ApacheCon North America

Introducing ApacheTM FlexJSTM Miami, Florida May 18, 2017

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Short Bio

- Software dev since 1998, mostly UI
- Freelance Flex and JS dev & consultant since 2010
- Apache Flex Committer and PMC Member since 2016

Classic Flex SDK

- MXML
- AS3 (strongly typed, but ECMAScript)
- Good IDEs
- Flash Dependent
- Lots of features
- Big download size
- Difficult to optimize

FlexJS

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Let's Build An App

- MXML
- IDE
- Non CSS layout
- Custom component

Build for Flash

- Put a breakpoint in IDE
- Catch a Class Cast exception (handy for distributed development)
- Incremental Build
- Pixel perfect across browsers
- Right click Flash

Build for JS

- Right click no flash
- Show sources (can be minified)
- Break and inspect in browser

How did That Work?

- In Flash
 - IDE compiles
 - FlexJS is just a set of libraries
- In JS
 - Run Ant or Maven build
 - App code is transpiled (using Falcon JX)
 - Framework code was already transpiled

Let's Modify Using a Bead

- Add a behavior
- Put in MXML

What Are These Beads?

- Encapsulation of a single functionality
- Can be added or removed
- Can listen on strand or other beads
- Components are strands
- Model, view, controller, layout are examples of beads

What's So Good About Them?

- Avoid overthinking hierarchy trees
 - Composition over inheritance
- Easily override behavior
- Configuration via CSS can be powerful
- Don't download code you don't use
 - Faster download, faster code
- Create your own components set by choosing your beads

Demo

- Add bead
- Build, show code
- Remove Bead
- Build, show code

Component Sets

- Choose your component set
- What are your needs?
 - Rapid development (Express)
 - Fast app startup (Basic)
 - 3rd party library (MDL, CreateJS)
- You can mix

Contributing to Framework

- Set up IDE to use framework libs
- Create an example app
- Add bead/component
- Run test example in IDE
- Run in JS
- Good? Make pull request.

Questions?