

Adding fck Rich Text Editor to your Coldfusion forms & customising the Toolbar set

Posted At : 16 April 2010 10:25 | Posted By : Shaun McCran
Related Categories: Coldfusion, Javascript, Web technologies, RIA

Whilst writing a Content Management System (CMS) recently I thought I'd take the time to go over some Coldfusion 8 functionality that passed me by when it was released.

In Coldfusion 8 the fck editor was included as part of the server installation. This article deals with integrating it into your forms, and how to build a custom tool bar set to manage the options displayed with it.

The fck editor is attached to a cftextarea element, so make sure your form tag is a cfform tag. Now add two more values to the cftextarea, a 'richText=1' value, which enabled the fck Editor functionality.

```
width="600" height="200" id="txtContent" richtext="1" toolbar="MyCustomToolbar">#att
```

There are two pre defined Toolsets 'Basic' and 'Default'. If you do not set the 'toolbar=' value it will default to the 'Default' toolbar (its not just a clever name!). This is read from the 'fckconfig.js' file, which is located in the 'webroot\CFIDE\scripts\ajax\FCKeditor\' directory.

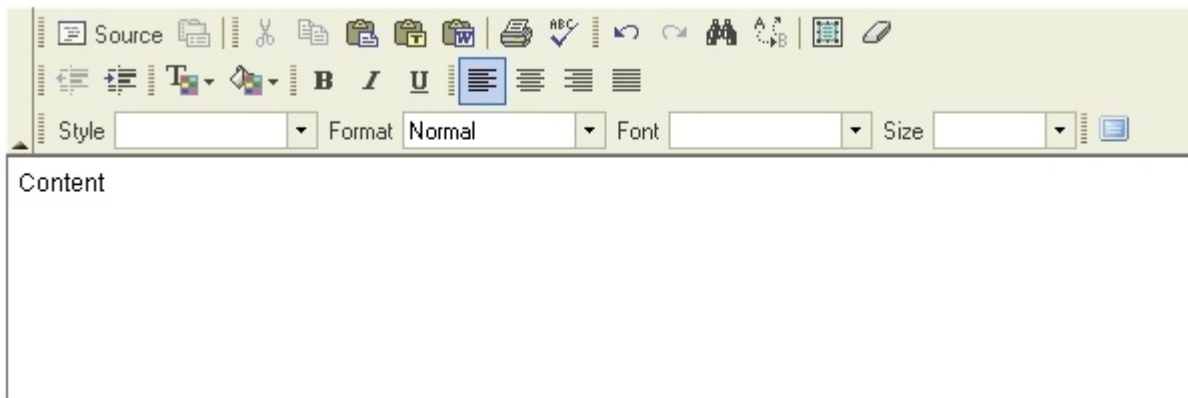
If you want to define a custom toolbar set then you can create another element like the existing 'default'. There are a few rules around the structure, like surrounding your toolbar set with double quotes and square brackets. The '-' element adds a vertical line divider, and the '/' element forces a line break in the toolbar.

```
FCKConfig.ToolbarSets["MyCustomToolbar "] = [
    ['Source', 'DocProps', '-'],
    ['Cut', 'Copy', 'Paste', 'PasteText', 'PasteWord', '-', 'Print', 'SpellCheck'],
    ['Undo', 'Redo', 'Find', 'Replace', '-', 'SelectAll', 'RemoveFormat'],
    '/',
    ['Outdent', 'Indent'],
    ['TextColor', 'BGColor'],
    ['Bold', 'Italic', 'Underline'],
    ['JustifyLeft', 'JustifyCenter', 'JustifyRight', 'JustifyFull'],
    '/',
    ['Style', 'FontFormat', 'FontName', 'FontSize'],

    ['FitWindow']
];
```

The only thing this does not do that I would like it to is automatically expand the textarea when the content reaches a certain point, like this:

<http://james.padolsey.com/javascript/jquery-plugin-autoresize/>



Things to watch out for

The Toolbar value is a JavaScript variable, so it is case sensitive. If you edit the fckconfig.js file you will need to flush your browser cache. It's a Javascript file and both Internet Explorer and FireFox will cache it.

The toolbar dimensions are included in the size attributes of the textarea in some browsers. Test in Internet Explorer 6 and 7, you might find that the Toolbar takes up the whole textarea, with no actual space for the content.

The order of the toolbar elements will actually re-order them in the display.

Adobe docs on the cftextarea tag : http://livedocs.adobe.com/coldfusion/8/htmldocs/help.html?content=Tags_t_02.html

Adobe docs on defining custom toolbars: http://livedocs.adobe.com/coldfusion/8/htmldocs/help.html?content=ajaxui_7.html#1126938