



TeraTech News

Tools for Programmers

100 Park Avenue Suite #360 Rockville, MD 20850
800-447-9120 • (301) 424-3903 • Fax (301) 762-8185
<http://www.teratech.com> or info@teratech.com

November, 1999

This month we cover:

- ◆ FuseBox methodology
- ◆ TDS project Client Letter
- ◆ What is new in ColdFusion Studio 4.5
- ◆ Stored Procedures in SQL server
- ◆ Primary keys as Form Fields. Not!
- ◆ New VoxWorld Toolkit
- ◆ Helping out at ByteBack

FuseBox

A ColdFusion programming methodology is emerging called "Fusebox"- The purpose of Fusebox methodology for building apps is to:

- Promote reuse of code- allow small apps to scale to larger ones,
- Support division of labor among content providers, programmers, graphic artists, and layout workers-make code easier to read and understand,
- Make maintaining code far easier-allow programmers to "embed" an entire CF app by turning the app into a CF tag-a single app will be split among various fuses each fuse is modular in design,
- Makes maintaining code easier. Architecture resembles a hub and spoke system. All action returns to the hub (the Fusebox). Every application has only one fusebox, but may have many fuses,
- The fuse structure is less defined. A single fuse is designed to have limited functionality.

Check it out at: <http://www.fusebox.org>

TDS Project Client Letter

TeraTech has helped TDS to develop an advanced online letter generation and mass mailing software program called ClientLetter. Through a friendly point-and-click interface, it minimizes letter production effort by retrieving and merging a company's existing customer information into form letters and other business documents. As well as guaranteeing that

certain actions (such as carbon copy



creation and form, questionnaire, and enclosure inclusion) are performed automatically. The letters are maintained by a Letter Administrator in each end user department,

is the total solution for all corporate correspondence needs, including Customer Service, Credit and Accounts receivable, Underwriting, Members, and Claims. The system is written in Visual Basic 6 and can use any ODBC compliant database such as SQL Server or Oracle.

What is new in ColdFusion Studio 4.5

ColdFusion 4.5 is due within the next month. Here are some of the new features.

- Access all your files from a single explorer that integrates access to the Windows file system.
- ColdFusion Remote Development Services (RDS) servers, and FTP servers.
- Scriptable Deployment - Deploy applications to complex server configurations with FTP or ColdFusion RDS.
- Object Scripting - Instant and script objects using CFML script in addition to the CFOBJECT tag for easier integration with distributed object
- middleware such as COM and CORBA.

Check it out: <http://www.allaire.com>

Why use stored procedures in SQL Server?

The concept of stored procedures in SQL Server is similar to saved queries in MS Access. Essentially, a developer can create queries that are precompiled by SQL and stored for later use. However, Stored Procedures are more than that. They can also include programming logic where the developer is able to create parameters and

variables and use familiar programming constructs such as IF and BEGIN...END to determine output.

The use of these features allows developers to construct complex operations that represent business logic that are unavailable in a simple SQL statement. The pre-compilation feature of stored procedures is one of its biggest attractions to developers hoping to squeeze as much performance as possible from their applications. The reason for this is that Stored Procedures not only are compiled which saves a step during their operation from a non-compiled query, but when created, SQL Server also creates a blueprint on the fastest way of executing the procedure and this plan is then stored in SQL Server's cache.

Don't use primary keys as form fields!

One thing you don't want to do is use a database primary key in a form field. Primary keys should never be modified by the user. They are only for the system and programmer's use. Besides, most databases won't allow updates to a primary key once it's established. Therefore, the user has no business trying to change them. If you need to display a primary key to the user, then display it as you would a regular variable.

New VoxWorld Toolkit

VoxWorld Toolkit is a professional telephony developer's sound editing toolkit. Comprehensive sample code for Visual Basic and MFC VC++ are provided to get you up and running fast. There is no need to reinvent the wheel with VoxWorld Toolkit. The 32 bit compliant interface and lack of ongoing royalties make VoxWorld Toolkit the sensible choice to eliminate the need for expensive in-house development efforts. It's Price is \$499 + shipping.
<http://www.teratech.com/product/productdetail.cfm?product=VXWTK>

Helping out at ByteBack

Michael Smith, President of Teratech, teaches a ColdFusion Class at ByteBack



every Monday night. ByteBack is a non-profit organization that provides services to inner city residents. The main service they provide

is computer training for unemployed and under-employed DC area adults and youth in order to increase their skill sets and marketability.

ByteBack takes responsibility for equipment setup and maintenance, software procurement and installation, and curriculum development, as well as volunteer teacher recruitment, training, and supervision. All of their services are free of



charge. The seven partner organizations and sites that they work with provide classroom/lab space, recruit students, and are

responsible for security. They have also begun to provide job placement services to their graduates in partnership with Jubilee Jobs. Plus, they act as mentors for 44 interns to assist in their long term educational and employment goals.

TERATECH CUSTOM PROGRAMMING

- ◆ Visual Basic, Quick Basic, C/CC++, ASM
- ◆ Access, FoxPro, Clipper, SQL
- ◆ Numeric Analysis, Statistics, Telephony
- ◆ Web HTML, ColdFusion, ASP, Java

Copyright TeraTech 1999
TeraTech, Inc.

100 Park Ave Ste 360
Rockville, MD 20850
800-447-9120 (301) 424-3903
fax (301) 762-8185

<http://www.teratech.com>
Info@teratech.com