ColdFusion MX Web Application Construction Kit (5th Edition)

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Web Application Construction Kit

Fifth Edition

PRESS

Ben Forta and Nate Weiss
with Leon Chalnick and Angela Buraglia

Synopsis

If you're looking to create real-world applications that solve real-world problems using ColdFusion MX as your tool, there's no better place to start than with The ColdFusion MX Web Application Construction Kit. Serving as both tutorial and reference, this all-in-one kit provides everything you need to begin creating Internet-based applications--including evaluation and developer versions of ColdFusion MX and its development environment. Building on the tried-and-true formula of the four best-selling previous editions--but using lessons geared toward creating the next generation of Web projects--veteran author Ben Forta moves from the fundamentals of Web and database design to more complex topics like creating data-driven pages, implementing security mechanisms, and building complete applications. In the process, he covers new features in ColdFusion MX: a J2EE-based engine, a new development environment, additional debugging tools, Flash integration, business charting, XML manipulation, and more. Whether you're a recent ColdFusion convert or an old hand who's ready to learn some new tricks and best practices, you'll find answers to all your questions in the definitive and standard developer's reference--The ColdFusion MX Web Application Construction Kit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I had high hopes for this book, and it has let me down. This book is absolutely huge (~1500 pages), and it does not contain the level of detail that I was expecting.Here's an example: I wanted to know what the valid returntypes of CFFUNCTION tags are (returntype is an attribute of the tag). Pretty

reasonable, no? There is a chapter specifically designated to user-defined functions (i.e. the cffunction tag). That chapter tells me to refer to the appendix for information on the cffunction tag attributes. So, I look in the appendix, and the description of the RETURNTYPE attribute is: "Optional; name of data type that will be returned."Well, DUH! I wanted to know what the valid return types are (e.g. integer, boolean, string, etc.), not the definition of what a return type is! This is the kind of basic information that I would expect to find in this book, as it is essential to programming in CF MX. However, it was astoundingly omitted, leaving me to scour the Internet for the information that I thought I had purchased with this book.This is just one example, but it's a common theme throughout the book (CFLOGIN is another area where not nearly enough detail was presented, even though it's brand new in CF MX). The IsUserInRole function is a perfect example. What is this new concept of a "role"? How are roles set, so CF can know if a user is in a role that I'm checking against? I wanted some basic explanations of the intricacies of how this all works. However, none of this is covered, and I had to figure it out myself. They just give a simple definition and a vanilla example, and I have to figure out how the function works through my own trial-and-error, defeating the whole purpose of the book.

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