PUG Challenge Americas

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Application Evolution Success Stories

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About BravePoint, Inc.



- Founded in 1987
- Purchase in 1991 by Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (NYSE:CPK) and is a wholly-owned subsidiary company
- Headquartered in Atlanta, GA
- Currently ~100 employees and associates
- Services include a wide range of consulting, mentoring, training, and placement services
- Offering modernization strategies since 2009

Agenda



- Success Stories
- How We Did It
- Demonstration

Technology Success



- Technology Integration
 - ErpXtend
 - Varnet
 - TirePro
 - Custom

Customer Success



- Sinclair Dental Desktop (Adobe Flex)
- Precision Strip Desktop (SmartClient)
- York Insurance Desktop/Mobile
- Kauffman Tire POS (Tablet)
- Sterling Jewelers POS (Tablet)

In-House Success



- ProfitZoom Product
 - Complete rewrite of 2 applications
 - Web-based desktop (AJAX/RIA)
 - Mobile application (Android)
 - Leverages reusable logic for both
- Moneypenny Application
 - WebSpeed app, running 10+ years
 - Very procedural code (Progress v9)
 - Addon module for mobile access
 - Reused logic without modification

How We Did It



- Using the Application Evolution framework, of course!
 - Layered business logic (server side)
 - Centralized data layer (middleware)
 - Template based UI (client side)
- Core idea is Separation of Concerns (SoC)
 - CS design principle for separating a program into sections
 - Each distinct section addresses a separate concern
 - Section = module = layer, with a well-defined interface
 - Internal operations are small, atomic, and stackable

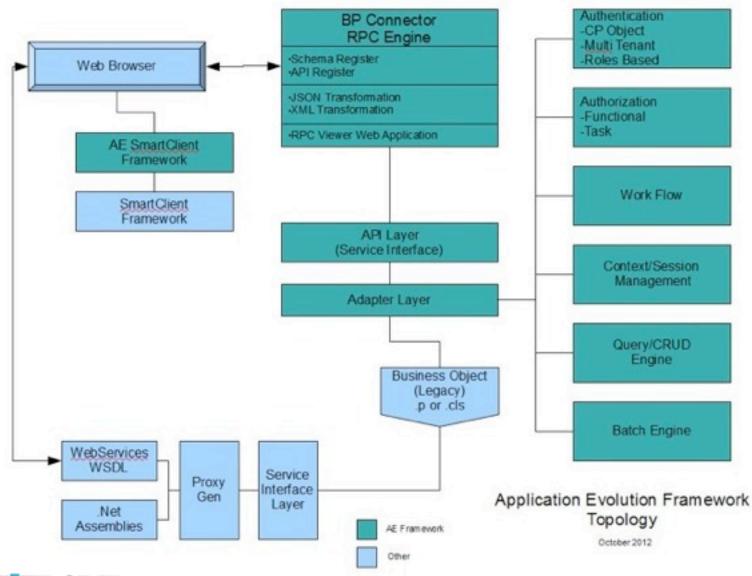
SoC Examples



- Procedures
- Services (SOA)
- Model-View-Controller
- OSI Model (TCP/IP Network)
- Household Circuit Breaker

AE Overview





Server-Side: Business Logic



- Provides critical OERA framework features
 - Session and context management
 - Authentication and security
 - Messaging and error handling
- Layered architecture
 - API's: open to the outside world
 - Adapters: object-oriented structure
 - Interfaces: gateway to legacy code
- Lightweight and flexible approach
 - Does not require .NET or 3rd-party components

Middleware: BP Connector



- Standardized gateway for data
 - JSON or XML
 - RPC or REST
- Uniform result and error handling
 - Removes burden on developer
- Supports HTTP/HTTPS
 - Any AJAX-based RIA
 - Most mobile devices

Client-Side: Data Consumers



- Default demo uses SmartClient RIA
 - BP templates provide a starting point
 - Avoid being intrusive, allows customization
 - Inheritance structure supports extensibility
 - Provides standard for data binding with middleware
- Other frameworks are supported
 - Easy success with JQuery
 - Some frameworks require more work
- Android and iOS support JSON data

Notes About WYSIWYG Tools



- UI design tools can speed development, to a point
 - Learning curve includes framework and tool use
- Rigid component structure provides standardization
 - Can result in lack of flexibility for custom components
- Can provide direct export to devices or environments
 - Consider ability to export code for source control
- For GUI environments, check if code can be modified
 - May be difficult to isolate problems or debug without access

Design & Prototyping



- Design process is 1/3 of entire project timeline
 - Small changes early can avoid large re-writes later
- Tools such as iRise can create usable mockups
 - Allows for C-level and non-technical review
- Flowchart software creates detailed workflows
 - Leaves no ambiguity or gaps within logic
- Create basic layout with UI of choice
 - Simple wireframe with stubbed data calls

Methodologies

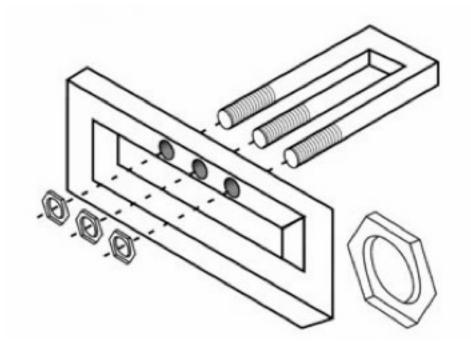


- GLOBAL variables
 - Handled in Interface layer(s)
- Forms and Frames
 - Manual separation of UI needed
- Data input requests (READKEY)
 - Must re-structure logic flow to accommodate
- Procedural code
 - Could be reusable, check error handling
- Poor/missing error handling
 - Centralized by data layer, use CATCH/THROW

DIY Parts List



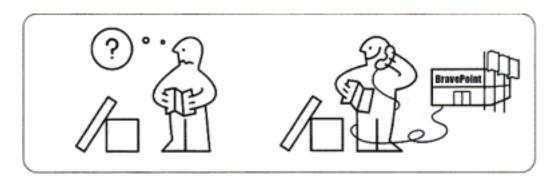
- 1x AJAX Framework (e.g. JQuery)
- 1x MyAPI.p with PROCEDURE getData
- 1x WebSpeed Broker
- 1x Progress.Json.ObjectModel (OE11+)
- ?x GET-SIGNATURE
- ?x CREATE CALL
 - ?x SET-PARAMETER
 - ?x GET-PARAMETER



Assembly Instructions



- Parse URL and JSON data (if any)
- Determine API to use and procedure to run
- Read signature of procedure and gather parameters
- Use CREATE CALL and SET-PARAMETER
- Dynamically invoke procedure and run logic
- Collect ouput values with GET-PARAMETER
- Prepare new JSON data for return
 - If error, create as appropriate object



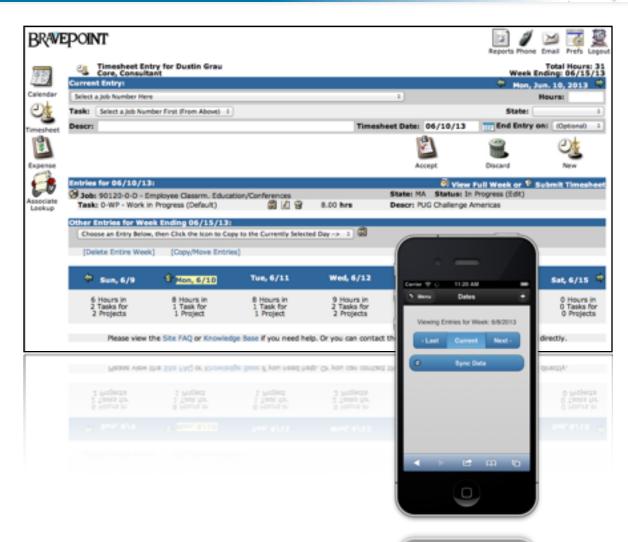
Tools



- Eclipse (Developer Studio for OpenEdge)
- Apache ANT for cross-platform scripting
- Progress Compiler Tools (PCT) Thanks Gilles!
- Subversion (Subclipse, TortoiseSVN)

Demonstration

- Moneypenny
 - Desktop
 - Mobile







Questions?

