CNAM Development Guide

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Summary

CNAM are interested in purchasing licenses for LCDS and Flash Builder, and as part of this deal have requested that Adobe provide them with some advice and assistance to be able to get started rapidly maximising the potential of their purchase. This document contains a number of articles and discussions that represent our architects' opinions on how to proceed given the context and constraints we understand CNAM have in their environment. The guides provided are as follows:

Getting started in LCDS and Flex/AIR

Two step by step guides are provided to enable the developer to rapidly get started developing in LCDS and Flex / AIR. The first shows the developer "**How to write a generic LCDS enabled Java service**", and also includes step by step instructions for installing Flex Builder and LCDS on a development machine. The second guide builds on this by showing the developer "**How to write a Flex / AIR UI that can connect to different services**". This guide will give the interested developer a head start in creating a Flex or AIR application that will connect to the service created in the first guide.

Decoupling Service Endpoints

The second section of the guide focuses on challenges and solutions for decoupling service endpoints. The first guide describes "**Dynamic service configuration**" and describes the process of declaratively instantiating a RemoteObject. The second guide proposes a high-level conceptual approach for creating a "**Central Directory of URLs (Yellow Pages Service)**". This document also covers off changing services dynamically at runtime.

Changes in topology and distributed environments

This section deals with the challenges of deployment in an enterprise environment. The first describes a common approach towards deployment where the "**UI and services deployment on different servers**". A step-by-step guide to "**Configuring LCDS software clustering**" is provided to give the deployment team guidance in this area.

Protection of assets loaded at runtime

The desire to protect content is understandable. Just as with standard websites and applications, content is loaded into the applications. The notion of public and private assets are discussed, along with some potential strategies for restricting the accessibility of content by "**Hiding assets from direct calls**".

Flex / AIR content organization

Two themes are covered here. The first describes "**Best practices for organizing Flex / AIR application projects**" and will help the interested project team get a head-start organizing the directory structure of their projects. The second article covers the process of using Modules in Flex and "**Best practices for dynamically loading modules**"

Build Tools

The final section in this guide covers off build tools and processes. We understand that CNAM are exploring using Maven or ANT to structure their build process, and as such we have provided some information on both tools. "**Building a Flex project with Maven**" is self explanatory; "**Flex ANT Tasks**" provides some examples of using the `compc` and `mxmlc` ANT tasks to automate the build process, and provides a simple example for incorporating the compilation and running of a test harness as part of your ANT build process. Finally, we provide a simple step-by-step guide for adding a Maven or ANT based automated build to a Hudson continuous integration machine in "**Configuring a Flex project in Hudson**".