

# Fins: a modern web development framework

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# Agenda

- What is it?
- Why Fins?
- Some examples
- Neat features
- For further information

# What is Fins?

- Application development framework
- Pike based
- Uses MVC paradigm for structure
- Convention based

# Why Fins?

- Good for folks who like curly brackets and getting things done:

Rails makes life easy but Ruby  
isn't always ideal

# Why Fins?

- Good for folks who like curly brackets and getting things done:

Java and friends are familiar but  
The Java Way(tm) is painful

# Fins.View

- Whenever possible, prevent user from including Business Logic UI
- Number of View components
  - embedded-Pike
  - hybrid with control statements
  - XSLT

# Fins.View

- Example using Simple Template:

```
Have <%sizeof var="$users"%> users:  
<%foreach var="$users" val="user"%>  
  <li><%$user.name%>  
<%end%>
```

# Fins.Controller

- Acts as the application's "traffic cop"
- Web controller maps incoming requests to controller objects (folders) and methods (files)
- Web controller can be context-root independent



# Fins.Controller

- Simple Example:

Incoming request for

`/users/delete/billw`

triggers the `delete()` method in controller object `users` with the data “billw” as arg

# Fins.Controller

- Controllers can have pre/post/around filters (example: authorization)
- Also have controllers for:
  - Static data
  - XML-RPC and JSON-RPC
  - JMS and STOMP
  - SMTP
  - etc

# Fins.Model

- Cross-database ORM
  - MySQL
  - SQLite
  - PostgreSQL
- Pike objects auto-generated from database schema
- Provides a good barrier for data-related business logic

# Fins.Model

- **Example Schema:**

```
create table users ( id integer not null primary
  key, char( char(24) username unique,
  char(128) email)
```

- **Yields:**

```
> object u = Fins.Model.find.users_by_id(1);
```

Result:

```
Myapp.Objects.User(username=billw)
```

```
> u["email"] = "bill@welliver.org";
```

Ok.

# Interesting Applications

- Don't have to build web application
  - Use Fins.Model to power GUI app
- Can integrate web with non-web
  - Build mail-enabled applications
- Good opportunities for AJAX
  - Provide secure server-side data model

# Questions and Demo

- Questions?
- Live demos at the Pike booth at 2, 3 & 4pm.
- <http://fins.gotpike.org>