APEX Development Best Practices



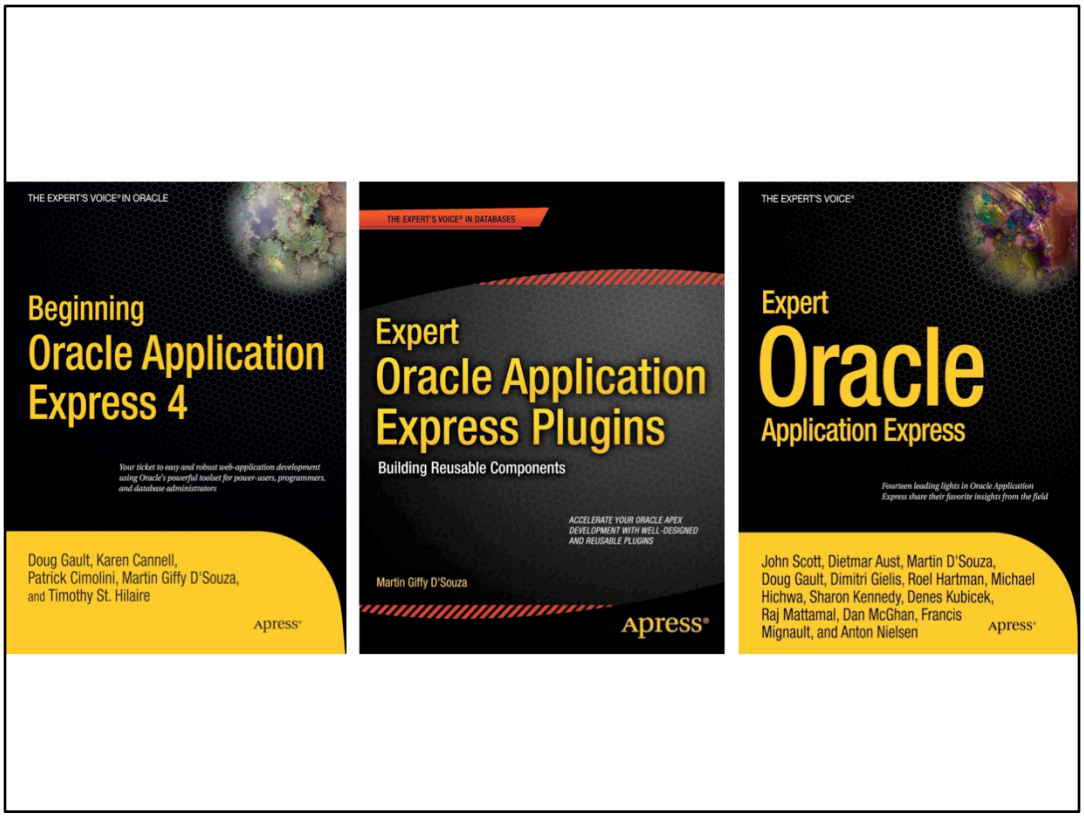
Abstract: With Application Express developers can develop with various coding standards and techniques. Though no one practice is better than the rest there are some best practices that developers should adhere to. This presentation will cover such best practices for developing your applications.

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- Director for Oracle Development Tools User Group (ODTUG): http://www.odtug.com
- Oracle ACE Director



- Beginning Oracle Application Express 4: http://goo.gl/NxHoF
- Expert Oracle Application Express: http://goo.gl/tXm3P
    - More info about this book: http://jes.blogs.shellprompt.net/2011/03/30/expert-oracle-application-express
- Expert Oracle Application Express Plugins: http://goo.gl/089zi



- ClariFit is a Oracle APEX and PL/SQL consulting and training firm based out of Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- For more information please visit http://www.ClariFit.com or email: info@ClariFit.com

Variables in APEX

- :NAME
- &NAME.
- #NAME#
- V/NV(NAME)

- Understand the differences between all the variables and when to use them
- See http://www.talkapex.com/2011/01/variables-in-apex.html for full explanation

Command Line Backups

- Good for automatic backups
- See: http://www.talkapex.com/2012/04/command-line-backups-for-apex.html
- Can also be used for automatic checkins with version control system like SVN

Code Reviews

- Easy way to catch bugs and cross train

Consistency

- Keep things consistent. If your buttons are in the top right, then all your buttons should be in the top right.
- This makes it easier for users to use the application

Complex Code / Reports

- Move to PL/SQL blocks and Views

Date Formats
JS Date Formats

- Set dynamic date formats by creating an application item called APP_DATE_FORMAT
  - This can be set during a computation
  - All PL/SQL code can then use this variable for date formats
  - Set the application default: Shared Components > Edit Application > Globalization > Application Date Format: Use &APP_DATE_FORMAT.
- Can also have an APP_JS_DATE_FORMAT for corresponding JavaScript date format

Themes

- Use one consistent theme for all your applications
  - Strip out everything that you don’t use

Mockups

- Can use APEX for quick mockups
- Also use wireframe diagrams for screen mockups

- I recommend Balsamiq http://www.balsamiq.com



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