

Western Canada Software Symposium

Delta Calgary Airport

September 28 - 30, 2007

<http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/sh/2007-09-calgary>
(event schedule as of September 27, 2007)

The No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium Series is proud to announce the return of the Western Canada Software Symposium on September 28 - 30, 2007. WCSS2007 2007 will be held at the Delta Calgary Airport.

Since 2002, the No Fluff Just Stuff Java Symposium has been regarded as the premier Java/Agility event series anywhere serving over 16,000 attendees with some 100 events. The popularity of the NFJS symposium series can be traced to the following:

- 1). Exceptional Speakers
- 2). Limited Attendance - capped at 250 people
- 3). No Vendors, No Sales Pitches, No Marketecture
- 4). Excellent networking opportunity with speakers and fellow attendees because of small size.
- 5). The Best Value in the Java conferencing space period.

The Western Canada Software Symposium 2007 will offer 4 concurrent tracks with a total of 44 sessions to choose from with some of the topics including:

- 1). Groovy
- 2). Grails
- 3). OSGI
- 4). Domain Driven Design
- 5). Annotations
- 6). Java 6.0
- 7). REST
- 8). JRuby
- 9). Enterprise Ajax
- 10). JPA and many more!!

REGISTRATION:

The registration fee includes a three day all access pass to WCSS2007 2007, all meals and snacks during the show, custom laptop NFJS bag, binder for handouts and CD with all presentation content.

Early Bird Registration: \$825 USD/person good thru 9/10/07 after \$925 USD

Excellent Group Discounts Available - bring your entire development team to the show - no travel required!! Rate good thru 9/10/07

Registration Fees

Attendees	Before Sep. 10, 2007	After Sep. 10, 2007
5-9	\$725 USD	\$825 USD
10-14	\$700 USD	\$800 USD
15-24	\$675 USD	\$775 USD
25+	\$650 USD	\$750 USD

Go to <http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/sh/2007-09-calgary> and register today!

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-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of September 27, 2007)

Friday, Sep. 28

12:00 - 1:00 PM : REGISTRATION

1:00 - 1:15 PM : WELCOME

1:15 - 2:45 PM - Sessions

Session #1 @ McCall 1 : Groovy: Greasing the Wheels of Java by Scott Davis

This is the year of the dynamic scripting language. Ruby (and Rails) has won the hearts and minds of many independent software developers. JavaScript is experiencing a renaissance thanks to the wild success of AJAX and websites like Google Maps. And Groovy (JSR-241) brings the same level of excitement and "scripting goodness" to the Java platform.

Session #2 @ McCall 2 : Annotation Hammer by Venkat Subramaniam

Annotation is an interesting feature in Java. However, like any features, there are good uses and bad uses. When should you use Annotation? This presentation will answer that question for you.

Session #3 @ McConachie 1 : JavaServer Faces: A Whirlwind Tour by David Geary

JavaServer Faces (JSF) has arrived. The standard Java-based web application framework based on Struts, JSF really took off in 2006. Embraced by developers, vendors, and open-source projects, JSF has hit its stride. If you haven't come up to speed on JSF basics, this is the place to start.

Session #4 @ McConachie 2 : Shippers Unite! by Jared Richardson

An overview of the Agile software approach from the book Ship It! A Practical Guide to Successful Software Projects.

2:45 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #5 @ McCall 1 : Groovy and Java: The Integration Story by Scott Davis

I'm attracted to Groovy because of its spirit of inclusiveness. Because it extends my platform of choice, not replaces it -- include a single JAR in your classpath and you are Groovy-enabled. Because it offers full bidirectional integration with Java. Because it offers a nearly flat learning curve for experienced Java developers. Come see how you can use Groovy to augment your existing Java codebase.

Session #6 @ McCall 2 : Domain Driven Design by Venkat Subramaniam

Domain Driven Design (DDD) is an approach that places emphasis on the domain model and carrying it into implementation. DDD is mostly repackaging of fundamental OO Design. It brings new emphasis to what we should be already doing, but often find it hard and confusing given the realities and complexities of our real world. In this presentation we will take a close look at what DDD is and how to use it for agile development. We will discuss several design options, and also look at some examples of good modeling and layering.

Session #7 @ McConachie 1 : Killer JavaScript Frameworks: Prototype, Scriptaculous, and Rico by David Geary

An introduction to the popular Prototype JavaScript framework, and two frameworks built on top of Prototype: Scriptaculous and Rico.

Session #8 @ McConachie 2 : Agile Software Testing Strategies by Jared Richardson

Creating and maintaining a solid automated test suite is critical to an Agile strategy, but often we're just told to "Do it." In this talk we'll look at several pragmatic strategies for creating and building your suite.

4:45 - 5:00 PM : BREAK

5:00 - 6:30 PM - Sessions

Session #9 @ McCall 1 : Real World Grails by Scott Davis

Scott Davis is the Editor in Chief of aboutGroovy.com. The website, in addition to being, umm, about Groovy, is implemented in Grails. This talk shows you how to get started with Grails, but also talks about the experience of using it in a live, production web site.

Session #10 @ McCall 2 : Java 6 Features, what's in it for you? by Venkat Subramaniam

What benefit do new Java 6 features offer you. Are there issues with using these features. The objective of this presentation is not simply to introduce you to the features, but to the effective use of these as well.

Session #11 @ McConachie 1 : Ajaxian Faces by David Geary

JavaServer Faces is a perfect platform for implementing Web 2.0 interfaces with Ajax. This session explores how you can use these two potent technologies--JSF and Ajax--together to create applications that look and behave like desktop applications but run in the browser.

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Session #12 @ McConachie 2 : Distributed Teams: Remote Agility by Jared Richardson

How do you keep a team scattered across time zones in sync?

6:30 - 7:15 PM : DINNER

Saturday, Sep. 29

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #13 @ McCall 1 : RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part One by David Geary

In this session, see how you can get Ruby On Rails-like productivity on the Java side of the house with this compelling combination of technologies.

Session #14 @ McCall 2 : Software Development Techniques by Jared Richardson

Throughout our software careers we learn habits from our coworkers, from books we've read, and occasionally, from conferences we attend. Much of our competence comes from the tips and tricks we pick up as we go.

Session #15 @ McConachie 1 : Give it a REST by Brian Sletten

As developers, we sometimes get to make choices about the technologies we use, sometimes not. We base these decisions on personal experiences, recommendations from others and a general sense of where the industry is going. Web Services have been all the rage for several years now. We have been told time and again that we should be building systems around them; as an industry, we've never been more confused. Perhaps it is time to Give it a REST.

Session #16 @ McConachie 2 : Drooling with Groovy and Rules by Venkat Subramaniam

Rule based programming allows us to develop applications using declarative rules. These can simplify development in applications where such rules based knowledge is used for decision making.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #17 @ McCall 1 : RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part Two by David Geary

A continuation of a 2-session presentation on Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf.

Session #18 @ McCall 2 : Build Teams, Not Products by Jared Richardson

A great team builds great software, but how do you build a great team?

Session #19 @ McConachie 1 : NetKernel : XML Processing for the 21st Century by Brian Sletten

A wise man once said, "XML is like lye. It is very useful, but humans shouldn't touch it." If you've had to incorporate XML into your project by hand, you have probably been burned by getting too close. NetKernel turns this wisdom on its head and encourages you to use XML like the liquid data stream you want it to be. Imagine the simplicity of REST married to the power of Unix pipes. Come see how this open source / commercial product built on a compelling modern architecture can be used to create, manipulate and transform XML.

Session #20 @ McConachie 2 : OSGi: A Well Kept Secret by Venkat Subramaniam

In this presentation we will introduce OSGi and discuss how it can help modularize and version your enterprise Java applications.

12:30 - 1:30 PM : LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Sessions

Session #21 @ McCall 1 : The Google Web Toolkit, Part One by David Geary

Developing highly interactive web applications, for the most part requires knowledge of a wide array of technologies: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, XMLHttpRequest, JSP, JSF, etc. With the Google Web Toolkit (GWT), Google turns that notion of development on its head. Instead, you implement Ajax applications by writing almost entirely in Java. You use an AWT-like API, which the Google compiler compiles to JavaScript that runs on the client.

Session #22 @ McCall 2 : Spring 2.0: New and Noteworthy by Ben Hale

Spring 2.0 has marked a major advance in the Spring Framework. While still maintaining backwards compatibility, this release adds quite a few new features. What are those features and how do they add value? Come by and see.

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Session #23 @ McConachie 1 : Continuous Integration with Cruise Control by Jared Richardson

Continuous Integration is increasingly recognized as a vital practice in an Agile software shop. Traditionally it's been difficult to set up and administer. Today, that's no longer the case.

Session #24 @ McConachie 2 : Practices of an Agile Developer by Venkat Subramaniam

You have worked on software projects with varying degree of success. What were the reasons for the success of your last project? What were the reasons for those that failed? A number of issues contribute to project success - some non-technical in nature. In this presentation the speaker will share with you practices in a number of areas including coding, developer attitude, debugging, and feedback. The discussions are based on the book with the same title as the talk.

3:00 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #25 @ McCall 1 : The Google Web Toolkit, Part Two by David Geary

The second part of a 2-session presentation on the Google Web Toolkit.

Session #26 @ McCall 2 : Spring and Hibernate in the Middle Tier by Ben Hale

To today's JEE developer, there are two indispensable tools for creating applications; Spring and Hibernate. Together these two frameworks comprise one of the most powerful and often used stacks in the industry. While it is possible to do amazing things it's not always obvious how best to use them to maximize value. This session aims to correct that.

Session #27 @ McConachie 1 : Applied AOP by Brian Sletten

Most people new to Aspect-Oriented Programming (AOP) are fed up with separation of concerns zealots explaining how great their techniques are at dealing with... logging. Ok, you get it. Logging is a cross-cutting concern that can be appropriately modularized. What else does AOP have to offer? A lot, it turns out. This talk will give an introduction to the motivations of AOP as well as a series of concrete examples drawn from enterprise and client side Java. Come learn how AspectJ-flavored AOP can begin to benefit you immediately either in development or production environments. Learn how to enforce architectural policies, find Swing threading issues, reduce the invasiveness of the Observer design pattern or even improve the reusability of your domain models. Now that Spring 2.0 provides support for AspectJ, the time has never been better to learn about these new (but backwards compatible) ways of thinking about building software.

Session #28 @ McConachie 2 : JRuby by Venkat Subramaniam

Object-oriented scripting languages, or agile dynamic languages, as some like to call those, are gaining programmers' attention. Several dynamic languages are on the JVM. Groovy and JRuby are two languages that are drawing developers' interest. Sun has shown support for these two, and especially JRuby by hiring the core developers.

4:45 - 5:30 PM : BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSIONS

Sunday, Sep. 30

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #29 @ McCall 1 : Data Integration : Beyond Cutesy Mashups by Brian Sletten

Ever since we started doing relational joins, we've looked for ways to tie data together. The web has given us no end of new data sources to integrate but it seems like the best we can come up with is locating Starbucks on Google Maps. The problem with browser-based mashups is that they don't survive the session, we have no way of referring to the results in future queries and ultimately we don't maintain ownership or control of the process. We want control of our data and our mashup results. We want ever more ways to view, explore and requery them in multi-faceted ways. Do you know what your data integration strategy is for the next few years? Are you sure? You owe it to yourself to come find out.

Session #30 @ McCall 2 : Beginning Object-Relational Mapping with Hibernate by Brian Sam-Bodden

Hibernate is an open source Object-Relational Mapping Framework that mostly automates the tedious and time-consuming task of persisting Java objects to a relational database. Hibernate is quickly becoming the preferred way for enterprise developers to overcome the object-relational impedance mismatch and a good alternative to the coarse-grained Entity EJBs, low-level raw JDBC, and by-committee specifications like JDO. Learn what your choices in the ORM arena, what to look for in an ORM tool, and how to get started with Hibernate for your next J2SE or J2EE project.

Session #31 @ McConachie 1 : Spring Web Flow Jumpstart by Ben Hale

Have you ever developed a web application with a long user action based on form input? Did you curse the Java community for their inability to address this very common application type? Well, attend this session about Spring Web Flow and you'll curse no more.

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Session #32 @ McConachie 2 : get Fit by Venkat Subramaniam

Unit testing tells you, the programmer, that your code (and the change) meets your expectations. How do you know if you are meeting your customers' expectations? Agile development is all about feedback and doing what's relevant to the customers, isn't it? Framework for Integration testing or Fit helps you to automate tests for customer expectations.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #33 @ McCall 1 : Designing for Ajax by Nathaniel Schutta

So you've convinced the boss that your new web application just has to have Ajax...but now what? With dozens of libraries making even the most blinkish of interactions trivial, how do you decide where to sprinkle the magic Ajax dust? This talk will give a plain old boring "web 1.0" an Ajax facelift with a focus on improving the user experience providing you with a game plan for introducing Ajax to your world.

Session #34 @ McCall 2 : 10 ways to use Hibernate effectively by Brian Sam-Bodden

Learn 10 tried and true ways to improve the way you use Hibernate today. In this session you would learn about a collection of 10 tips, tricks, practices and tools that will make you more effective at designing, implementing, testing and tuning your application's Hibernate-powered object-relational layer.

Session #35 @ McConachie 1 : Mocking Web Services by Scott Davis

In this talk, we'll survey the web services exposed by leading websites (Google, Yahoo, Amazon, eBay) and discuss how they can be easily mocked up for testing purposes and to aid offline development. You'll see working examples of RESTful, SOAP, and JSON web services, as well as strategies for unit and functional testing your asynchronous, service-oriented architecture.

Session #36 @ McConachie 2 : Spring into Groovy by Venkat Subramaniam

What do you get when you mix an agile, object-oriented, dynamic language with a lightweight, flexible, and extensible framework? You get a Groovier Spring. Spring allows you to develop using Groovy as much as Java. Groovy brings some neat concepts to the Java Platform that is hard to realize directly through the Java language. Using these capabilities can lead to elegant and easier Spring development.

12:30 - 1:15 PM : LUNCH

1:15 - 2:15 PM : EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION

2:15 - 3:45 PM - Sessions

Session #37 @ McCall 1 : Ajax Libraries by Nathaniel Schutta

Ajax might not be the most complex thing the average web developer has ever encountered but that doesn't mean building Ajax applications is without some quirks. While you can certainly use the raw technologies beneath Ajax or even roll your own framework, there are a number of well-designed open source libraries that you can take advantage of. After providing a quick survey of the field, this talk will feature live coding examples comparing and contrasting some of the more mature Ajax toolkits including Dojo, Prototype, script.aculo.us and YUI. We'll show you what these various libraries do and do not provide and give you some ideas about which ones make the most sense for your needs.

Session #38 @ McCall 2 : Beginning Drools - Rule Engines in Java by Brian Sam-Bodden

Software development is expensive, when business rules are hard-coded in your application's source code, changes and additions to those rules translate to wasted time and money. Good object-oriented, component-based approaches can alleviate the burden of keeping up with changes in the business world but they still require that expert knowledge of the changes be passed from the decision makers to the business analysts and finally to programmers that need to implement these changes. Business Rule Engines and Business Rule Languages are based on the basic premise of separation of concerns by empowering business domain experts to express the rules of business in a way that it is directly usable by applications.

Session #39 @ McConachie 1 : Acegi Security: The security framework with the funny name by Ben Hale

Security is one of the major requirements in modern day enterprise applications and yet it is also one of the weakest parts of most developers toolboxes. The problem is of course that security is HARD! It turns out that rather than reinventing the wheel for each application, developers can turn to a great security framework out there already; Acegi.

Session #40 @ McConachie 2 : The Secrets of GORM by Scott Davis

GORM (the Grails Object/Relational Mapper) is one of the many high points of the Grails web framework. GORM is a thin Groovy wrapper over Hibernate, but that doesn't begin to capture excitement of what GORM brings to the party. Imagine being able to call `book.save()` and `book.delete()` on your `Book` class; calling `Book.get(1)` to retrieve your book from the database by primary key; using `Book.list()` to pull an `ArrayList` of `Book` objects into your application. Now imagine getting all of that functionality (and more) for free with

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each new class you define. No interfaces to implement. No abstract classes to extend. Persistence that is transparent, automatic, and simple to use: GORM.

3:45 - 4:00 PM : BREAK

4:00 - 5:30 PM - Sessions

Session #41 @ McCall 1 : Test Infecting the Legacy Organization by Nathaniel Schutta

When starting a new project, most developers make sure that testing is a priority. However, only the lucky few live in the idyllic world of greenfield development; the vast majority of us must contend with code written when "test" was a four letter word and testing was the sole responsibility of that "other" organization. We'll examine some techniques for introducing testing - not just to your code but to the rest of your development organization.

Session #42 @ McCall 2 : Professional Java UI development with the Eclipse RPC by Brian Sam-Bodden

Learn how to build featured rich applications using the Eclipse Rich Client Platform. The Eclipse platform is an open tools platform, on top of this platform you can build your own applications (which do not need to be IDE like or IDE related). Yet you can enjoy the benefits of working with a mature and featured rich platform that can greatly reduce the amount of time required to create a professional-looking and robust Java UI application.

Session #43 @ McConachie 1 : AOP and JMX: A match made in heaven by Ben Hale

You're winding down a project and you get that dreaded email from your project manager, "How hard would it be to add some performance monitoring to the system?" Well, after this session, you'll be able to respond, "No problem at all!" It turns out that with a pinch of AOP and a dash of JMX, you can introduce amazing management and monitoring capabilities without changing your mainline code one bit.

Session #44 @ McConachie 2 : Advanced Grails by Scott Davis

Many demonstrations of new technology focus on the shiny turnkey features -- "Look at what this thing magically does for you out of the box!" While Grails has many gee-whiz scaffolding features, it is a framework first. A framework should "make easy things easy and hard things possible." (Apologies to the Perl community for co-opting their battle cry.) This talk focuses on the hard things that are possible with Grails, but require just a bit of glue code to implement.