

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

Four Points by Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel

October 19 - 21, 2007

<http://www.nofluffjuststuff.com/sh/2007-10-toronto>

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

| Fri, Oct. 19, 2007 | | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12:00 - 1:00 PM | REGISTRATION | | | |
| 1:00 - 1:15 PM | WELCOME | | | |
| 1:15 - 2:45 PM | Groovy: Greasing the Wheels of Java Scott Davis | EJB3 Core Specification (JSR-220) Mark Richards | JavaServer Faces: A Whirlwind Tour David Geary | Java6: Exploring Mustang Ted Neward |
| 2:45 - 3:15 PM | BREAK | | | |
| 3:15 - 4:45 PM | Groovy and Java: The Integration Story Scott Davis | Intro to Java Persistence API (JPA) Mark Richards | Killer JavaScript Frameworks: Prototype, Scriptaculous, and Rico David Geary | The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Debugging and Monitoring Ted Neward |
| 4:45 - 5:00 PM | BREAK | | | |
| 5:00 - 6:30 PM | Real World Grails Scott Davis | Advanced Java Persistence API (JPA) Mark Richards | Ajaxian Faces David Geary | The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security Ted Neward |
| 6:30 - 7:15 PM | DINNER | | | |
| 7:15 - 8:00 PM | Keynote: by Scott Davis | | | |

| Sat, Oct. 20, 2007 | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8:00 - 9:00 AM | BREAKFAST | | | |
| 9:00 - 10:30 AM | The Zen of REST Scott Davis | 10 Ways to Improve Your Code Neal Ford | RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part One David Geary | Making The Right Persistence Framework Choice Mark Richards |
| 10:30 - 11:00 AM | BREAK | | | |
| 11:00 - 12:30 PM | Mocking Web Services Scott Davis | Implementing SOA Neal Ford | RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part Two David Geary | Dynamic Languages and the JVM Nathaniel Schutta |
| 12:30 - 1:30 PM | LUNCH | | | |
| 1:30 - 3:00 PM | Spring 2.0: New and Noteworthy Ben Hale | Productive Programmer: Acceleration, Focus, and Indirection Neal Ford | The Google Web Toolkit, Part One David Geary | Test Infecting the Legacy Organization Nathaniel Schutta |
| 3:00 - 3:15 PM | BREAK | | | |
| 3:15 - 4:45 PM | Spring Web Flow Jumpstart Ben Hale | Productive Programmer: Automation and Canonicity Neal Ford | The Google Web Toolkit, Part Two David Geary | Enterprise Performance and Scalability Ted Neward |
| 4:45 - 5:30 PM | BIRDS OF A FEATHER SESSIONS | | | |

| Sun, Oct. 21, 2007 | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8:00 - 9:00 AM | BREAKFAST | | | |
| 9:00 - 10:30 AM | The Busy Java Developer's Guide to ClassLoaders Ted Neward | The Secrets of GORM Scott Davis | Designing for Ajax Nathaniel Schutta | Agile Project Management with Mingle Neal Ford |
| 10:30 - 11:00 AM | BREAK | | | |
| 11:00 - 12:30 PM | Acegi Security: The security framework with the funny name Ben Hale | Advanced Grails Scott Davis | Java Annotations: From Definition to Consumption Ted Neward | Metrics-driven Agile Development Neal Ford |
| 12:30 - 1:15 PM | LUNCH | | | |
| 1:15 - 2:15 PM | EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION | | | |
| 2:15 - 3:45 PM | AOP and JMX: A match made in heaven Ben Hale | Ajax development with the Yahoo! UI Library and Grails Scott Davis | Introduction to JRuby Neal Ford | The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Threads and Synchronization Ted Neward |
| 3:45 - 4:00 PM | BREAK | | | |
| 4:00 - 5:30 PM | GIS for Web Developers Scott Davis | Pragmatic Usability (aka, Software Engineer's Guide to Usability) Nathaniel Schutta | Rails for JRuby Neal Ford | The Busy Java Developer's Guide to java.util.concurrent Ted Neward |

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

Friday, Oct. 19

12:00 - 1:00 PM : REGISTRATION

1:00 - 1:15 PM : WELCOME

1:15 - 2:45 PM - Sessions

Session #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 : EJB3 Core Specification (JSR-220) by Mark Richards

The new EJB 3 specification (JSR-220) offers some great improvements over the prior EJB specs in terms of development simplicity and new features. In this session we will discuss why EJB is still important, and explore in detail some of the new features of the core EJB 3 specification. Included in this session will be defining and accessing session beans, JTA transaction management, declarative security, and interceptors. For those of you who still like to code in XML, I will also discuss and show how we can use XML rather than annotations within EJB3. During the session I will demonstrate the new features of EJB 3 through interactive coding examples. Note: this session does not cover the new Java Persistence API (JPA) - that topic is covered in separate JPA sessions.

Session #3 : 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 : Java6: Exploring Mustang by Ted Neward

Mustang, the Java6 release, is out, and even if you're not looking to adopt the new platform right away, it's important to know what's there so you can start to plan for it. In this presentation, we'll go over the major new features of the Java6 platform, including the new integrated XML services capabilities (JAX-WS and JAXB), dynamic/scripting language support (javax.script), new JVM "attach" capabilities, new annotations supported by the javac compiler, and more.

2:45 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #5 : 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 : Intro to Java Persistence API (JPA) by Mark Richards

In addition to providing a simplified API, the new EJB3 specification (JSR-220) defines a standard ORM Java Persistence API (JPA) that is rapidly gaining in popularity. As you will see in this session, JPA bears a striking resemblance to popular ORM solutions like Hibernate and Toplink. In this session we will explore in detail the new Java Persistence API offered by JSR-220. We will start by discussing the overall design and architecture of the JPA and how the major components within JPA interact. We will then look at defining mapping objects (entities) and how to use the EntityManager to manage these entities. Through interactive coding examples we will investigate the pros and cons of detached entities and merging, how to map and use entity relationships (1-1, 1-N, N-1, and N-N), discuss Lazy Loading, and finally see how to use XML mappings rather than annotations. More advanced features of JPA will be covered in a separate session.

Session #7 : 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 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Debugging and Monitoring by Ted Neward

Bugs? We all know your code has no bugs, but someday, you're going to find yourself tracking down a bug in somebody else's code, and that's when it's going to be helpful to make use of the wealth of tools that the Java Standard Platform makes available to you--tools that your IDE may not know exist, tools that you can make use of even within a production environment.

4:45 - 5:00 PM : BREAK

5:00 - 6:30 PM - Sessions

Session #9 : 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.

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

Session #10 : Advanced Java Persistence API (JPA) by Mark Richards

This session picks up where the Intro to JPA session left off and covers some of the more advanced topics in the Java Persistence API. Some of the topics covered in this session include switching persistence providers, versioning, compound keys, entity inheritance, and finally handling both simple and complex stored procedures. Some knowledge of JPA is recommended for this session as I will not be covering the basics of JPA (that is covered in a separate Intro to JPA session). Through a combination of slides and interactive coding I will demonstrate these advanced topics using both Hibernate and Toplink JPA.

Session #11 : 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.

Session #12 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Java Platform Security by Ted Neward

Permissions, policy, SecurityExceptions, oh my! The Java platform is a rich and powerful platform, complete with a rich and powerful security mechanism, but sometimes understanding it and how it works can be daunting and intimidating, and leave developers with the basic impression that it's mysterious and dark and incomprehensible. Nothing could be further from the truth, and in this presentation, we'll take a pragmatic, code-first look at the Java security platform, including Permissions, the SecurityManager and its successor, AccessController, the Policy class and policy file syntax, JAAS, and more.

6:30 - 7:15 PM : DINNER

Saturday, Oct. 20

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #13 : The Zen of REST by Scott Davis

Google quietly deprecated their SOAP search API at the end of 2006. While this doesn't mean that you should abandon SOAP, it does reflect a growing trend towards simpler dialects of web services. Google joins a number of popular websites (Yahoo, Flickr, YouTube, del.icio.us) that offer all of the benefits of web services without all of the complexity of SOAP.

Session #14 : 10 Ways to Improve Your Code by Neal Ford

No one writes perfect code, and every developer eventually falls into a slump where they just crank out the same code day after day. This session illustrates 10 different ways to improve your code, covering sacred cows, good citizens, smells, and more.

Session #15 : 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 #16 : Making The Right Persistence Framework Choice by Mark Richards

Java Persistence has come a long way in the past 4 years. We have many viable options available now, including JPA, Hibernate, iBATIS, Toplink, and OpenJPA. With so many options available now it is difficult to know when to use which framework. In this session we will focus on native Hibernate, JPA, and the iBATIS framework, and discuss the main strengths and weaknesses of each approach and what the decision criteria is for using each of these frameworks. Knowing that it is not a one-size-fits-all situation when it comes to Java Persistence, through interactive coding we will take a look at how to use iBATIS together with native Hibernate or JPA and when this makes sense. By attending this session you will gain the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about which Java Persistence Framework to choose for your current or next Java-based application.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #17 : 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 #18 : Implementing SOA by Neal Ford

This talk avoids SOA hype and gets to the meat of the matter: how do you implement a Service-Oriented Architecture, what are the technological pitfalls, how do you test it, and what traps should you avoid. No marketecture: just implementation details.

Session #19 : RAD JSF with Seam, Facelets, and Ajax4jsf, Part Two by David Geary

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

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

Session #20 : Dynamic Languages and the JVM by Nathaniel Schutta

With all the attention being paid to Ruby and it's hip cousin Rails, many in the Java camp may be feeling like their party invitation is "lost in the mail". Fear not loyal Java lovers, the dynamic language meme is alive and well in your space! Between numerous JSRs and various languages, the JVM is becoming quite the dynamic disco. After an overview of what it means to be dynamic, this talk will look at JRuby, Groovy, and Rhino.

12:30 - 1:30 PM : LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Sessions

Session #21 : 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.

Session #22 : Productive Programmer: Acceleration, Focus, and Indirection by Neal Ford

This session discusses how to use the Productive Programmer principles of acceleration, focus, and indirection to become a more productive programmer. This session describes these principles, but the primary focus of this session is demonstration of these principles with real-world examples.

Session #23 : 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 #24 : 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.

3:00 - 3:15 PM : BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 PM - Sessions

Session #25 : 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.

Session #26 : Productive Programmer: Automation and Canonicity by Neal Ford

This session discusses how to use the Productive Programmer principles of automation and canonicity to become a more productive programmer. This session describes these principles, but the primary focus of this session is demonstration of these principles with real-world examples.

Session #27 : The Google Web Toolkit, Part Two by David Geary

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

Session #28 : Enterprise Performance and Scalability by Ted Neward

Wondering why your enterprise Java app just? sucks? Trying to figure out why you can't get more than 10 concurrent users online at the same time? Looking for ways to try and spot the slowdowns and ways to fix them?

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

Sunday, Oct. 21

8:00 - 9:00 AM : BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Sessions

Session #29 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to ClassLoaders by Ted Neward

If you've ever gotten a ClassCastException and just knew the runtime was wrong about it, or found yourself copying .jar files all over your production server just to get your code to run, then you probably find the Java ClassLoader mechanism to be deep, dark, mysterious, and incomprehensible. Take a deep breath, and relax--ClassLoaders aren't as bad as they seem at first, once you understand a few basic rules regarding their operation, and have a bit more tools in your belt to diagnose ClassLoader problems. And once you've got that, and hear about ClassLoaders' ability to run multiple versions of the same code at the same time, and to

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

provide isolation barriers inside your application, or even compile code on the fly from source form, you might just find that you like ClassLoaders after all... maybe.

Session #30 : 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 each new class you define. No interfaces to implement. No abstract classes to extend. Persistence that is transparent, automatic, and simple to use: GORM.

Session #31 : 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 decided 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 #32 : Agile Project Management with Mingle by Neal Ford

Mingle is an innovative project management tool with "skinnable religion", virtual card walls, highly customizable workflow, and role-based views. This talk describes its setup, use, and some implementation details of how it was created.

10:30 - 11:00 AM : BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM - Sessions

Session #33 : 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 #34 : 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.

Session #35 : Java Annotations: From Definition to Consumption by Ted Neward

Want to get the soup-to-nuts story on Java annotations? In this presentation, we'll first talk about what annotations provide to the Java language. After setting ourselves a conceptual basis to operate from, we'll look at the language definition for Java annotations, from how to use them to how to define them. Finally, we'll take a look at the other side of annotations, consuming them at source-level (using "apt", the annotation processing tool), class-level (using a bytecode toolkit such as BCEL), and at runtime (using enhancements to the Reflection API made in Java5).

Session #36 : Metrics-driven Agile Development by Neal Ford

Agile software development is a highly disciplined way to build software, and one of the side effects of this discipline is the ability to gather meaningful metrics. This session describes what makes agility perfectly suited to metrics gathering and what kinds of real-world metrics you can generate.

12:30 - 1:15 PM : LUNCH

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

2:15 - 3:45 PM - Sessions

Session #37 : 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 #38 : Ajax development with the Yahoo! UI Library and Grails by Scott Davis

Yahoo! is a company that eats its own dog food. They open sourced the Ajax code that drives many of their own websites, including their eponymous homepage, Yahoo! Mail, and Yahoo! News. Come see first hand how the various pieces of the library work together as a seamless whole.

Greater Toronto Software Symposium

-Session Schedule-

(event schedule as of October 17, 2007)

Session #39 : Introduction to JRuby by Neal Ford

This session describes JRuby, the 100% pure-Java implementation of the Ruby programming language. It covers the basics of programming with JRuby and examples of how to integrate it into existing Java projects.

Session #40 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to Threads and Synchronization by Ted Neward

Java's threading capabilities have been a part of the Java platform since its inception, yet for many Java developers, using Threads still remain a dark and mysterious art, and synchronization beyond the use of the "synchronized" keyword is almost unknown.

3:45 - 4:00 PM : BREAK

4:00 - 5:30 PM - Sessions

Session #41 : GIS for Web Developers by Scott Davis

Based on the book GIS for Web Developers, this talk demonstrates how you can build your own Google Maps in-house using nothing but open source software. We also discuss integrating free, public domain data from sources like the US Census Bureau and the USGS. If you're looking for real-world examples of AJAX in use, you'll find it here. If you're looking for real-world examples of web services in use, you'll find it here.

Session #42 : Pragmatic Usability (aka, Software Engineer's Guide to Usability) by Nathaniel Schutta

While some companies have the luxury of a full time usability team, most of us have to make do on our own. Sure, it might be easier (and more comfortable) to focus on all the hip back end goodness, but if your user interface makes users yack, your product is doomed.

Session #43 : Rails for JRuby by Neal Ford

This session explains all the hype surrounding Ruby on Rails, in a context familiar to Java developers. It covers convention over configuration, ActiveRecord, controllers, views, Ajax, scaffolding, testing, and deployment...on the JVM, using JRuby.

Session #44 : The Busy Java Developer's Guide to java.util.concurrent by Ted Neward

Java's threading capabilities took a serious turn for the better with the release of Java5, thanks to the incorporation of the java.util.concurrent packages, a set of pre-built components for thread pooling and execution, synchronization, and more.