The State of (Corporate) HTML5

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in this session...

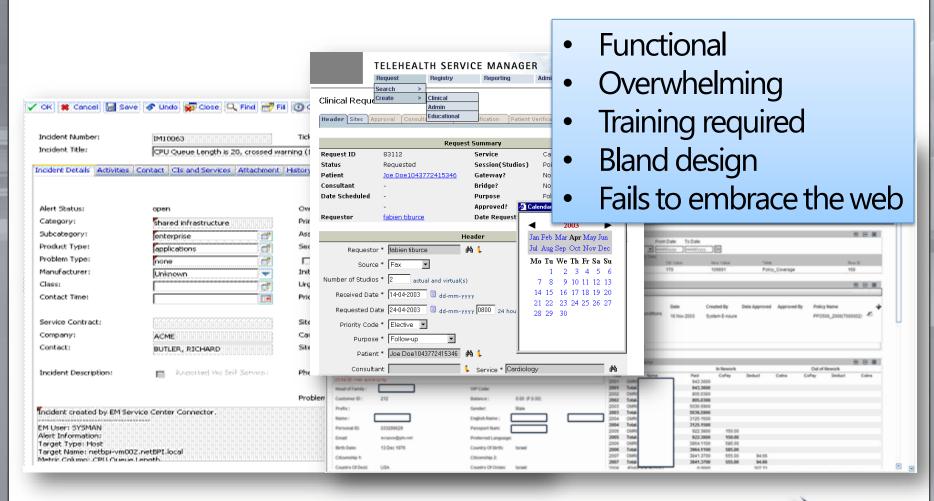
- Understand the pace of change on the web
- Techniques to "future proof" your web application
- Take advantage of the latest, while not breaking the oldest



the web has evolved



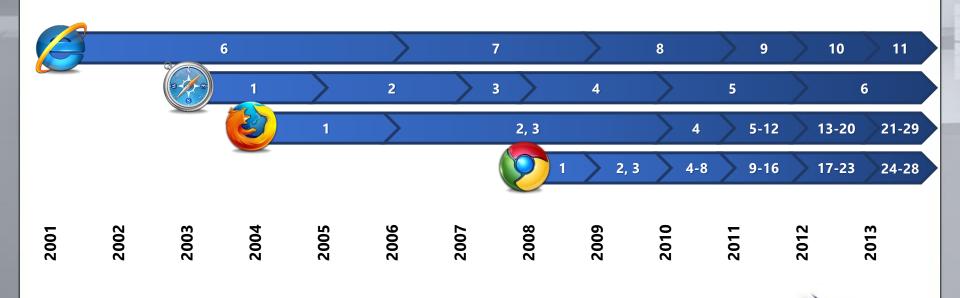
the web has evolved





we're pushing to maximum warp!

- The real browser race has just begun
- Even IE is moving toward automatic updates (if sysadmins allow it)



no one will win though...

- Device-specific browser lock out prevents one browser from ruling them all
 - iOS = Safari
 - Windows RT = IE
 - Android = Chrome (Android Browser)
- Chrome's recent departure from WebKit no longer makes it the holy grail of web development
 - Not that all Web Kit browsers were created equal anyways...
- The success of the web is brought about by the diversity, not a drive towards monoculture



competition is good thing



- Promotes innovation
- Exposes weakness
- Applies learning from failure



if we could say the web was "n-1"...

- Business might rethink how the invest in web applications
- Greater pressure by developers on vendors for standards adoption and compliance
- Automated smoke tests would be much more important

Current Active Support

	Internet Explorer	Chrome	Firefox	Safari	Opera
jQuery 1.x	6+	Current - 1	Current - 1	Current - 1	Current - 1
jQuery	9+	version	version	version	version

YUI Target Environments

User Guides Examples API Docs Environments Tutorials						
Internet Explorer	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	
Chrome †	Latest stable					
Firefox †		Latest stable				
Safari	iOS 5.†	iOS 6.† Latest stable (desktop)				
WebKit	Android 2.3.†	Android 4.†				
Node.js*	0.8.†	0.10.†				
Windows (Native)			Windows 8 Apps			



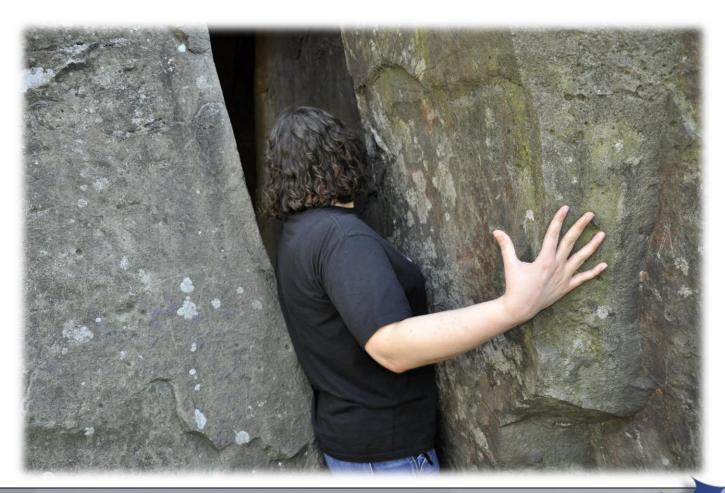
...meanwhile, back in IT land

- Standard desktop images evolve at a slow pace
- People bring their own devices to workaround IT
- IT likes IE because it is predictable... maybe even Firefox because it can be trusted enough
- Can't be too innovative because breaking something = trouble
- Understand IT's constraint is focused on risk (don't break things)





as a web developer, the reality is...





back to basics

HTML5

Content

CSS3

Presentation

JavaScript

Behavior



back to basics

- Specifications leave room for interpretation
- Cross-browser interop focus has improved in past few years
 - Web Standards Project ACID tests
 - ECMAScript Test Suite
- Barrier to entry to profession is low
- Writing good markup, style sheets and script is hard
- Less-than-perfect markup power web apps big and small



- 1. Pick a DOCTYPE and stick to it
- 2. Separate content, presentation and behavior
- 3. Encode content properly
- 4. Use inline and block elements correctly
- 5. Make it easy to read and maintain
- 6. *Always* validate markup, style sheets and scripts



- Pick a DOCTYPE and stick to it.
 - Strict no presentation allowed in markup
 - Transitional presentation elements still allowed ☺
- Be aware of Standards, Almost Standards, and Quirks mode
 - See <u>colinb.me/QuirksMode</u>

HTML DOCTYPEs	XHTML DOCTYPEs	
Elements and attributes are case insensitive (e.g. <h1> is the same thing as <h1>)</h1></h1>	Elements and attributes are case sensitive and are all lowercase	
Not every element requires a closing tag (), while others should not have a closing tag ()	Elements must be explicitly closed (), elements without content should be self closing ()	
Attribute values do not require quotes	Attribute values must be enclosed by quotes	
Shorthand can be used for certain attributes (<input required=""/>)	Full attribute form must be used for all attributes (<input required="required"/>)	

- Separate content, presentation and behavior
- Style sheet references on top (head), scripts on the bottom (before closing html tag)
- Win on rendering speed as well as readability
 - colinb.me/ProperPageIncludes



- Encode your content properly
- Language is declared in the document root
- Character set is first thing declared in the document header



- Use inline and block elements correctly
- Browsers permit technically incorrect combinations
- "Build on blocks, inline on the inside"

```
<a href="index.html"><h1>Cats</h1></a>
<h1><a href="index.html">Cats</a></h1>
```



- Make it easy to read and maintain
- Use consistent intending and casing
 - Make it easy to implement with tooling
 - Format Document in Visual Studio
 - HTML Tidy, CSS Tidy, JS Beautify open source tools
- Pick a naming convention and stick to it
 - No different than server-side coding styles
 - Jury is still out on hard rule when to reference by ID, class or element name
 - When planning out styles selector specificity applies



- *Always* validate markup, style sheets and scripts
- Tools available on most fronts:
 - Web-based <u>colinb.me/W3CValidators</u>
 - Browser extensions:
 - Firefox colinb.me/HtmlValidatorFirefox
 - Chrome colinb.me/HtmlValidatorChrome
 - VS plugins:
 - Web Essentials <u>colinb.me/vswebext</u>
 - JSLint colinb.me/JsLint2012
 - Standalone <u>www.htmlvalidator.com</u>
- Haven't seen reliable build process validator
 - Challenged by dynamic nature of markup



Demo

VALIDATORS IN ACTION



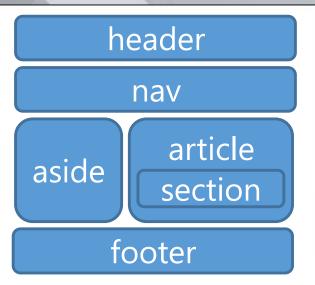
taking advantage of the latest

- Supporting older browsers is not as painful these days
 - Remember, sites don't need to render the same across all browsers
- 10+ years to see the light
 - More smart people focused on the problem
 - Deeper knowledge and tooling for JavaScript
- Use polyfills to close gaps if needed
 - Manipulate the DOM to enable support of new features
 - Does have a performance impact meant to be temporary workarounds rather than permanent fixes
 - colinb.me/Html5Polyfills



structural elements

 New elements introduced to address common scenarios seen across most web interfaces



- Data elements allow for richer interaction with content (<time>, <command>, <progress>)
- Use with older browsers using appropriate polyfill



Demo

MODERNIZR



controls

- Form controls enable browsers to provide consistent input experience
 - Dates & Time, Number, Range, Email Address, URL, Color, Search
- Descriptive controls allow for behaviour and semantic description
 - Menu, Figure, Datagrid, Output, Time, Progress, Meter



Demo

POLYFILLS



layout and styling

 Rounded borders, shadowing, font enhancements for polished look-and-feel



- Normalize style rules rather than resetting them
 - LESS, SASS make rules manageable
- Avoid table-based layouts which increase render time and reduce responsiveness



drag & drop

- Standardizes scenario that has been re-invented many times
 - Mark elements with draggable attribute
 - Mark target zones with dropzone attribute
 - Handle ondrop event to update back-end
- Wire into the file and touch events for rich experiences



web sockets

- Two-way communication between client and server with persistent TCP connection
 - Less network overhead than long polling / streaming (Comet) or periodic refreshing (AJAX)
- Consider the scalability impact of open connections



Demo

SIGNALR



data storage

- Session and Local Storage used for string values
 - Similar to HTTP cookies
 - Session: tied to top-level document
 - Local: tied to domain
- Indexed DB provides a SQL-like mechanism for storing and querying complex data structures



Demo

JSTORAGE



supporting apps with incompatibilities

- Enable IT to move on with a modern browser while supporting legacy applications
- Three approaches:
 - Host modern rendering engine in older browser Chrome Frame
 - Host older rendering engine in newer browser Browsium Ion
 - Application virtualization of older browser Microsoft App-V
- What are you hearing from IT that prevents them from running the latest browers?



testing across the spectrum

- Lots of cross-browser testing tools on the market
 - colinb.me/XBrowserTest
- Automate test runs using open source or commercial tools
 - Selenium
 - Telerik Test Studio
 - Visual Studio Coded UI Tests
- Internet Explorer product group publishing great offers:
 - 3 month access to BrowserStack
 - VMs for Hyper-V, VMware Player/Workstation, VirtualBox, and Virtual PC
 - *Sold out* Heavily discounted copy of Windows 8 + Parallels for Mac
 - <u>modern.ie/virtualization-tools</u>



next steps

- Use HTML5 and CSS3 today!
 - Bookmark HTML5 specs <u>developers.whatwg.org</u>
 - Subscribe to CSS3 feed <u>css3.info</u>
 - Implement feature detection <u>caniuse.com</u>
 - Use polyfills when needed <u>colinb.me/Html5Polyfills</u>
- Advocate with stakeholders on
 - What is possible with sketches (linked to business value)
 - Cost of supporting older browsers



resources

- Uls for Business Web Apps
 - colinb.me/BizWebAppUI
- HTML5 Rocks
 - html5rocks.com

- Top 10 App Design Mistakes
 - colinb.me/TopUXMistakes
- HTML5 Boilerplate
 - html5boilerplate.com

- HTML5 Polyfills
 - colinb.me/Html5Polyfills
- HTML5 Browser-Feature Matrix
 - caniuse.com

