Hidden Gems in 4.01

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Presentation on Web Site

Presentation is available at:
www.systemanage.com/presentations/

4.01: More than Maintenance

4.01 was a maintenance update
Came out in April
Free to current users (w/ Serial #)
Full new versions of all s/w
Downloadable from Allaire site
MUCH MORE than just bug fixes!!
Allaire’s Highlights

Features Highlighted on Main 4.01 pages on Allaire Site:
- Failover in clustering on NT
- Advanced Security (Sandbox, etc.) on Solaris
- New Native Drivers: DB2, Informix
- New Unix Support: HP/UX
- Euro currency support

Allaire’s Highlights (cont)

Other Significant Features Highlighted
- Short-circuit evaluation
- Advanced Security authentication against ODBC datasource
- Use of Netscape (NgLayout) as Internal Browser
- Authentication by secured certificates
- DB Connection caching: release/timeout
- Optional Stack Trace in Excep. Handling, Template Path in Error Messages
- Custom tag and excep. handling improvements

But Wait, There’s More!

I’ve Found 50 new features in CF Server!
- 12 new features in Studio
- Will highlight some “hidden gems”
Finding Documentation

Part of problem in appreciating changes:
- spread over 9 different documents!
- some hard to find
- no single resource to pull it all together

Allaire 4.01 Coverage

4.01 Update Summary

Server 4.01 Release notes for NT:
- couldn't locate on site

Studio 4.01 Release notes:

Allaire 4.01 Coverage

See: http://www.allaire.com/Documents/cf4docs.cfm, for:
- CFML and Application Framework Enhancements
- Database, Debugging, and Admin Changes
- Update FAQ
- Documentation Updates (New Docs)
- HomeSite and ColdFusion Studio Offer New Features in 4.0.1
“Undocumented” 4.01

**Allaire 4.01 Documentation Update Page**
- Corrections to printed materials
- Many people missed these changes

**Using CurrentDate() for Cfinsert/Update**
- New “type” parm for CFPARAM
  - any, array, boolean, date, numeric, query, string, struct, UUID, variable name
- New IsProtected function
- Support for x.509 certificates
- And more (see the document)

**Hidden Gems: Server**
- [OnRequestEnd.cfm](http://www.allaire.com/handlers/index.cfm?ID=10429&method=full)
  - like application.cfm, but at end of request
- [ListQualify](http://www.allaire.com/handlers/index.cfm?ID=10429&method=full)(list, qualifier, delimiter, elements)
  - Puts qualifier (such as ”) around list elements
    - listqualify("va, md, de", ",")
      - returns 'va', 'md', 'de'
    - listqualify("allaire,1","","","CHAR")
      - returns 'allaire', 1

  Must be caps
More Hidden Gems: Server

- FORM and URL scopes no longer read only
  - can change with CFSET, CFPARAM
  - can change data prior to CFINSERT/CFUPDATE
- New TYPE="readonly" attribute for CFLOCK
  - use to avoid exclusive lock when not needed
- New PASSTHROUGH attribute for CFFORM, CFINPUT, CFSELECT
  - allows passing style sheet and other parms

More Hidden Gems: Server

- DATECOMPARE has new third parm, datepart
  - d, n, h, m, yyyy
  - default is s (full datetime comparison)
- LISTVALUECOUNT(list,value)
  - number of instances of value in list
- STRUCTKEYLIST(structure)
  - list the key names (elements) in the structure
  - (see next page)

More Hidden Gems: Server

<cfoutput>#$structkeylist(session)#</cfoutput>

<cfloop list="#structkeylist(session)#" index="i">
  <cfoutput>
    session.#i# = #evaluate("session.&i")#
  </cfoutput><br>
</cfloop>

<session SESSIONID=COFFEEVALLEY_26_69359700>
<session URLTOKEN=CFID=26&CFTOKEN=69359700>
<session LOGGEDIN=1>
<session CFTOKEN=69359700>
<session CFID=26>
Still Many, Many More

- Have showed here 25 new features
- Still 25 more!
- Will document them all later, or you can look at the documents I showed before

Let’s look at the Studio features

Hidden Gems: Studio

- Updated Tag Editors
  - F1 on tag, function will call up help
  - Ctrl-Shift double click to select tag
  - Help system uses Verity for search
  - Options>Settings>Outline Current Line
  - Can surround code with pounds: CTRL+3
  - Warning about using Design Mode w/ CFML

More Hidden Gems: Studio

- Can create and delete folders on FTP/RDS
- When saving on remote server, last character no longer duplicated
- FTP server can be configured as “relative from server-assigned directory”
  - Initial dir relative to web root,
  - or server-specified user directory
More Hidden Gems: Studio

- File Open/Save dialogs respect keyboard
  - using Enter key to select subdirectories
- Resource Tab columns widths preserved
- File/Save As
  - will save to dir. of current file being saved
  - or to path specified in local files tab
    - depending on “display current local folder in file dialogs” in options>settings>general

Gotcha’s in 4.01

- CFAPPLICATION now requires a NAME
- CFABORT no longer stops compilation, just execution
  - if comp. error would occur in code following CFABORT, will now get comp. Error
  - previously, comp. would stop at CFABORT
- New Session.SessionID variable
  - Application_Name+CFID+CFTOKEN

Gotcha’s in 4.01 (cont)

- Studio “access violation” errors
  - occurs in certain configurations
  - Allaire has solved with patch, for 4.01 ONLY
  - KB article 11868
- Tag Editor screwups
  - checkbox with no value
  - textarea with no rows, cols
  - and more
**Documentation Changes**

- New “Using Studio”, “Quick Reference”
- Revised “Getting Started”, “Administering CF Server”
- “Advanced CF Development” folded into others

**Finding More**

- This slide show and url's to docs will be on Systemanage site
- Will develop article to expand on some of these (in limits of article length)
- Will develop web page to detail all 50+ in server and the 12 in Studio