



TERATECH NEWS

Tools for Programmers

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May 2001

This month we cover:

- Half.com
- Changing from MSAccess to SQL Server
- WDDX Web Site
- MDCFUG Survey Responses
- Visual Fred

CF scales Half.com

Have you checked out half.com - the Internet's largest fixed-price, person-to-person book and video marketplace? It is a great place to buy and sell technical books without the bidding hassle of E-Bay. As the name suggests, most books are about half price. But we also noticed that the site is written in ColdFusion, showing yet again that CF scales! (Half.com currently offers more than 10 million new and used product listings!)

For more information go to:

<http://www.half.com>

Practical CF: Upsize from MSAccess to SQL Server

Michael Smith and Eron Cohen had an article published in the March issue of ColdFusion Developer's Journal.

"We covered reasons to upsize your Access database to SQL Server and the tools you'll use to do it. Here we explain in detail how to copy data to SQL Server and troubleshoot your upsizing project..."

To read the rest of this article please go to:

<http://www.sys-con.com/coldfusion/article.cfm?id=272>

Changes to WDDX Web Site

Effective today, Macromedia has formally transitioned responsibility for the Web Distributed Data Exchange (WDDX) Web site to a third party. All information that has been posted to the WDDX Web site, [wddx.org](http://www.wddx.org), can now be found at <http://www.openwddx.org>.

WDDX is an XML-based technology that enables the exchange of complex data between applications, creating what some refer to as 'Web syndicate networks' and enabling Web Services. Allaire created WDDX in order to solve key problems in exchanging data between Web applications. In particular, Simeon Simeonov, Allaire's chief architect, created WDDX to support problems of distributed computing within ColdFusion. This work was generalized into a cross-language framework, and resulted in the creation of the WDDX SDK and WDDX.org. Nate Weiss, an independent Web

developer, with the support of Allaire and a number of other third parties, created the WDDX SDK.

Transferring responsibility for this Web site is consistent with our overall goal of supporting this technology within the public domain. As creator of the technology, Allaire Corp. was at times perceived as the owner and formal supporter of the technology, and that WDDX was a proprietary technology. The establishment of OpenWDDX.org is intended to rekindle enthusiasm and acceptance of WDDX in the developer community, and confirm its role as an independent and enabling technology.

For more information, and a complete FAQ about the WDDX initiative, please visit:

<http://www.openwddx.org>



A view from the first MDCFUG meeting held at the Backstreets Café, its new location.

MDCFUG Survey Responses

Recently we sent around an MDCFUG survey to those people who are on our mailing list. We got lots of good feedback, and we'd like to thank all those who responded!

Here are some of the positive quotes we got back regarding our meetings:

"The new place is a definite improvement"-Don Bellenger

"I like the open attitude about sharing knowledge, solutions, and problems"-Sherri Conner

"I like the fact that I can be fairly new to CF and still feel like I can get something out of the UG meetings." Ravenna Chase

"I enjoyed the content and the expertise of the presenters."-Peter Rice

[About the new location]

"I love it. Such personality." Eron Cohen

"What I like about MDCFUG is that it is free, a chance to meet other people with common interests, and the sponsorship of seminars."-David Buchanan

For more information, or to sign up for the MDCFUG go to:

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

Visual Fred

Thinking of going from VB 6 to VB .net? This list of items that won't work the same in VB.net is from Karl Peterson's Visual Fred page:

<http://www.mvps.org/vb/index.html?rants/dotnot.htm>

- VarPtr is not supported.
- As any is not supported for API Declares.
- Use of ByVal/ByRef directly within API calls is not supported.
- Arrays may not have a lower bound other than zero.
- Variants are not supported. Object is now the default data type.
- Currency is not supported.
- Fixed-length Strings are not supported.
- Redim will not create arrays not already declared.
- Local variables are not necessarily visible throughout a procedure.
- Null is not supported.
- Empty is not supported.

- IsMissing is not supported.
- Terminate will not fire when an object's last reference is released.
- Object finalization code will not execute in a predictable order.
- Public object variables are not safe from alteration when passed as parameters.
- Procedure parameters are not by default passed ByRef anymore.
- Static is not supported as a procedure level modifier.
- Use of As New does not force auto-reinstantiation when an object is released.
- Parentheses are not optional when calling procedures.
- Set is not supported for object assignment.
- Code is not compiled to native, thus making decompilation much easier.
- Resource files have changed format and old ones are not supported.
- LSet is not supported.

Maryland 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/>

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