AIR Phone Book application - Part 1 (CFC and GUI)

Posted At : 3 April 2009 14:46 | Posted By : Shaun McCran
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I'm always asking what peoples phone numbers are in the office, we currently don't have any internal communications (like an intranet) so I thought I'd create a handy phone book application in AIR.

With FLEX of AIR applications I often wireframe them up with the data model in mind first. If you know what data you are going to display, and the format and delivery mechanism of that data, it can often have a large impact on the design and layout of your application.

In this instance I was just returning a simple query object of users and their phone numbers and a thumbnail image.

The CFC

My preferred server language is ColdFusion, so my service is a CFC object.

```
<cfcomponent hint="WLD phoneBook" output="false">

<cffunction name="getData" access="remote" hint="Gets phoneBook data" returntype=

    <cfquery datasource="#application.dns#" name="qGetPB">
        select          id AS ID,
                        name AS Name,
                        number AS No,
                        image As Image
            from phonebook
            Order by name
        </cfquery>

        <cfreturn qGetPB>
    </cffunction>

</cfcomponent>
```

In my example I'm using an MS SQL database, so I have included the creation script here:

```
SET ANSI_NULLS ON
        GO
SET QUOTED_IDENTIFIER ON
        GO
SET ANSI_PADDING ON
        GO
CREATE TABLE [dbo].[phonebook](
    [id] [int] IDENTITY(1,1) NOT NULL,
[name] [varchar](20) NULL DEFAULT (NULL),
    [number] [int] NULL DEFAULT (NULL),
[image] [varchar](55) NULL DEFAULT (NULL)
        ) ON [PRIMARY]

        GO
SET ANSI_PADDING OFF
```

Now that we know what the data will look like we can build the GUI front end.

My display layer is going to be a canvas, with another canvas inside it, to create a bordered effect.

Then I have a DataGrid, with a click event that will call an AS function. This will control the displaying of an image that corresponds to the user being clicked. Its always nice to see who you want to call!

```
      <mx:Fade id="fadeOut" duration="1.0" alphaFrom="1.0" alphaTo="0.0"/>
      <mx:Fade id="fadeIn" duration="2000" alphaFrom="0.0" alphaTo="1.0"/>
:"0" y="0" width="220" height="240" backgroundColor="#70c7f1" borderStyle="solid"
  x="10" y="22" width="200" height="210" backgroundColor="#FFFFFF" borderStyle="sol

      <mx:Label x="10" y="10" text="White label" id="header" styleName="header" fo
        <mx:Label x="78" y="10" text="Dating PhoneBook" styleName="greyHeader" fon
  id="displayPeople" x="10" y="32" width="180" height="108" itemClick="changeImage
                            <mx:columns>
                    <mx:DataGridColumn headerText="Name" width="140" dataF:
                        <mx:DataGridColumn headerText="No." width="40" dataF:
                    <mx:DataGridColumn headerText="Img" width="40" dataField="IMAG
```

```
                                    </mx:columns>
                                </mx:DataGrid>
                <mx:Image x="138" y="150" source="@Embed(source='wldLogoTiny.png
  x="25" y="144" toolTip="{displayPeople.selectedItem.NAME}" id="userImage" visibl
                                    </mx:Canvas>
  <mx:Label text="_" styleName="controls" toolTip="Minimize" x="173" y="-2" click="
     <mx:Label text="X" styleName="controls" toolTip="Close" x="184" y="1" click="c

                                    </mx:Canvas>
```

My 'userImage'has a showEffect attribute, that uses an image fadeIn method. It fades in the first image called, but not any others, I've had a play around with this, and I can't get it to fade in subsequent images, so if anyone has any ideas let me know!

Lastly I have added some chrome controls, as I will be removing the standard chrome, and building my own.

Now, on to the functions .