

ColdFusion MX 7 Application Framework

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About Me



USER GROUP

- ❖ B.S. in CSCI & IS (2000)
- ❖ Been using ColdFusion since version 4
- ❖ Joined Team Macromedia (now Adobe Community Experts) in 2001
- ❖ Currently the Development Manager at Dealerskins in Nashville, TN

- ❖ Before CFMX 7
- ❖ Intro to Application.cfc
- ❖ onApplicationStart/End
- ❖ onSessionStart/End
- ❖ onRequestStart/End
- ❖ onRequest
- ❖ onError
- ❖ Advanced Usage
- ❖ CFMX 7 Application Framework “Gotchas”
- ❖ Resources

Before CFMX 7

- ❖ Application.cfm executed before any page
- ❖ OnRequestEnd.cfm executed after every page
- ❖ CF looks in “current directory” and up to drive root
- ❖ <cfapplication> tag defines app settings

BEST PRACTICE:

Stick to the correct case when naming your Application.cfm and OnRequestEnd.cfm files. You have no choice in the *nix world.

Intro to Application.cfc

- ❖ Application.cfm not needed/recommended
- ❖ How is Application.cfc found?
- ❖ How do you define application settings?
- ❖ Application.cfc methods

Defining Application Settings

```
<cfcomponent name="Application" displayname="Application Component.">  
  
    <cfset this.name = "appSettings">  
  
    <cfset this.applicationTimeout = CreateTimeSpan(0,0,0,45)>  
  
    <cfset this.sessionManagement = "true">  
  
    <cfset this.sessionTimeout = CreateTimeSpan(0,0,0,30)>  
  
    <cfset this.clientManagement = "false">  
  
    <cfset this.scriptProtect = "false">  
  
</cfcomponent>
```

NOTE:

The “scriptProtect” application property is new in CFMX 7 and is designed to protect your application from cross-site scripting attacks.

Application.cfc Methods

- ❖ onApplicationStart
- ❖ onSessionStart
- ❖ onRequestStart
- ❖ onRequest
- ❖ onRequestEnd
- ❖ onSessionEnd
- ❖ onApplicationEnd
- ❖ onError

onApplicationStart/End

- ❖ onApplicationStart
 - ❖ runs when your app first starts
 - ❖ can generate output
 - ❖ returns a boolean
 - ❖ implicitly locks Application scope
- ❖ onApplicationEnd
 - ❖ runs when your app times out or server shuts down
 - ❖ returns “void”
 - ❖ cannot generate output (no browser context)
 - ❖ cannot directly access Application scope
- ❖ example...

onSessionStart/End

- ❖ onSessionStart
 - ❖ runs when a user session first starts
 - ❖ can generate output
 - ❖ returns “void”
 - ❖ implicitly locks Session scope
- ❖ onSessionEnd
 - ❖ runs when a session times out
 - ❖ does not run when application times out / server shuts down
 - ❖ returns “void”
 - ❖ cannot generate output (no browser context)
 - ❖ cannot directly access Session or Application scope
- ❖ example...

onRequestStart/End

- ❖ onRequestStart
 - ❖ runs when a request starts
 - ❖ can generate output
 - ❖ returns a boolean
 - ❖ just like Application.cfm
 - ❖ variables set here are not available in called page
- ❖ onRequestEnd
 - ❖ runs when a request ends
 - ❖ can generate output
 - ❖ returns “void”
 - ❖ just like OnRequestEnd.cfm
- ❖ example...

- ❖ runs after request starts, just after onRequestStart event
- ❖ executed in lieu of the requested page
- ❖ allows for granular control of requested content/pages
- ❖ can generate output
- ❖ copies variables-scoped variables to variables scope
- ❖ all pages must be cfincluded
- ❖ breaks Web Services and Flash Remoting calls*
- ❖ returns “void”
- ❖ example...

*There is a workaround which will be explained later.

- ❖ executed when an uncaught exception occurs
- ❖ two available arguments: Exception (Object), EventName (String)
- ❖ can generate output
- ❖ overrides CFADMIN error handlers and `<cferror>` tags
- ❖ use `<cfthrow>` to raise exceptions to CFADMIN error handlers and `<cferror>` tags
- ❖ use as a filter to handle selected errors and `<cfthrow>` to raise exceptions for other error handlers
- ❖ returns “void”
- ❖ example...

Advanced Usage

- ❖ loading global utilities / UDF's
- ❖ extending Application.cfc
- ❖ example...

CFMX 7 Application Framework “Gotchas”

- ❖ Application.cfc vs. Application.cfm
- ❖ Web Services/Flash Remoting and the onRequest method
- ❖ Code to add to onRequestStart

```
<cfif ListLast(arguments.targetPage, ".") is "cfc">  
    <cfset StructDelete(variables, "onRequest")>  
    <cfset StructDelete(this, "onRequest")>  
</cfif>
```

- ❖ My blog (<http://www.trajiklyhip.com/blog/>)
- ❖ Official Adobe Resources
 - ❖ The Application Framework (Chapter 6) - ColdFusion MX 7 Certified Developer Study Guide
 - ❖ Livedocs Application.cfc Reference (livedocs.macromedia.com)
- ❖ Ray Camden's App.pdf (ray.camdenfamily.com/downloads/app.pdf)
- ❖ E-Mail me (aaron@trajiklyhip.com)

Thank you!
