the Curious

- 1 Day: ColdFusion Administration: It's About More Than Datasources

- 1 Day: Load Testing and Tuning CF Applications

- 1 Day: E-Testing: 30 Types of Tests Your CF Apps

- 1 Day: ColdFusion 5: What You May Have Missed

- 1 Day: From ColdFusion to JRun/J2EE: Making the Transition

- 1 Day: Wireless Possibilities for CF Developers

Other topics may be added as time and community interest permit.

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Fusebox for the Curious

You've probably heard about Fusebox. If you're looking at this description, then you must be among those who are not yet using Fusebox—or maybe you are using it and just want to see what sort of talk this will be and how it compares to other resources.

There have indeed been several resources available for learning about it, but perhaps you've felt that they just didn't help you to understand why Fusebox might makes sense for you. You've probably heard just as many people, who you respect, cast aspersions upon FB. Who are you to believe? You may have tried to learn about it on your own, through books, articles, and CFUG presentations only to remain confused and doubtful. You're not alone.

In this talk, we'll introduce Fusebox with a balance of practical demonstrations showing how to really apply it in a way that makes the connection to how you may work today. We'll of course also discuss the implications and benefits of developing with FB as a team or an individual.

We'll also discuss some of the ancillary topics and tools that go along with creating FB apps, including the FuseBox LifeCycle Process (FliP), DevNotes, QuerySims, and more, including Adalon, which can actually help create complete Fusebox apps.

Seminar participants will receive a copy of either "Fusebox: Developing ColdFusion Applications" or "Discovering Fusebox 3 with ColdFusion".

Partial List of Topics:
- Who can benefit from Fusebox?
- What have been some of the common complaints? Still valid?
- Creating the simplest possible Fusebox app
- What are fuses, fuseactions, circuits, etc.?
- Comparing a Fusebox App to a typical non-FB app
- What are the benefits of Fusebox's breaking a template into multiple files?
- What are layouts? Why is nesting them powerful?
- What are exit fuseactions? What do they add?
- What are fusedocs? How are they useful?
- Where to learn more

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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ColdFusion Administration: It's About More Than Datasources

Are you an administrator of a CF server? Or a developer with an interest in knowing how your server is configured and managed? Are you aware of all that should be done to keep the server running well—or all that could be done to make the most of it?

In this seminar we'll take a look at some of the things a CF administrator should be paying attention to, as well as some of the things they should take advantage of but may not have noticed. We'll discuss aspects of managing the server that extend beyond the CF Administrator interface itself, including tasks for keeping the server environment healthy and running effectively.

What this will NOT be is a boring review of each page in the CF administrator, nor will we get bogged down in trivialities like how to create a datasource. The Macromedia ColdFusion manuals (and online help in the Administrator) do a fine job of providing that sort of "reference" material. (If you haven't read the manuals in CF5, they're quite improved, and there's now context-sensitive help within the Administrator as we'll see.)

Instead, the seminar will bring up a great variety of topics that should interest a typical CF administrator. Some topics will revolve around settings in the Administrator, while others involve tasks outside that interface (and some not specific to ColdFusion). And we'll look at all these from the perspective of a couple broad categories, such as performance and security. We'll conclude with a discussion of where to learn more about these things and how to stay updated on changes (new features, fixes, bugs, etc.).

Partial List of Topics:
- Different perspectives on the role of CF administration
    o Trivial afterthought or daunting, time-consuming chore?
- Installation challenges and to do's
- Reviewing admin settings and tasks
    o Developer-oriented Settings and Tasks
    o Performance-related Settings and Tasks
    o Security-related Settings and Tasks
    o Miscellaneous Settings and Tasks
- Learning more, staying updated

Cost: $269 per person at public classes; $2699 for an on-site presentation

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

Load Testing and Tuning CF Applications

Are you doing performance/load testing? Do you think you needn't bother? Or that it's too expensive, or too complicated? If you haven't given it serious thought, this talk is for you.

More important, those who have no interest in load testing or are already doing it will still benefit, as it presents a variety of tips and techniques for improving the effectiveness of your CF programs and the entire CF server that haven't been cataloged anywhere else.

We'll review a variety of tools as well as provide some benchmarking information on alternative configuration and coding choices in CF and CFMX.

Partial List of Topics:
- Why load testing is important, even in low-volume sites
- Understanding load testing tools and virtual users
- Testing from inside versus outside the environment
- Testing throughout the development cycle (rather than relying on "testing team")
- Tunable aspects of CF environment:
  - CF coding changes
  - Database design/config/coding changes
  - CF version upgrade
  - CF Admin configuration changes
  - Web server configuration changes
  - System architecture changes
  - HTML coding changes
- Monitoring
- Improving apparent response time
- Benchmarking
- Leveraging the knowledge of others
- Resources for learning more

Cost: $269 per person at public classes; $2699 for an on-site presentation

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

E-Testing: 30 Types of Tests Your CF Apps

You're about to turn your code loose for your customers to enjoy. The question is: is it ready? Do you know it will work? Have you tested it? If so, how? Indeed, should you even be turning it over to the users as the next step? If you're not fully testing your code before you release it, you're hurting yourself, your company, and your customers. In this talk, we'll explore the many means of testing available and how to use them effectively with CF code and its output.

We'll cover several forms of HTML testing (13 tests, from HTML validation to Browser size, cookie and JavaScript support testing and more), CFML testing (yes, there really are CFML testing tools), and web application testing (how does your entire app perform).

Whether you're a long code-slinger or part of a team, you need to know about testing. Many CFers aren't aware of options that are available to them already without cost or much effort.

Partial List of Topics:
- HTML-oriented Testing
    o HTML Validation, Link checking, Spell checking, Document weight (download time) testing, Cascading StyleSheet validation, Color depth (browser safe palette) testing, Image compression testing
    o Browser size testing, JavaScript error detection
    o Accessibility testing
    o Testing for disabled Javascript, disabled cookies, browser caching
- CFML Code Testing
    o Syntax checking
    o Code quality testing
    o Included file testing
    o Code timing
- Web Application Testing
    o Data validation and "bounds" checking, Functionality testing, Acceptance Testing, Security testing
    o Performance/Load testing, concurrency testing
    o Web App Testing Tools
    o Regression testing, Site Monitoring, Integration testing
- CFML Debugging

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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ColdFusion 5: What You May Have Missed

With CFMX now out, you may wonder if you really need to know what was new in CF 5. Well, do you really know what WAS new? If you can't name more than 10 new features, you're still missing out! Even then, do you have anything more than a passing understanding of what was new? More than that, do you know the "gotchas"? Do you know what was no longer supported? What was broken before but now was fixed? Maybe you can now use something you couldn't before.

In this daylong seminar, veteran CF trainer/user group speaker Charlie Arehart will show you-in his popular presentation style-not only what was new but also how to make the most of Release 5.

Sharing practical, real-world experiences and his encyclopedic knowledge of ColdFusion 5, Charlie will demonstrate that Release 5 offers much more than most will know, even if they've seen presentations and articles or read the information offered on the Release 5 Overview page at Macromedia's site.

And it's one thing to "know" the feature exists, but quite another to see the code to make it work, and learn the gotchas. You'll save yourself days or perhaps weeks of effort and have real working code examples (and walk through setup/use of the nifty new administrative tools).

Finally, even if you've read the manuals cover to cover like he has (if you knew there were manuals and had access to them), there are still things that are not well-documented, if at all.

Partial List of Topics:
- The "usual suspect" list of most-discussed new features
- Dozens (yes, dozens!) of still more new features
- Real uses of all the new features (with walkthroughs, code samples, and more)
- Details and challenges of using all the new features
- The gotchas (installation issues, bugs, doc mistakes and more)
- Previous release features now deprecated and/or no longer supported
- Previous release problems now fixed
- Topics not covered well, if at all, in the documentation and release notes
- CF5 Features not supported or deprecated in CFMX
- Dozens (yes, dozens) of available CF 5 resources to peruse yourself

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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From ColdFusion to JRun/J2EE: Making the Transition

Are you a CF developer facing (or debating) the decision to work in the Java 2 Enterprise Edition platform (J2EE)? It's not necessarily about leaving CF, just using another tool where appropriate. It's also not a trivial move, despite assertions that "JSP's are easy". Sure, for the most trivial application they are, but it doesn't take long before servlets, javabeans, EJBs and the whole world of Java becomes more important than you may be led to believe. If you're about to take the plunge, or just wonder what all the hubbub's about, this is a day for you. You don't need to know Java for this seminar: you'll discover just what you do need to learn to go from here.

In this seminar, we'll show you not only what J2EE is about but more important, how to get started in working with J2EE from a CF developer's perspective, using Macromedia's JRun (a respected and easy-to-use J2EE compliant application server) as the platform.

Of course, a professional J2EE developer will indeed require strong Java fundamentals and a clear understanding of the vast Java and J2EE platforms. Still, it's possible to grasp the architecture, understand the foundation principles, and appreciate the differences and similarities of web application development in J2EE compared to CF.

The class won't focus on programming and teaching tags and language. It can serve as a preface to an introductory JSP/Servlet class or can stand alone as an overview of Java and J2EE for both experienced CF developers and technical managers.

Partial List of Topics:
- Considering the Decision
- The J2EE Platform
- Setting up the Environment
- Java Concepts for Newcomers to Java
- Other J2EE Concepts
- Comparing CF and JRun/J2EE development
- ColdFusion/Java Integration, now and in the future
- Comparing J2EE server alternatives
- Skills Development

Cost: $269 per person at public classes; $2699 for an on-site presentation

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

Wireless Possibilities for CF Developers

This seminar will introduce CF developers to the many possibilities and challenges involved in developing applications for wireless devices. With an introduction to the technical and language details of WAP (Wireless Access Protocol) and WML (Wireless Markup Language), we'll show how easy it is to get into using those capabilities to create real applications today. We'll also introduce the tools for getting started and resources for learning more.

More than that, we'll identify some of the challenges in the wireless world as well opportunities to use more advanced features. We'll conclude with an assessment of where the wireless development world is going, including other approaches worth keeping an eye on while you proceed with implementation of solutions that can indeed work today.

You'll leave this seminar knowing how to create a wireless connection to your site with no cost but a little time and effort, and you'll have a clear sense of how practical it is to rely on this new sort of client connection to your site.

Partial List of Topics:
- Quick Intro to Wireless Development
- Looking at it from a CF Point of View
- Getting and Using WAP Emulators
- Common Challenges for WAP Developers
- Considering Advanced Features
- Industry Trends and Battle Lines
- Developer Resources for Learning More

Cost: $219 per person at public classes; $2199 for an on-site presentation

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Future Topics Being Considered

While the list of seminars is already rather broad, there are ever more topics about which another day of discussion can be created. Here are some of the topics under consideration, some of which extend beyond simply CF-specific topics.

Feel free to contact me (carehart@systemanage.com) with your thoughts, or more new proposed topics.

Topics under consideration:
- Getting Started with Flash for CF Developers
- Source Code Control: Why and How, for Teams and Lone Guns
- Making the Most of JavaScript
- ColdFusion Security: Login processing, Coder segregation, Hack-proofing & more
- Data-driven Charting with CFMX and More
- An Introduction to Java for non-Java Web Developers
- Leveraging VMWare Workstation for Development, Testing, and Support

Course topics and prices subject to change due to continuous improvement and refinement.

Practical Seminars for CF Developers

Just one day, low-cost!

The CFMX Series:

1 Day: What's New in CFMX: Opportunities & Challenges

1 Day: Flash for CFers: Getting Over the Hump

1 Day: Getting Started with XML and Web Services in CFMX

1 Day: DreamWeaver MX For CF/Studio Users

1 Day: Understanding Java/J2EE Integration in CFMX, For Those With No Java Experience

The Effective Developer Series:

1 Day: Intermediate SQL Techniques and DB Design for CFers

1 Day: Caching in: Improving Performance by Caching at Several Levels in CF

1 Day: Making the Most of Studio

1 Day: Toward Better Error Handling

1 Day: Effective CF Development I

The Discovery Series:

1 Day: Fusebox for the Curious

1 Day: ColdFusion Administration: It's About More Than Datasources

1 Day: Load Testing and Tuning CF Applications

1 Day: E-Testing: 30 Types of Tests Your CF Apps

1 Day: ColdFusion 5: What You May Have Missed

1 Day: From ColdFusion to JRun/J2EE: Making the Transition

1 Day: Wireless Possibilities for CF Developers

For more info:
Contact Charlie Arehart at carehart@systemanage.com
(301) 604-8399

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