What's new in ASP.NET MVC 2

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Release Vehicles

- Visual Studio 2008 SP1 (SxS with MVC 1.0)
  - MVC 2 Beta, released yesterday (Nov 18)
  - MVC 2 RC, date unannounced
  - MVC 2 RTM, 1Q 2010
- Visual Studio 2010 (MVC 2 only)
  - MVC 2 Preview 2, in-box with Dev10 Beta 2
  - MVC 2 RTM, in-box with Dev10 RTM (currently scheduled for RTM on March 22)
- *Not part of the .NET Framework*

Areas

- Logical grouping of functionality

- Controllers, views, models

- Visual Studio tooling support

- *In-box: single-project areas*

- *Futures: multi-project areas*

Templates

- Automatically generates displays and editors for simple types and complex objects
- Override templates at the controller, area, and site-wide level
- Display influenced by attributes
- *In-box (display): Boolean, Collection, Decimal, EmailAddress, HiddenInput, Html, Object, String, Text, and Url.*
- *In-box (editor): Boolean, Collection, Decimal, HiddenInput, MultilineText, Object, Password, String, Text.*
- *More info: http://bit.ly/mvc2templates*

Model Metadata

- Discover information about the model you're displaying/editing (formatting, data type, template hints, and much more)

- Pluggable metadata provider

- *In-box: DataAnnotations metadata provider*

- *Sample: XML metadata provider*

Client-Side Validation

- Pluggable validation providers
- Server- and client-side validation
- *In-box:*
  - *DataAnnotations validation support*
  - *Client validation based on MS AJAX*
- *Futures/samples:*
  - *Enterprise Library validation support*
  - *Client validation based on jQuery Validaation*

Strongly-Typed UI Helpers

- In-box HTML UI helpers have strongly-typed versions when in strongly-typed views: `Html.TextBox("foo")` can become `Html.TextBoxFor(m => m.foo)`

- *In-box: CheckBoxFor, DisplayFor, DownDownListFor, EditorFor, HiddenFor, LabelFor, ListBoxFor, PasswordFor, RadioButtonFor, TextAreaFor, TextBoxFor, ValidationMessageFor*

Child Actions

- Views can ask for child actions to be executed to help the rendering of a page: `Html.Action(...)` and `Html.RenderAction(...)`

- Any action is eligible, plus a filter action to mark an action as `[ChildActionOnly]`

Async Actions

- Free up threads for the web server during long-running operations
- Only async on server; client still sees the operation as synchronous (i.e., this isn't AJAX)
- Single action method `Foo` becomes `FooAsync` and `FooCompleted`
- `AsyncManager` object (`Parameters` and `OutstandingOperations`)

Other Stuff

- Support for ASP.NET 4.0 auto-encode nuggets (the `<%: ...some value... %>` syntax)

- `IValueProvider` & multiple value providers

- `[HttpGet]`, `[HttpPost]`, and friends

- `[RequireHttps]`

- Support for unsupported browser verbs via hidden form field and POST

- Strongly-typed models can be value types now

More Other Stuff

- WebFormsViewEngine properly supports rendering to a TextWriter
`<%= Html.Action() %>` in addition to
`<% Html.RenderAction(); %>`
`<%= Html.Partial() %>` in addition to
`<% Html.RenderPartial(); %>`
- LINQ expression caching system which makes expressions nearly the same cost as reflection

Demos and Q&A

Resources

- ASP.NET MVC Home Page
  http://www.asp.net/mvc
- ASP.NET MVC Forums
  http://forums.asp.net/1146.aspx
- Source code and roadmap
  http://aspnet.codeplex.com
- Scott Guthrie's blog
  http://weblogs.asp.net/scottgu
- Scott Hanselman's blog
  http://hanselman.com

Project Management:

http://haacked.com (Phil)

Development:

http://weblogs.asp.net/leftslipper (Eilon)

http://weblogs.asp.net/jacqueseloff/default.aspx (Jacques)

http://bradwilson.typepad.com (me)

Quality Assurance:

http://blog.osbornm.com (Matt)

User Experience:

http://aspnetjourney.wordpress.com (Keith)

http://blogs.msdn.com/rickAndy (Rick)