

# RESTful web applications with Apache Sling



**Bertrand Delacrétaz**

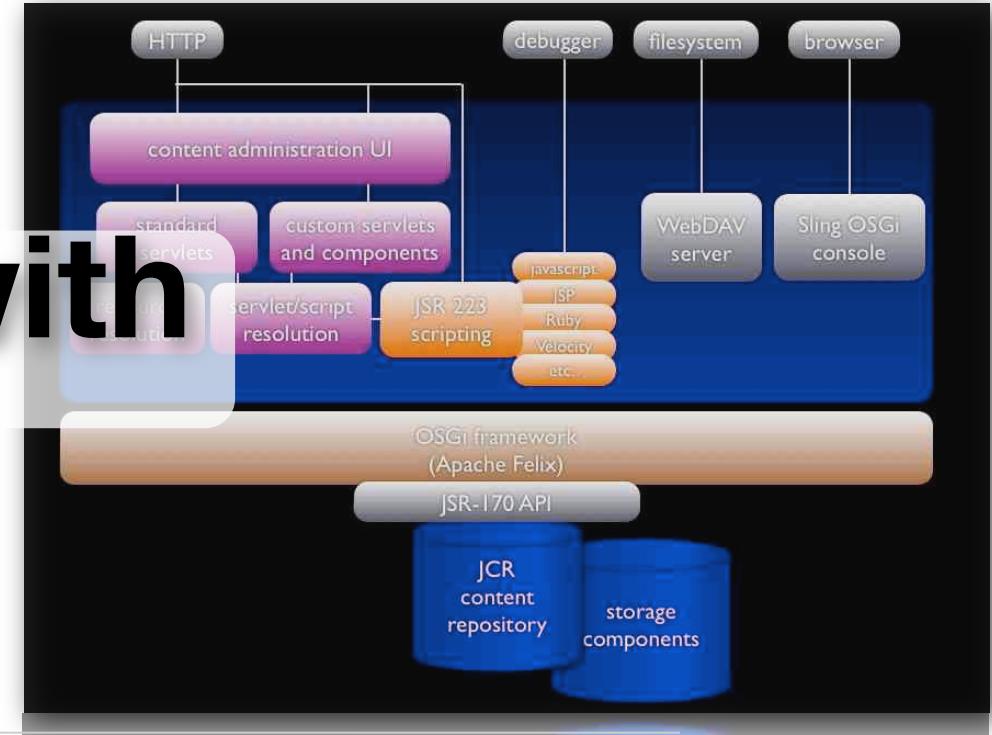
Senior Developer, R&D, Day Software, now part of Adobe

Apache Software Foundation Member and Director

<http://grep.codeconsult.ch> - twitter: @bdelacretaz - bdelacretaz@apache.org

ApacheCon NA 2010, Atlanta

slides revision: 2010-11-03



**ApacheCon**  
NORTH AMERICA 2010



# everything is content



## JCR API

The Java Content Repository  
Tree of nodes and properties  
JSR-170, JSR-283

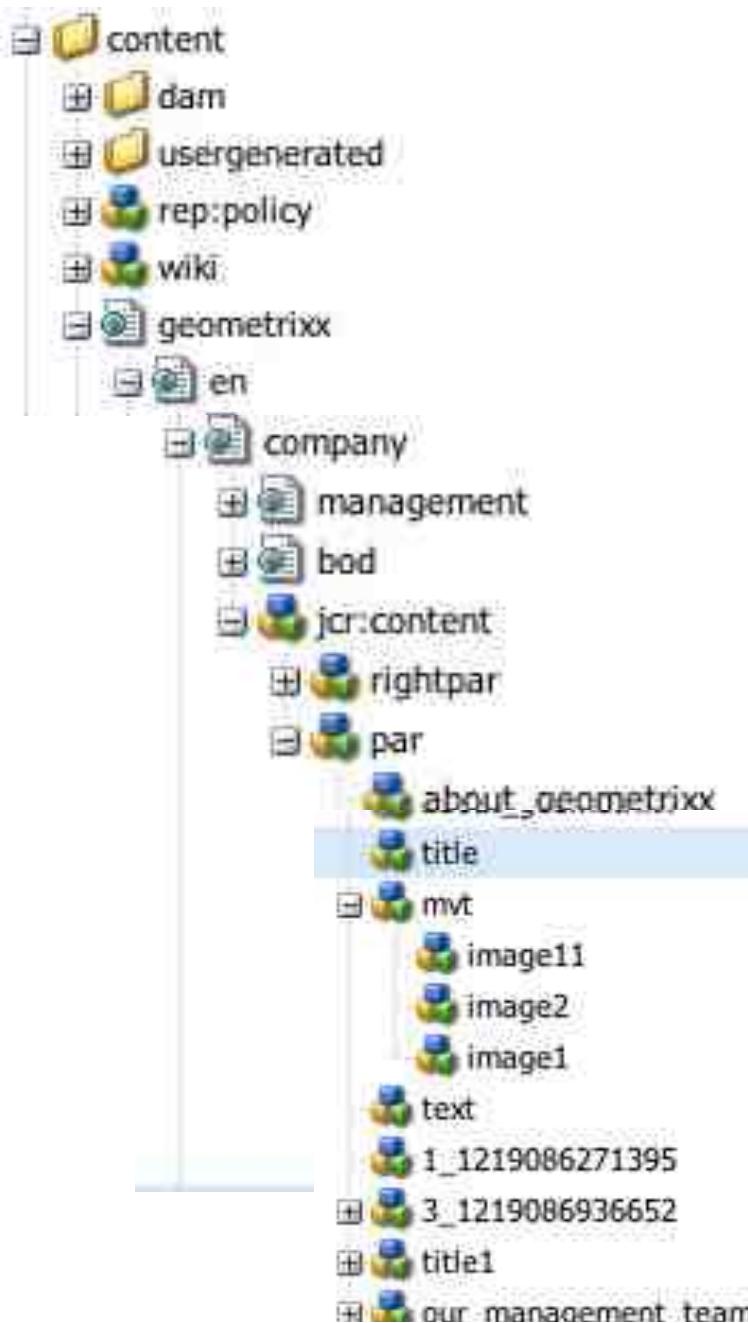
Text, images, media,  
configurations, code, binary  
OSGi bundles, etc...

URLs map to  
resources, not  
commands

SLING RESTFUL  
WEB APPS

## RESTful Web

# website content



/content  
/geometrixx  
/en  
/company  
/jcr:content  
/par  
/title

Properties		Console	Build Info
Name	Value		
1 jcr:primaryType	nt:unstructured		
2 jcr:title	About Geometrixx		
3 sling:resourceType	foundation/components/title		
4 type	small		

# blog design content

The screenshot shows the AEM authoring interface. On the left, there is a file tree under the path /etc/designs/blog/kubrick/jcr:content. The tree includes nodes for static.css, static\_entry.css, and resources (containing kubrickbg.jpg, kubrickbgcolor.jpg, kubrickbgwide.jpg, and kubrickfooter.jpg). The jcr:content node is selected. On the right, a properties panel is open with tabs for Properties, Console, and Build Info. The Properties tab displays the following data:

Name	Value
cq:lastModified	2010-01-22T15:40:50.390+00:00
cq:lastModifiedBy	admin
jcr:primaryType	nt:unstructured
jcr:title	Kubrick Blog Design
sling:resourceType	wcm/core/components/design

/etc/designs/blog/kubrick/jcr:content

# code content!



/libs  
/cq  
/code  
/install  
/xyz.jar

powered by

# Apache Sling

Applications layer for JCR repositories

script == servlet

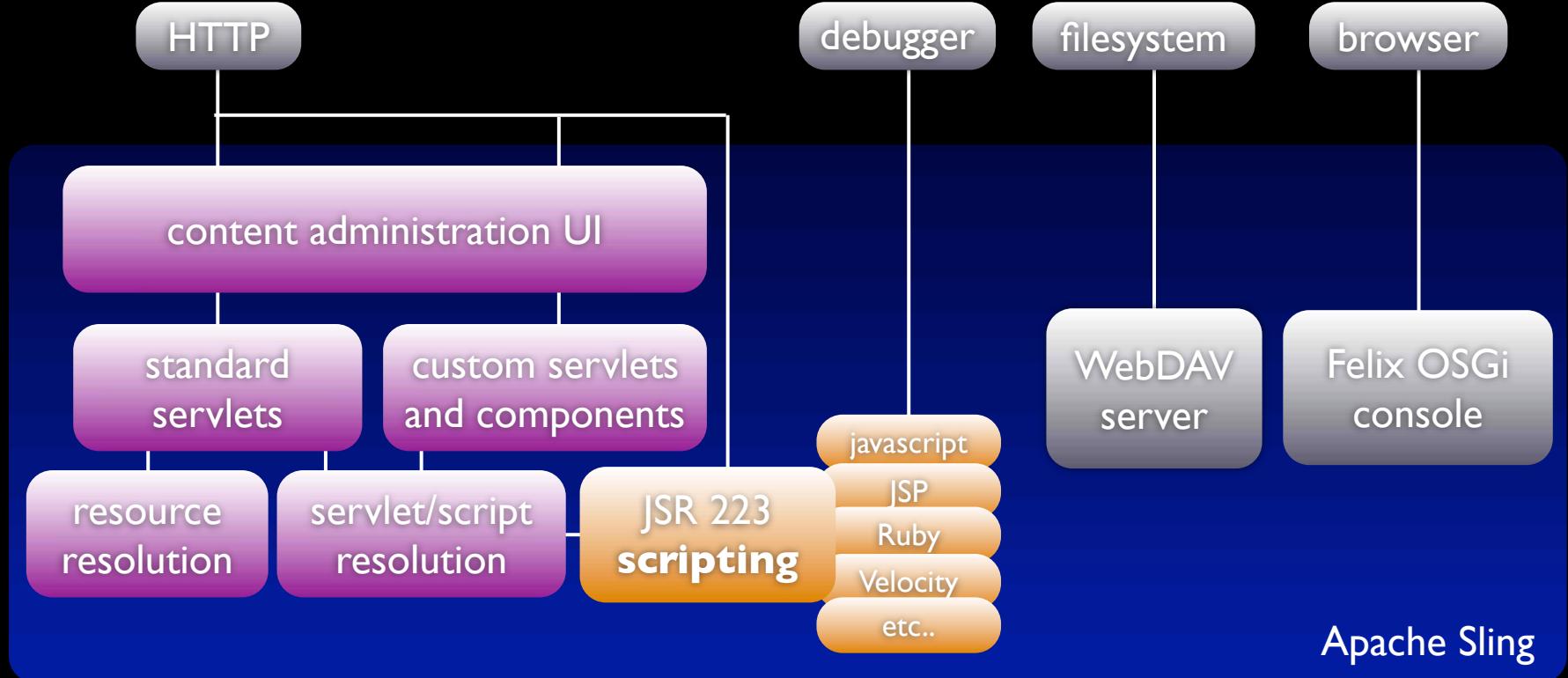
powerful default servlets

resource-based

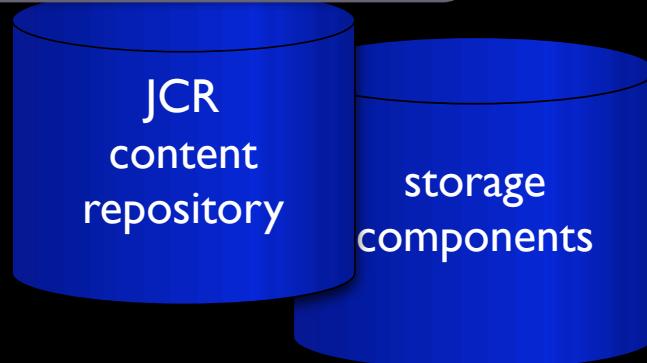
«any» scripting language

OSGi-based



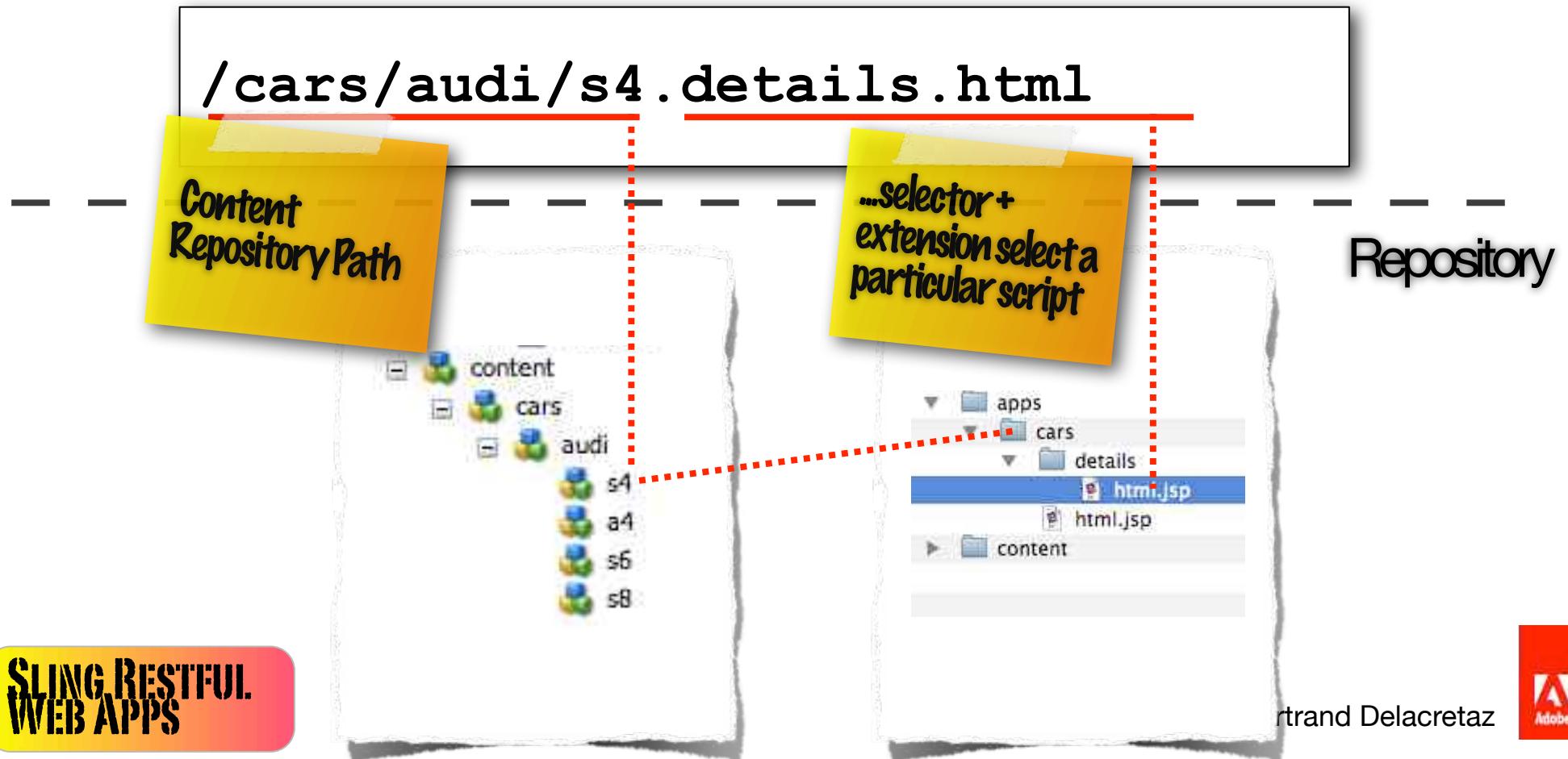


**JCR API**



# Apache Sling architecture

# Reclaiming the Web: Sling URL decomposition



strand Delacretaz



# OSGi?

Great for **modularity**

Fosters **better structured code**

**Dynamic services and plugins**

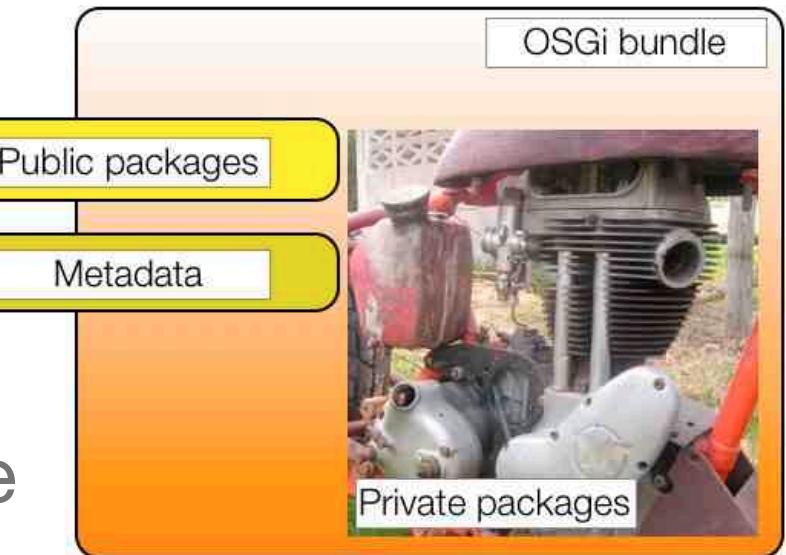
**Tooling** needs to improve, but usable

**OSGi skills?** - OSGi way of thinking is new...

**Asynchronous startup** can be problematic if using declarative services

SLING RESTFUL  
WEB APPS

App developers,  
don't worry!



Bertrand Delacretaz



# What can you do with Sling?



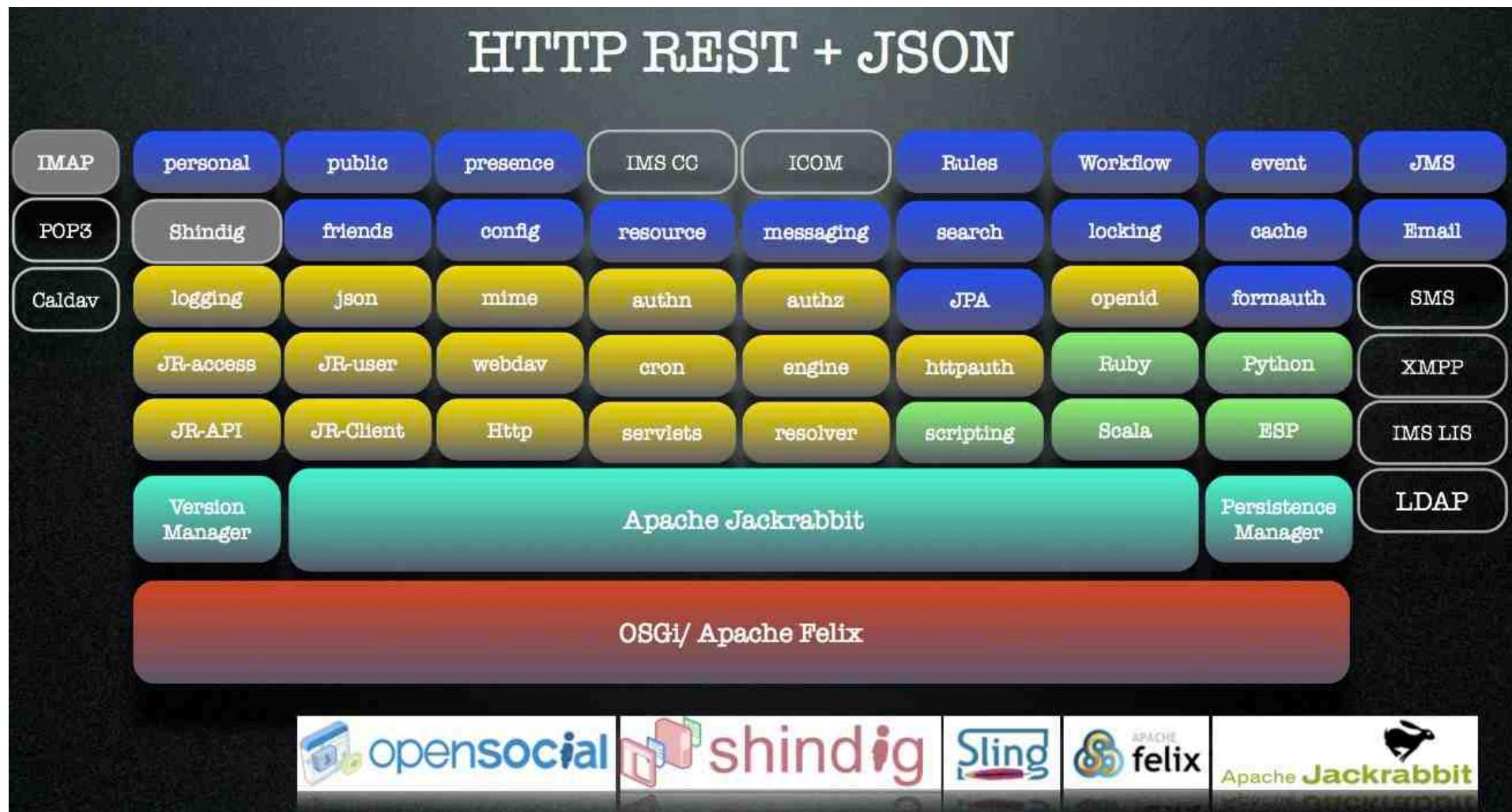
Jackrabbit





Next-generation RESTful kernel for permeable, social, personal and remixable collaboration/learning environment.

See <http://sakaiproject.org/case-studies>



## Idium Portal

Nettside og CMS til større bedrifter

Vår løsning for bedrifter med større ambisjoner og mål. Norges mest brukervennlige CMS hos Norges tryggeste leverandør!



[Gratis demo](#)

[NYHET! Online Chat](#)

## Idium Web

Nettsider for småbedrifter

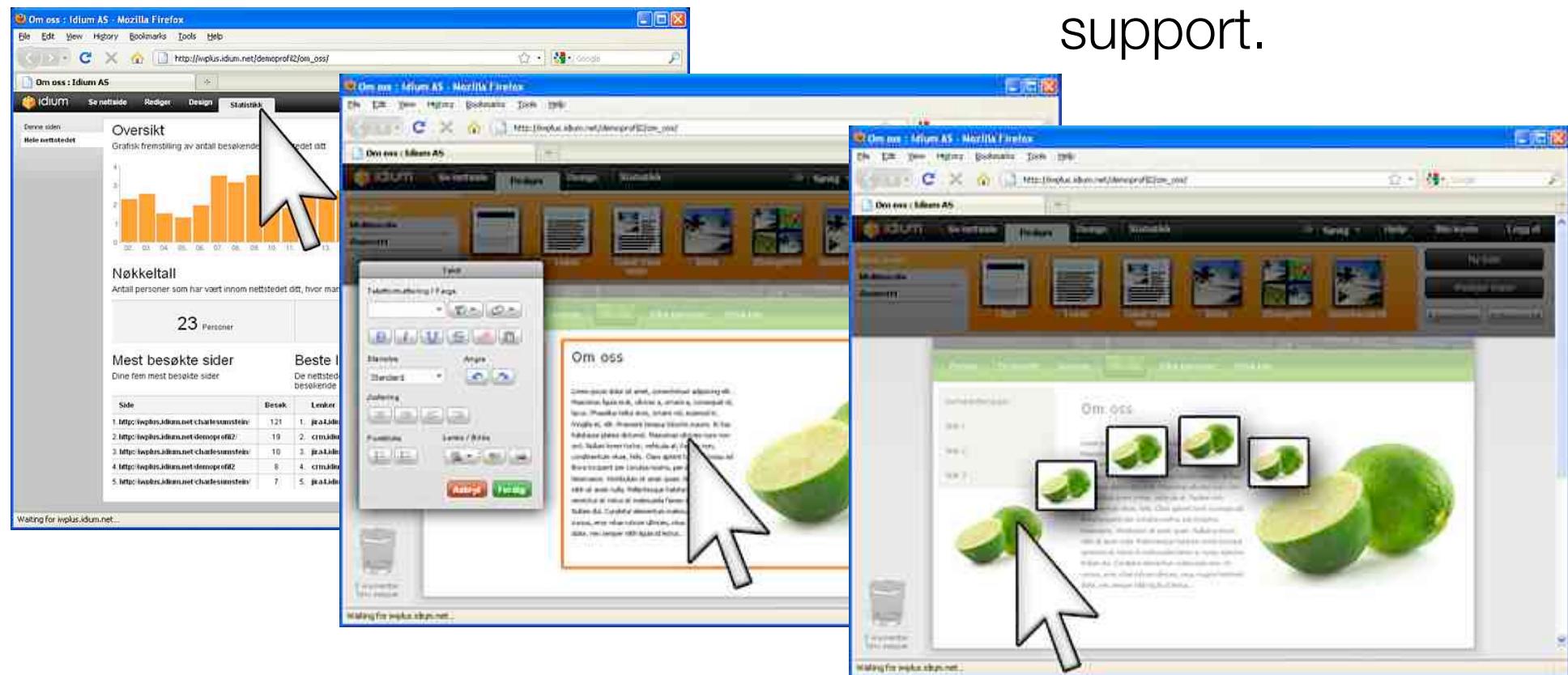
Vår ideelle løsning for bedrifter med 1-15 ansatte. Vi leverer komplette nettsider som inkluderer alt du trenger fra kun 599,- /mnd.



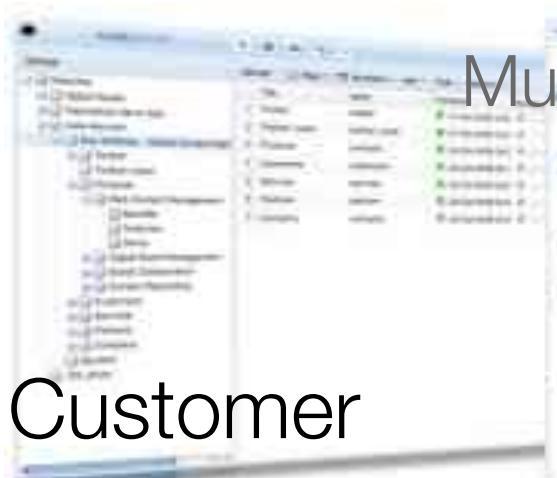
[Bestill nå](#)

[Se hvordan det fungerer](#)

**idium.no** - full-service hosted CMS integrated with CRM. Autoscales on Amazon EC based on JCR clustering and Sling event support.



# Web Content Management



Customer Engagement Management

Digital Assets Management

powered by

Day CQ5

Multi-channel + mobile

e-commerce

BIG websites

Content Applications Platform



Jackrabbit



www.day.com

# Sling blog

## 46 lines of code

<http://x42.ch/05.40.01>



# Sling POST Servlet: create content

```
# POST to Sling  
curl -F title=hi http://localhost:8888/foo  
-> 200 OK
```

```
# GET created node in json format  
curl http://localhost:8888/foo.tidy.json  
{  
  "jcr:primaryType": "nt:unstructured",  
  "title": "hi"  
}
```

Zero setup!

POST  
parameters set  
node properties

# HTML form for editing

```
<form method="POST">  
    Title:  
    <input type="text" name="title"/>  
    Text:  
    <textarea name="text"></textarea>  
    <input type="submit" value="save"/>  
    <input type="hidden"  
           name=":redirect" value="*"/>  
</form>
```



Bertrand Delacretaz

# sling.js: initializes form fields

```
<script src="/system/sling.js"></script>
<form method="POST">
    ... (as in step 1) ...
</form>

<!-- set form fields to current node values --
<script>Sling.wizard();</script>
```

Title of the current post

Title:  
Title of the current post

Text:  
And text here.



# sling.js: generate navigation

```
<ul>
  <li>
    <a href="/content/blog/*">[Create post]</a>
  </li>
<script>
  var posts = Sling.getContent("/content/blog", 2);
  for(var post in posts) {
    document.write(
      "<li><a href='" + post + "'>" +
      + posts[post].title + "</a></li>");
  }
</script>
</ul>
```

## Navigation

- [\[Create new post\]](#)
- [Hello my friends](#)
- [A second post, for you](#)
- [Me and you](#)
- [New Orleans at dawn](#)
- [Title of the current post](#)

# we got a blog!

html form + Sling wizard() + Sling.getContent()

more at <http://x42.ch/05.40.01>



# Slingbucks

RESTful coffee orders

Still a basic app,  
a bit more  
realistic

Inspired by  
«How to GET a  
cup of coffee»  
on infoq.com



# Slingbucks demo

Welcome to Slingbucks.  
Please order here.

Your name  
ApacheCon Caffeine Addict

Coffee type  
Espresso

Size  
Small

Sugar  
 No sugar  
White sugar  
Raw sugar  
Standard plastic

Please review and confirm  
your order

Your name  
**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**  
Price of your order  
**51.6**

Coffee type  
Macchiato

Size  
Large

Sugar  
Raw sugar

Cup type  
Rosewood

Your order is confirmed

Your name  
**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**  
Price of your order  
**51.6**

Your order number is  
**47ca09152a92b8d1e1e2e1feef6fb5fad**  
Please pick it up at the co

**Confirmed orders**

**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**

size **large** coffee type **macchiato** sugar **raw** cup  
**rosewood**  
Price: **51.6**

**Bob The Flying Committer**

size **small** coffee type **capuccino** sugar **none** cup  
**china**  
Price: **5.1**

# Slingbucks use case #1: order coffee

Welcome to Slingbucks.  
Please order here.

Your name  
ApacheCon Caffeine Addict

Coffee type  
Espresso

Size  
Small

Sugar  
 No sugar  
White sugar  
Raw sugar  
Standard plastic

Order coffee

App displays **order form** with configurable options.

Customer indicates their name, options, **submits order**.

App generates **hard to guess** order ID.

App redisplays order for **confirmation** (use-case #2).

# Slingbucks use case #2: confirm order

**Please review and confirm your order**

Your name  
**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**

Price of your order  
**51.6**

Coffee type  
Macchiato

Size  
Large

Sugar  
Raw sugar

Cup type  
Rosewood

**Recalculate** **Confirm this order**



App **redisplays** order form.

Customer either modifies and **recalculates** price, or **confirms** order.

**Your order is confirmed**

Your name  
**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**

Price of your order  
**51.6**

Your order number is  
**47ca09152a92b8d1e1e2e1fee6fb5fad**

Please pick it up at the counter when called.

# Slingbucks use case #3: process order

## Confirmed orders

### ApacheCon Caffeine Addict

size **large** coffee type **macchiato** sugar **raw** cup  
**rosewood**

Price: **51.6**

[Delivered – delete this order](#)

### Bob The Flying Committer

size **small** coffee type **capuccino** sugar **none** cup  
**china**

Price: **5.1**

[Delivered – delete this order](#)

Order **moves** to the **private** Slingbucks employees area.

App displays a **list** of confirmed orders.

Employee delivers order and deletes it from list.

# ~~OO design: Highlight names to find objects~~

Welcome to Slingbucks.  
Please order here.

Your name  
ApacheCon Caffeine Addict

Coffee type  
Espresso

Size  
Small

Sugar

- No sugar
- White sugar
- Raw sugar
- Standard plastic

Order coffee

SLING RESTFUL  
WEB APPS

Just kidding :-)

Everything is  
**CONTENT**

**App** displays **order form** with configurable options.

**Customer** indicates their **name, options**, submits **order**.

App redisplays order for confirmation (use-case #2)

Bertrand Delacretaz



# Slingbucks resources design

New order form:

<http://slingbucks.com/public/orders.html>

Order editing and confirmation (example):

<http://slingbucks.com/public/orders/54494da6029.html>

Price of an order:

Same but ending with **.price.html** selector

List of confirmed orders:

<http://slingbucks.com/private/confirmed.html>

Obvious security/privacy  
Named resources  
Meaningful URLs

# Slingbucks demo

Welcome to Slingbucks.  
Please order here.

POST to orders/

Please review and confirm your order

POST to order resource

POST with orderConfirmed

The diagram illustrates the data flow in a RESTful application. It starts with a user's order form on the left, which is a POST request to the 'orders/' endpoint. This leads to a confirmation page ('Your order is confirmed') in the middle, which is a POST request to the 'orderConfirmed' endpoint. Finally, the data is stored in a database of confirmed orders on the right, represented by a list of entries like 'ApacheCon Caffeine Addict' and 'Bob The Flying Committer'.

Your order is confirmed

Your name  
**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**  
Price of your order  
**51.6**

Your order number is  
**47ca09152a92b8d1e1e2e1feef6f5fad**  
Please pick it up at the co

Confirmed orders

**ApacheCon Caffeine Addict**

size **large** coffeeType **macchiato** sugar **raw** cup **rosewood**  
Price: **51.6**  
Delivered - delete this order

**Bob The Flying Committer**

size **small** coffeeType **capuccino** sugar **none** cup **china**  
Price: **5.1**  
Delivered - delete this order

# Geeks order coffee with curl... What else?

```
$ curl -D -
-F "customerName=Bob The Geek"
-F sling:resourceType=slingbucks/order
-F lastModified=""
-F opt_coffeeType=capuccino
-F opt_size=medium
-F opt_sugar=raw
-F opt_cup=rosewood
http://admin:admin@localhost:8080/content/slingbucks/public/orders/
```

Add orderConfirmed  
field to confirm, as  
seen in confirm form

HTTP/1.1 201 Created  
Location: /slingbucks/public/orders/117936075d4de452cbba5b468

Naturally  
Hackable™

SLING RESTFUL.  
WEB APPS

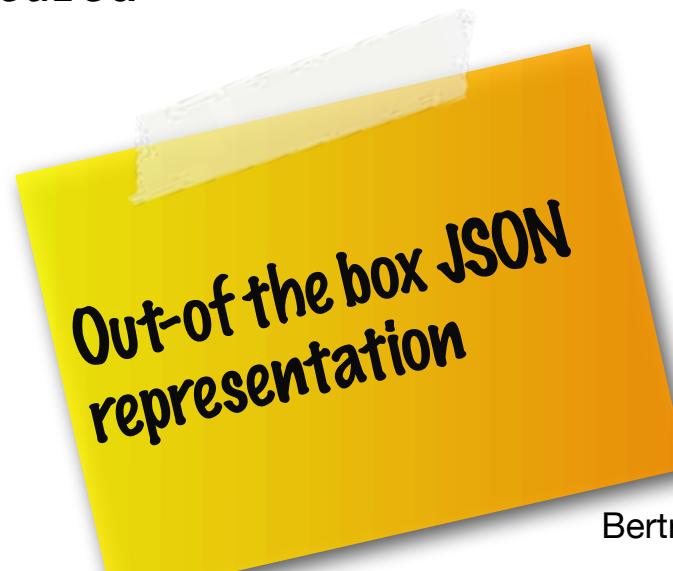
Bertrand Delacretaz



# Coffee node content

```
$ curl http://localhost:8080/content/slingbucks/public/orders/fad01d62f50aaca54209ae14c9505e3b.tidy.json
```

```
{  
    "opt_size": "small",  
    "customerName": "Anonymous Coffee Drinker",  
    "opt_coffeetype": "espresso",  
    "opt_sugar": "none",  
    "sling:resourceType": "slingbucks/order",  
    "opt_cup": "plastic",  
    "lastModified": "Mon Nov 01 2010 18:31:01 GMT+0100",  
    "jcr:primaryType": "nt:unstructured"  
}
```



Out-of-the box JSON representation

# Slingbucks

## code walkthrough



# Hypermedia? Self-documenting?

```
<link  
rel="slingbucks/options"  
href="/content/slingbucks/readonly/  
options.tidy.infinity.json"/>  
...  
<form method="POST"  
action="/content/slingbucks/public/orders/"  
...  
<select name="opt_coffeetype">  
<options>  
<option value="espresso">Espresso</option>  
<option value="capuccino">Capuccino</option>  
<option value="macchiato">Macchiato</option>  
</select>  
...
```

**public/orders.html**  
form provides all  
required «API» info.

# Slingbucks code: order ID generation

```
// Just provide an OSGi service that implements NodeNameGenerator
@Component
@Service
public class HexNodeNameGenerator
implements org.apache.sling.servlets.post.NodeNameGenerator {
...
    public String getNodeName(
        SlingHttpServletRequest request,
        String parentPath,
        ...)
{
    if(SlingbucksConstants.ORDERS_PATH.equals(parentPath)) {
        return computeHardToGuessNodeName();
    }
    return null;
}
}
```

# Slingbucks code: move confirmed orders 1/2

**@Component**

```
public class ConfirmedOrdersObserver  
implements EventListener, Runnable {
```

**@Reference**

```
private SlingRepository repository;
```

```
/** Called by OSGi framework when component starts */  
protected void activate(ComponentContext context) {  
    session = repository.loginAdministrative(null);  
    om = session.getWorkspace().getObservationManager();  
    String path = "/content/slingbucks/orders";  
    om.addEventListener(this,  
        Event.PROPERTY_CHANGED | Event.PROPERTY_ADDED,  
        path...);  
}
```

# Slingbucks code: move confirmed orders 2/2

@Component

```
public class ConfirmedOrdersObserver
implements EventListener, Runnable {

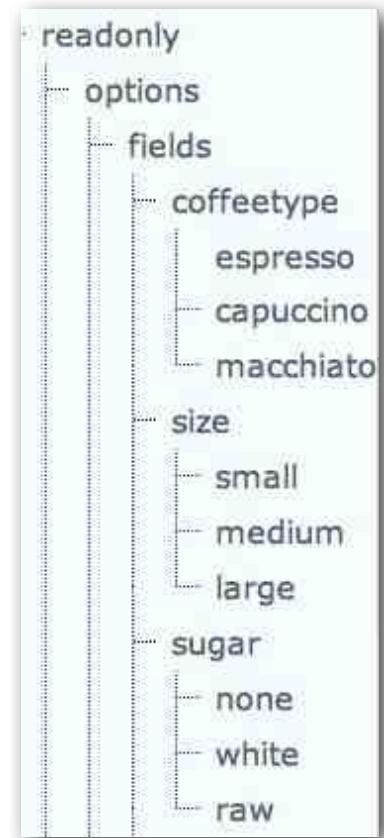
    ... code from page 1

    public void onEvent(EventIterator it) {
        while (it.hasNext()) {
            if(path.endsWith(«orderConfirmed»)) {
                ... note property change and
                ... if confirmed move node later
                ... using session.getWorkspace().move(srcPath, destPath);
            }
    }
}
```

# Slingbucks «code»: initial content for options

src/main/resources/SLING-CONTENT/content/slingbucks/readonly/options.json:

```
"fields" : {
    "coffeetype" : {
        "jcr:title" : "Coffee type",
        "espresso" : {
            "jcr:title" : "Espresso",
            "jcr:description" : "The Italian job",
            "priceOffset" : 2.20
        },
        "capuccino" : {
            "jcr:title" : "Capuccino",
            "jcr:description" : "The one with cream on top",
            "priceOffset" : 3.40
        }
    },
    "size" : {
        "jcr:title" : "Size",
        "small" : {
            "jcr:title" : "Small",
            "jcr:description" : "1dl",
            "priceFactor" : 1
        },
        "large" : {
            "jcr:title" : "Large",
            "jcr:description" : "5dl",
            "priceFactor" : 2
        }
    }
},
```



Loaded by Sling as  
nodes/properties  
when OSGi bundle  
is loaded

# Slingbucks code: content -> options form

src/main/resources/SLING-CONTENT/apps/slingbucks/options/options.esp:

```
<%
// Make sure current node has a "fields" subnode,
// and visit it (duck typing content!)
if(currentNode["fields"]) {
    var fields = currentNode["fields"];
    for(i in fields) {
        var f = fields[i];

        // If field has a jcr:title property, we can use it
        if(f["jcr:title"]) {
            %>
            // Generate HTML <select> for our field
            <select name="<%= fieldName %>">
                <options>
                    <%
                        for(j in f) {
                            var opt = f[j];
                            if(opt["jcr:title"]) {
                                %>
                                <option value="<%= j %>"><%= opt["jcr:title"] %></option>
                                <%
                            }
                    %}
            %>
        ...
        // Set appropriate resource type on created coffee order
        // and let Sling set lastModified property
        <input type="hidden" name="sling:resourceType" value="slingbucks/order"/>
        <input type="hidden" id="lastModified" name="lastModified" value="" />
```



# Slingbucks LOC

## Java code: 250

```
171 src/main/java/org/apache...ConfirmedOrdersObserver.java  
57 src/main/java/org/apache...HexNodeNameGenerator.java  
28 src/main/java/org/apache...SlingbucksConstants.java
```

## HTML representation scripts: 250

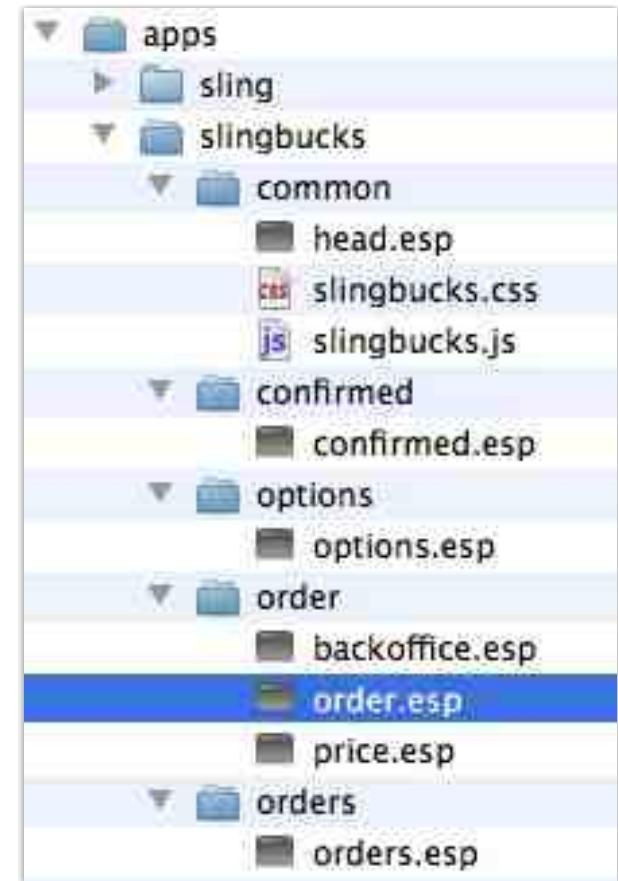
```
2 /apps/slingbucks/common/head.esp  
15 /apps/slingbucks/confirmed/confirmed.esp  
47 /apps/slingbucks/options/options.esp  
25 /apps/slingbucks/order/backoffice.esp  
58 /apps/slingbucks/order/order.esp  
58 /apps/slingbucks/order/price.esp  
32 /apps/slingbucks/orders/orders.esp
```

## Initial content: 85

```
73 /content/slingbucks/readonly/options.json  
6 /content/slingbucks/private.json  
6 /content/slingbucks/public.json
```

## Style etc: 43

```
38 /apps/slingbucks/common/slingbucks.css  
5 /apps/slingbucks/common/slingbucks.js
```



# Content-driven app: new field

```
$ cat /tmp/logo.json
{
  "jcr:title": "Cup Logo",
  "slingbucks": {
    "priceFactor": 1,
    "jcr:title": "Slingbucks",
  },
  "apache": {
    "priceFactor": 1.5,
    "jcr:title": "Apache Software Foundation",
  },
  "swissflag": {
    "priceFactor": 4.5,
    "jcr:title": "Swiss flag",
  }
}
```

```
curl -F:operation=import -F:contentType=json -F:contentFile=@/tmp/logo.json http://admin:admin@127.0.0.1:8080/content/slingbucks/readonly/options/fields/logo
```

Coffee type: Espresso

Size: Small

Sugar: No sugar

Cup type: Standard plastic

Cup Logo: Apache Software Foundation

Order coffee

# Slingbucks next steps

## **Security:**

Setup ACL on /public, /readonly, /private.  
All done.

## **Scalability:**

Built-in. No HTTP sessions. Cache-friendly.  
RESTful.

## **End-to-end testing:**

Easy using HTTP/JSON and HTTP/HTML  
scenarios.

That was not too hard, was it?

Code online soon,  
stay tuned to twitter @bdelacretaz  
or Sling mailing lists



# RESTful apps with **Sling**



Built-in RESTful  
content creation/  
editing

Easy to plugin scripts,  
(OSGi-based) servlets and  
extensions.

URLs map to  
resources, not  
commands

## RESTful Web

SLING RESTFUL  
WEB APPS



# more about Sling?



<http://sling.apache.org>

<http://dev.day.com>

<http://grep.codeconsult.ch>

@bdelacretaz on Twitter

slingbucks code on [sling.apache.org](http://sling.apache.org) soon

SLING RESTFUL  
WEB APPS

**ApacheCon**  
NORTH AMERICA 2010





This slide deck is licensed under the  
Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3 license.  
Copyright (C) 2010, Bertrand Delacretaz