Cocoon 2.2 – Back to the Future

Keynote - Cocoon GetTogether 2006 - October 4th

Apache Cocoon Committer & PMC Chair
Member of the Apache Software Foundation
reinhard@apache.org

Indoqa Software Design und Beratung GmbH
Founder and CEO
http://www.indoqa.com

Reinhard Pötz

Creative Commons License :: Attribution-ShareAlike 2.5
see http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/legalcode
What has happened since GT2005? [1]

- new Cocoon PMC chair
- new committers
  - Max Pfingsthorn (Germany)
  - Arje Cahn (The Netherlands)
  - Jean-Baptiste Quenot (France)
  - Simone Gianni (Italy)
  - Peter Hunsberger (U.S.)
  - Jason Johnston (U.S.)
  - Ard Schrijvers (The Netherlands)
  - Andreas Hochsteger (Austria)
  - Lars Trieloff (Germany) ... at least, almost ;-)
What has happened since GT2005? [2]

- Main discussion topics
  - Blocks
  - OSGi
  - Simplify Cocoon
  - Mavenization (aka m10n)
  - Spring
  - ... and why does Sylvain have green hair ... ?

  - users: 6,276 (9,560)
  - dev: 10,959 (13,517)
  - commits: 3,939 (4,307)
What has happened since GT2005? [3]

- Releases:
  - Cocoon 2.1.9 (7 April 2006)
  - Cocoon 2.1.8 (18 November 2005)
Back to the future!

- Cocoon 2.2M1 + several blocks have already been released... but not announced because of the missing documentation...
- Bootstrapping your own Cocoon-based web application has never been so easy!
- Everything is a block
Bootstrapping your Cocoon 2.2 based project

- use the block archetype to bootstrap your project:
  mvn archetype:create
  -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.cocoon
  -DarchetypeArtifactId=cocoon-22-archetype-block
  -DarchetypeVersion=1.0.0-M3
  -DgroupId=com.mycompany
  -DartifactId=myBlock

- run your block
  mvn cocoon:deploy jetty6:run

- point your browser to
  http://localhost:8888

- start to work
  mvn eclipse:eclipse
What does Cocoon 2.2 already bring? [1]

- standardised directory structure for blocks

[block]
/COB-INF/sitemap.xmap ..... the block's root sitemap
/COB-INF/* ................. Cocoon application
/COB-INF/config/spring .... Spring beans (LA)
/META-INF/spring ............ Spring beans (GA)
/META-INF/legacy/xconf ..... Avalon component configs (GA)
/META-INF/legacy/sitemap-additions
Sitemap components (GA)
/META-INF/legacy/xweb ..... patch files for web.xml

GA ... globally available   LA ... locally available

- distributed configurations
- also block-local component configurations are possible
What does Cocoon 2.2 already bring? [2]

- we go towards „convention over configuration“
- Cocoon 2.2 applications should (but don't need to) be blocks
- a „normal“ web application is only used to assemble your blocks - „auto detection“ mechanism by the Cocoon deployer (a Maven plugin)
  - this is achieved by adding all block you need as dependencies to the pom.xml (Maven project descriptor) of your web application module
- backwards compatibility still given
What does Cocoon 2.2 already bring? [3]

- based on Spring
  - no bridging or other „tricks“
  - Cocoon is set up by Spring following the traditional Spring way of using the Spring context listener
- Property management
- log4j as default
- distribution of binary artifacts
- Mavenized
- backwards compatibility still given
So what's missing?

- documentation, documentation, documentation
- articles (xml.com, TSS, blog entries, ...)

Everybody here can contribute!
What will Cocoon 2.2 bring in the near future?

- Spring-based sitemap blocks
- a stable Javaflow block again, which depends on Jakarta Commons javaflow
- Re-Integration of the reloading classloader (scripting Java)
- splitting the core of Cocoon into even smaller chunks and reduce dependencies (e.g. make the use of Flowscript optional)
- Virtual sitemap components
(My) Vision

- I want to use Cocoon from within any Java application
- I want to choose which parts of Cocoon I want to use
- I want to see even more powerful XML processing using pipelines
Possible future goals [2]

- remove the dependencies on Avalon and Excalibur
- Java API as an alternative to the sitemap language in XML
- dynamic, content-aware pipelines
  remember: currently a pipeline is created before it is executed – you can't react on the content
- pull pipelines
e.g. by using Axiom as base technology
Possible future goals

- OSGi – some good news:
  - Oracle, BEA and Interface 21 are very interested in providing Spring capabilities on top of the OSGi Service Platform.
  - ... some well know OSGi developers/evangelists BJ Hargrave, Richard Hall, Peter Kriens also joined this OSGi/Spring team
  - by this initiative not all but a lot of work will be done for us :-)}
Possible future goals

- OSGi - some good news:
  - read more:
    - http://opensource.atlassian.com/projects/spring/browse/SPR-1802
    - https://svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/springframework/spring-osgi/trunk/