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Programming ColdFusion



Synopsis

ColdFusion is a powerful platform for creating and deploying dynamic web applications. Developers like ColdFusion because its simple, tag-based language makes it easy to handle simple tasks, like processing form data and querying databases. ColdFusion is easy to learn, yet powerful enough to deliver highly scalable, robust applications. Programming ColdFusion covers everything you need to know to create effective web applications with ColdFusion and includes numerous examples that you can use for your own applications. The book starts with ColdFusion basics and quickly progresses to topics like sharing application data, accessing databases, and maintaining state information. It also provides chapters on advanced database techniques, working with the Verity search engine, and interacting with other data sources, including LDAP directories, email servers, and other web servers. Finally, the book explores more advanced topics, such as creating custom tags, sharing data with WDDX, and calling external objects.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Programming ColdFusion" is an excellent reference source for those wanting to understand how to develop ColdFusion web applications. In the preface, Brooks-Bilson identifies his primary audience as current ColdFusion developers while also stating that all other web developers interested in web application development using ColdFusion will also find this book useful. I would have to disagree with this. Brooks-Bilson hits his primary target audience but misses the beginning web developer and a lot of the existing web developers that may wish to move towards a ColdFusion development

environment. The book assumes a certain level of tacit knowledge about web development, in particular using ColdFusion. In general, I found this book is very well written with clear descriptions of the various features and how to use them. The major failing is that while many examples are used to describe the various features of the ColdFusion tags, there is no unifying web application development. The addition of an application development that would span the features throughout this book, would go a long way towards increasing the target audience to include web developers from non-ColdFusion backgrounds and beginning web developers. The inclusion of a unifying example would go a long way towards driving home the points being developed and the advantages of using ColdFusion. If I take a simple example liking using the CFIF tag. Coming from a primarily ASP web development background, this is the same as using the IF function in Vbscript. What is the advantage towards my using CFIF vs. Vbscript? There were many places where the author showed examples of individual features where I basically had the same response.

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