



# 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](mailto:info@teratech.com)

Lucy Mwinamo, Editor

June 2000

### This month we cover:

- CFUN2K ColdFusion Conference
- Oracle to offer broader net file system
- Allaire Forums Now Open Source
- Reserved words in ColdFusion
- Current TeraTech Projects
- MD ColdFusion Users Group
- Quote of the Month

### CFUN2K



TeraTech and other companies hosted the CFUG-o-RAMA presented by Ben Forta. This was

attended by more than seven hundred people. TeraTech and CPCUG will be hosting the ColdFusion user conference on Saturday, July, 29 and Sunday, July 30 2000. Come join us in the CF Fun 2K. More info: <http://www.cfconf.org>

### Oracle to offer Net file system

Oracle will soon ship a long-delayed Web technology that allows businesses that use the company's flagship database software to manage a wider mix of information, including Web pages, email and video. The software, delayed since September, is a key component in Oracle's new Internet-focused 8i-database software. Company Executives have touted Internet File System as a product that could render the Windows operating system unnecessary. The database, used for storing and managing information, is packed with features the company says are the only

technology businesses need to run programs accessible via the Net. Having a file system built into a database rather than into an operating system offers some advantages, including better protection of files in case of computer crashes, because databases provide a means to back up information. The database file system also offers better and faster searching capabilities than standard operating systems, as well as the ability to find the content with any device that has a Web browser. More info: <http://news.cnet.com/news/0-1003-200-1721409.html?tag=st.ne.1002.thed.1003-200-1721409>

### Allaire Forums Now Open Source

Effective May 1, 2000, Allaire Forums has been transitioned to an Open Source licensing model and is no longer sold as a packaged product by Allaire or its resellers. A third party has been secured for the continued support of the Forums Open Source software initiative. For more information, reference the Forums Open Source FAQ and Open Source Web site. Allaire Forums is a Web conferencing application that lets Web site developers using ColdFusion set up and maintain simultaneous online discussions. Allaire Forums features the added discussion capability and provides for setup and maintenance of simultaneous discussions on any number of topics within a Web site. Allaire released V1.0 of Allaire Forums in 1997. V2.0.x has been available through Allaire resellers through April of 2000. More info: <http://www.allaire.com/products/forums/>

### Reserved words in ColdFusion

When developing you will always want to be aware of reserved words. These are words that are used by the "language" and

can not be used as variables otherwise. This article will display some of the reserved words in ColdFusion. It is always better to scope your variables to avoid these conflicts and it will improve performance in the application, not to mention make it easier to read the code. Here are some reserved names:

- URL.
- Form.
- Session.
- Application.
- Request.
- Variables.
- Server.
- Client.
- Cookie.
- CGI.
- File.
- Caller.
- ThisTag.

The session, application and some other variables are now stored in a Structure. Because they are in a structure, you can list the Structure by doing the following:

```
<CFOUTPUT>#StructKeyList(url)#</CFOUTPUT>
```

```
<CFOUTPUT>#StructKeyList(form)#</CFOUTPUT>
```

```
<CFOUTPUT>#StructKeyList(session)#</CFOUTPUT>
```

```
<CFOUTPUT>#StructKeyList(application)#</CFOUTPUT>
```

```
<CFOUTPUT>#StructKeyList(request)#</CFOUTPUT>
```

By doing this it will display all variables in the Structure, this can be used for debugging information. Also, anything that the server manages/provides (both scope and variable names) should not be used. This includes names like thisTag.\*, caller, etc. Again, you should ALWAYS scope your variables. This will increase performance and reduce naming problems as well. Examples for scoping your variables:

```
<cfset URL.local = "URLVar">
```

```
<cfset Form.local = "FormVar">  
<cfset Session.local = "SessionVar">  
<cfset Application.local = "applicationVar">  
<cfset Request.local = "requestVar">
```

For further reference, view the Variables section of the Quick Reference guide. You can download it from our website, it's the "ColdFusion Quick Reference" and it's available on the Allaire site under Developer->Documentation->ColdFusion Docs.

### ***Current TeraTech Projects***

TeraTech is currently working on two projects for Adsavers.com. A Screen Saver project using VB in flash and an administrative accounting project in ColdFusion. Screen Savers are interactive and display updated and timely advertising to the user. This project is expected to be used by a million people by the end of the year. More info: <http://www.adsavers.com/>

### ***MD ColdFusion Users Group.***

We host the MDCFUG meeting every second Tuesday of the month. For more information on past meetings and next meetings topics visit:

<http://www.cfug-md.org/>

### ***Quote of the Month***

"Nothing is illegal if one hundred businessmen decide to do it."

By Andrew Young

### ***TERATECH CUSTOM PROGRAMMING***

- ◆ Web HTML, ColdFusion
- ◆ VisualBasic, Quick Basic, C/C++, ASM
- ◆ Access, FoxPro, Clipper, SQL
- ◆ Numeric Analysis, Statistics

**Copyright TeraTech 2000**  
**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](mailto:info@teratech.com)**