Kettle

Outdated Page

This page is several years old and does not usefully describe the current version of Kettle. Consult its own README in its repository for up to date information at https://github.com/fluid-project/kettle

What is Kettle?

Kettle is a framework for building server-side Web applications using JavaScript and Node.js. Originally created by the Fluid community for the Fluid Engage mobile application, Kettle is designed to provide a quick and easy way to deliver data feeds and rendered markup on the server. Kettle uses Fluid Infusion throughout, offering client-side JavaScript developers a natural starting point for building server-side code. Because it is written in JavaScript, Kettle provides the opportunity to share code between client and server seamlessly. As a result, the architectural partitioning of responsibilities between client and server can be defined and reconfigured based on the requirements of the application, not based on programming language boundaries.

There are several primary development metaphors in Kettle such as *Servers* and *Apps*. *Servers* represents a single instance of the Node.js HTTP server. A *Server* is a container for 0 or more *Apps* (see further). Developers have an option of deploying a number of *Servers* that themselves contain 0 or more *Apps*. The source code for the *Server* can be found here: *Server*. The *App* is a component that represents a single purpose application deployed within a particular *Server*. The source code for the *App* can be found here: *App*.

Kettle also offers built-in support for the CouchDB database, a document-based store that is a good match for JavaScript-based, collaborative Web applications.

What's the Status of Kettle?

Kettle is an emerging project of the Fluid community and represents a major priority for us alongside Infusion. Though it is still in early development, Kettle provides critical infrastructure for the Global Public Inclusive Infrastructure's realtime personalization framework. To this end, Kettle is actively being supported and developed by a group of contributors from across the Cloud4all, GPII, and Fluid projects.

Initial documentation for Kettle is available in the GPII wiki, and further documentation, tutorials, and sample code are planned.

Next Steps

As part of the GPII and FLOE Projects, Kettle will be used to develop RESTful server-side data feeds and markup transformers for storing and sharing content accessibility information, user preferences, and captions.

As part of this work, Kettle will be:

* Extended to support better URL routing and rewriting
* Documented

Technologies

Kettle is built on top of Node.js, a event-based, asynchronous platform built using Google's V8 JavaScript engine.

Dependencies

Kettle currently depends on the following frameworks and libraries:

* Fluid Infusion
* Express
* node-uuid
* when