

Application.cfc Feature Request

Posted At : December 31, 2008 7:45 AM | Posted By : Steve

Related Categories: ColdFusion

I have to start this entry with a confession. I don't use Application.cfc, except on one web site (and I'm not convinced that I should have used it there). In theory, I like it. So far, however, it hasn't been worth the trouble.

This got me thinking, exactly what trouble do I think it is to use Application.cfc, anyway?

Here it is. When I use Application.cfm and I want to effectively extend a higher level Application.cfm, it is really easy:

The beauty of this isn't just that it is one line of code, it is that I don't have to touch anything outside of the folder containing the Application.cfm that is extending a higher level Application.cfm.

Now, I know that I can extend Application.cfc by use of an [ApplicationProxy.cfc](#), but that requires me to touch the root folder (or always have a proxy).

Furthermore, if I want to extend more than one level deep, I need another name for a mid-level proxy CFC - yuck!

With Application.cfm, I can have an Application.cfm in each folder that includes the higher-level Application.cfm - without having to think about it.

So, what I want in Application.cfc is a simple way to tell it to check for a higher level Application.cfc. Here are some thoughts:

```
This.extends = true
```

OR

```
<cfcomponent extendapp="true">
```

Either way, ColdFusion could respond by continuing to look up the tree as though it hadn't found Application.cfc and have the current one extend that one. This would be just as easy as extending in Application.cfm, but would provide the added benefit that you wouldn't have to know inside the Application.cfc if the higher-level was one folder up or several - just that there was one.