

Flex and Java

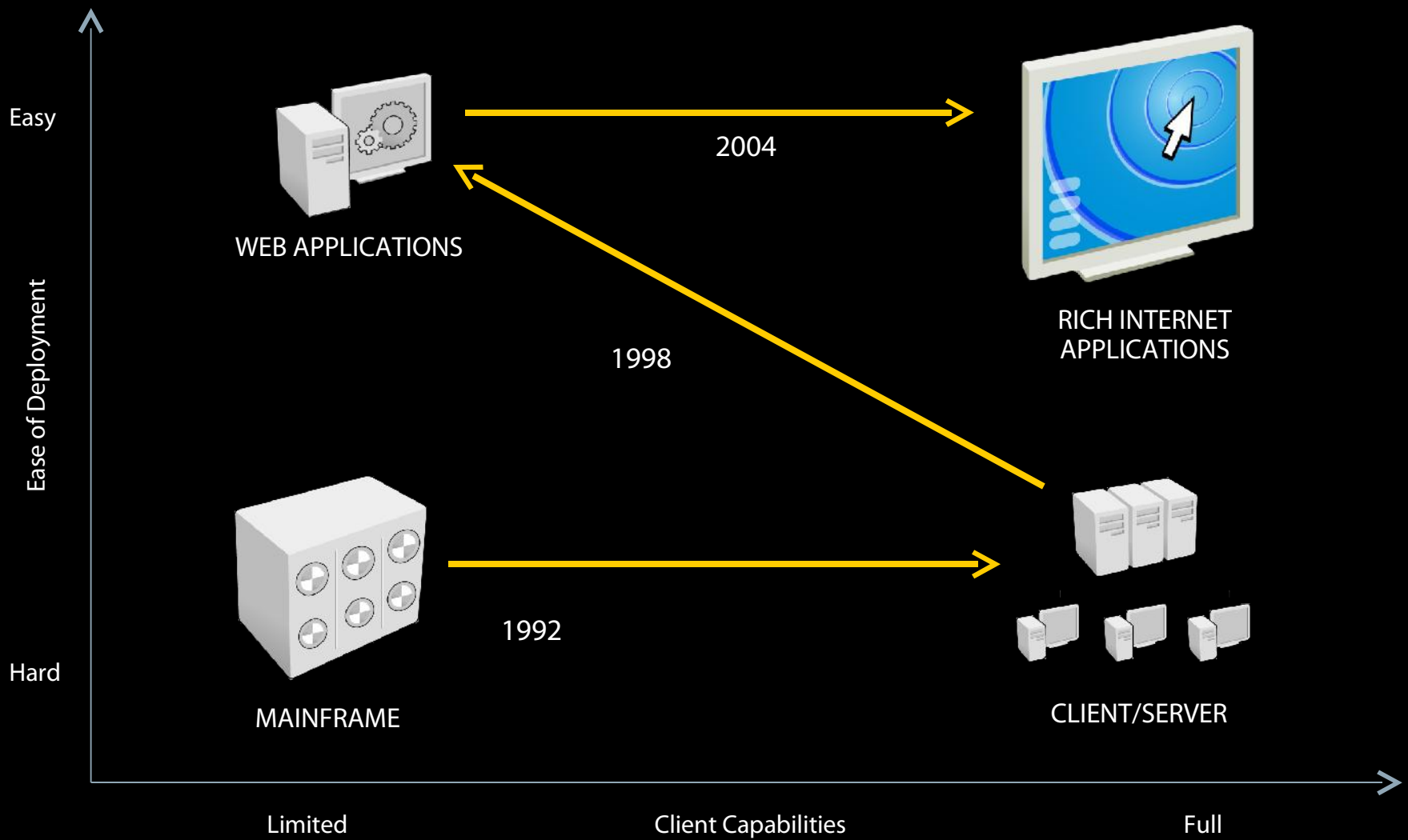
James Ward

<http://www.jamesward.com>

[twitter://jlward4th](https://twitter.com/jlward4th)



Applications have evolved



Adobe's Software Development Platform

Applications



Adobe
Media
Player

Open Bug Database:
<http://bugs.adobe.com>

Designer/Developer Tools

60 Day **Free** Trial

Free for students
and educators



Flex Builder

Client Runtimes



Adobe
AIR



Flash
Player



PDF

High Performance
JIT'ing VM:
Mozilla Tamarin



Adobe
Flex 3

Servers/Services



LiveCycle



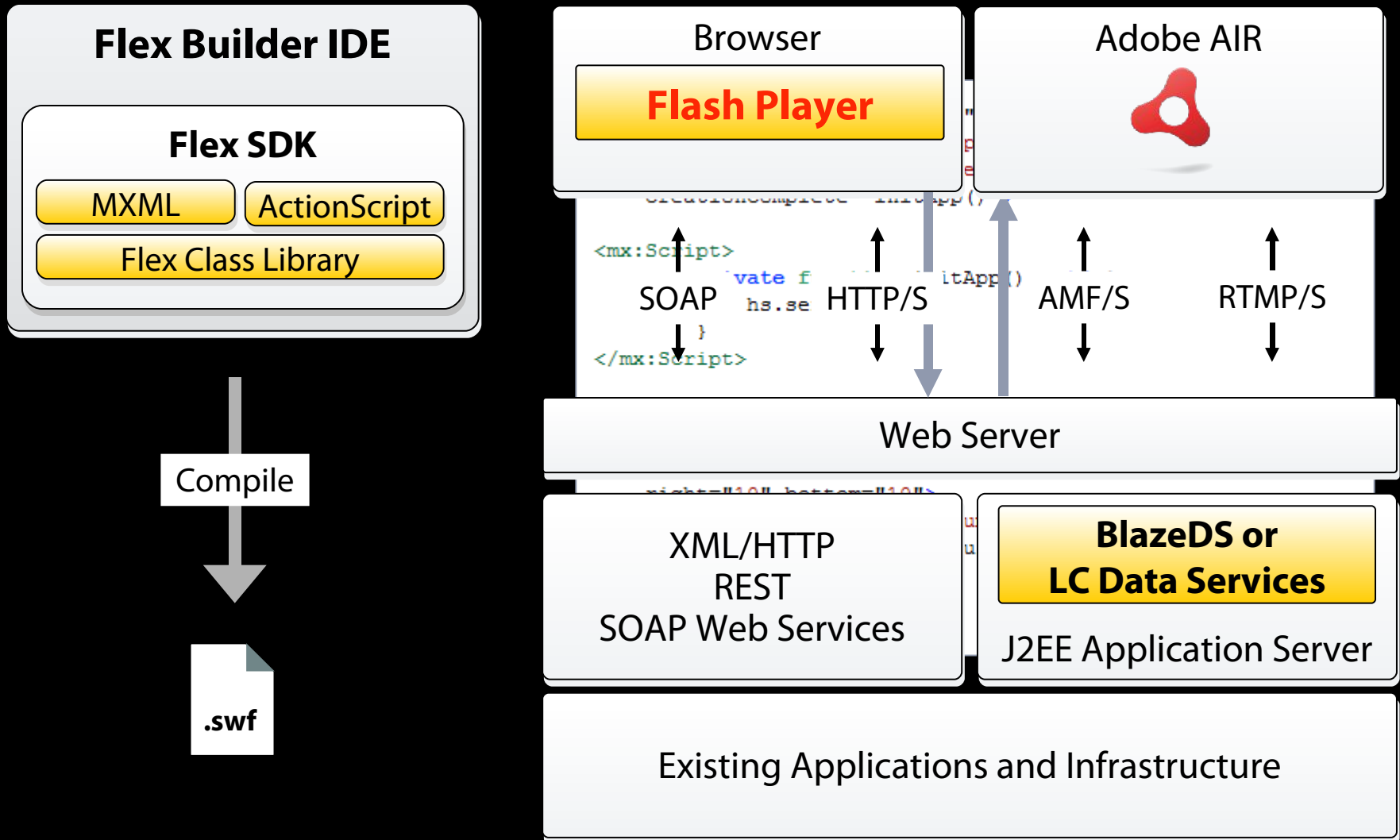
ColdFusion

Open Source: MPL
Use any text editor / IDE

Adobe AIR Application Stack



How Flex Works



Tour de Flex - flex.org/tour

The screenshot displays the Adobe Flex Tour website interface. At the top left is the Adobe logo and the 'Tour FLEX' title. A search bar is located at the top right. The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Left Panel (Navigation):** A tree view of 'Flex Core Components' including UI Controls, Data Entry Controls, Buttons, Containers, Effects, Formatters, Validators, Charting, and Coding Techniques. The 'Buttons' category is expanded, showing sub-items like Button, PopUpButton, ToggleButtonBar, ButtonBar, LinkBar, LinkButton, TabBar, List Controls, Tree and Grid Controls, and Other Controls.
- Center Panel (Preview):** Titled 'Button', it shows a 'Button Control Example' with four buttons: 'Default Button', 'Button With Icon', 'Skinned Button', and a blue button with a white arrow.
- Right Panel (Code):** A code editor showing the MXML code for the button example. The code includes a script tag for an alert and MXML tags for a panel and three buttons.

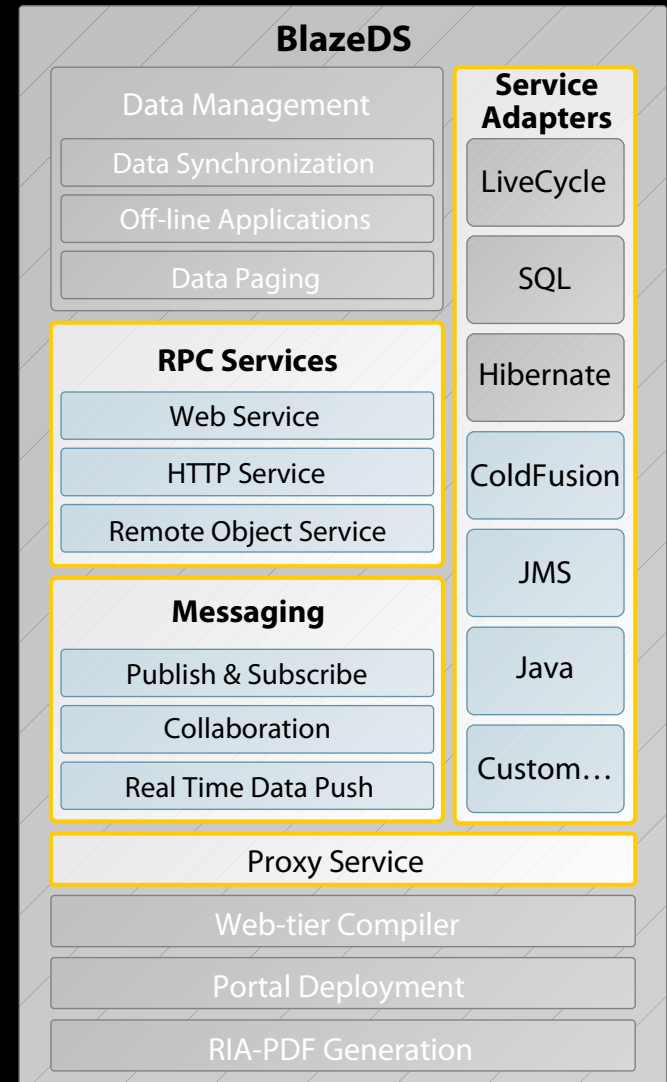
At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the following information: ©2008 Adobe Inc. All Rights Reserved, Version: 1.0 RC1, List Version: 2008-11-10.2, and Samples: 218.

Introducing Open Source BlazeDS

BlazeDS is the remoting and HTTP-based messaging technology which Adobe is contributing to the community under LGPL v3

- Capabilities
 - Easily connects Flex & AIR applications to existing server logic
 - High performance data transfer for more responsive applications
 - Real-time data push over standard HTTP
 - Full pub/sub messaging that extends existing messaging infrastructure
- Publication of the Action Message Format (AMF3) binary data protocol specification
- Certified builds, warranty protection and enterprise support subscriptions available

LiveCycle Data Services ES



Flex with Java via XML (RESTful / SOAP)



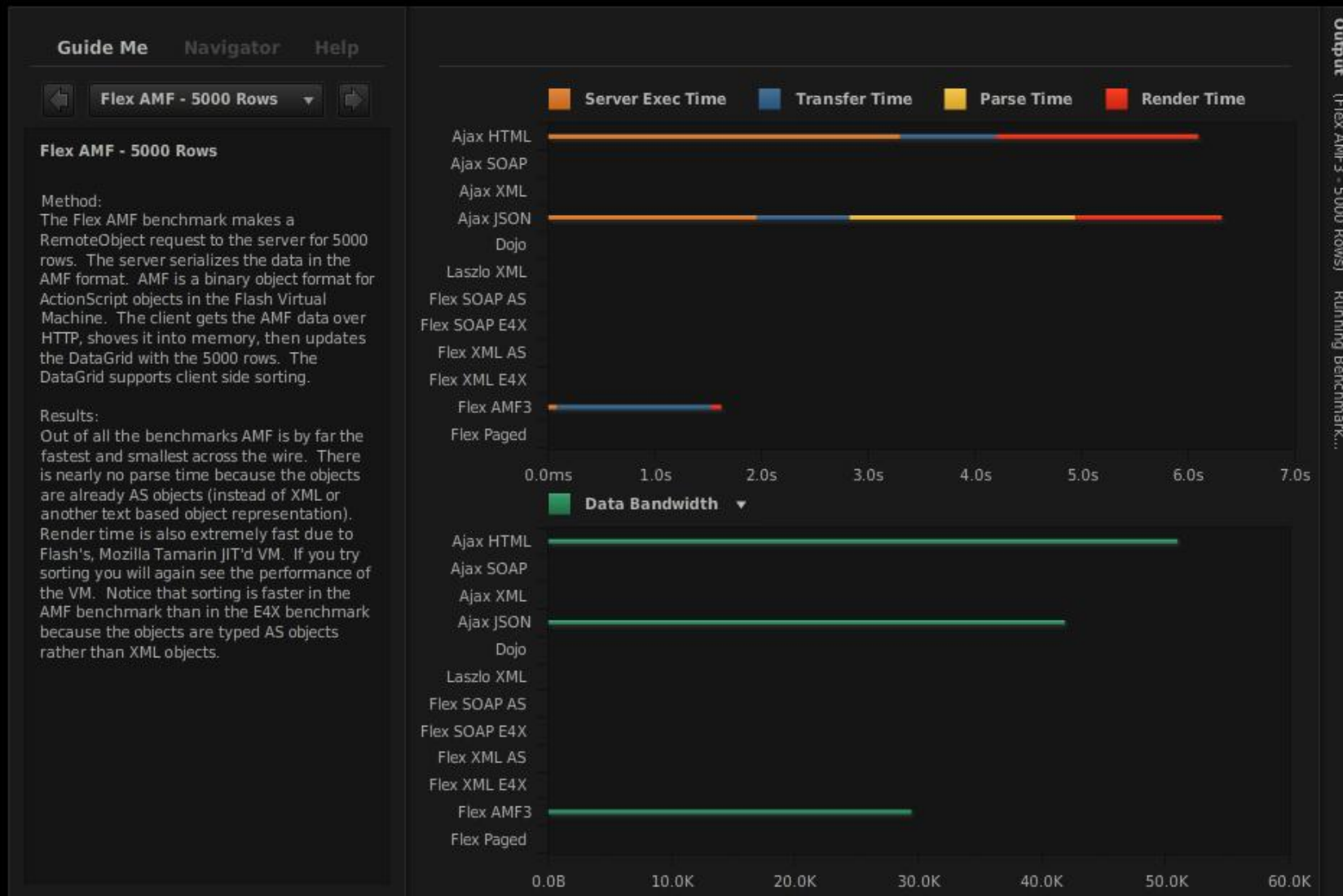
Client

XML
(RESTful / SOAP)

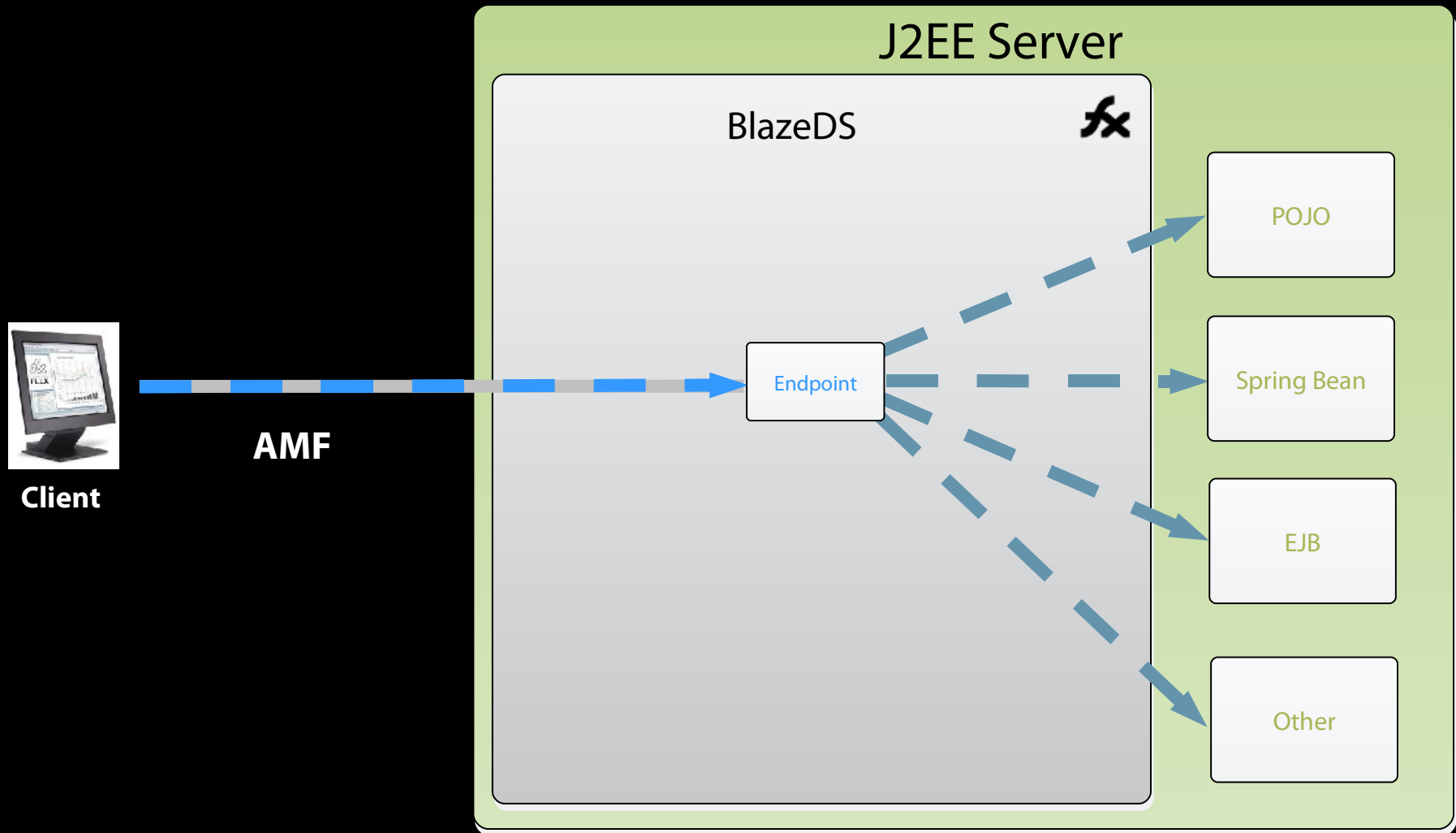


Web Service

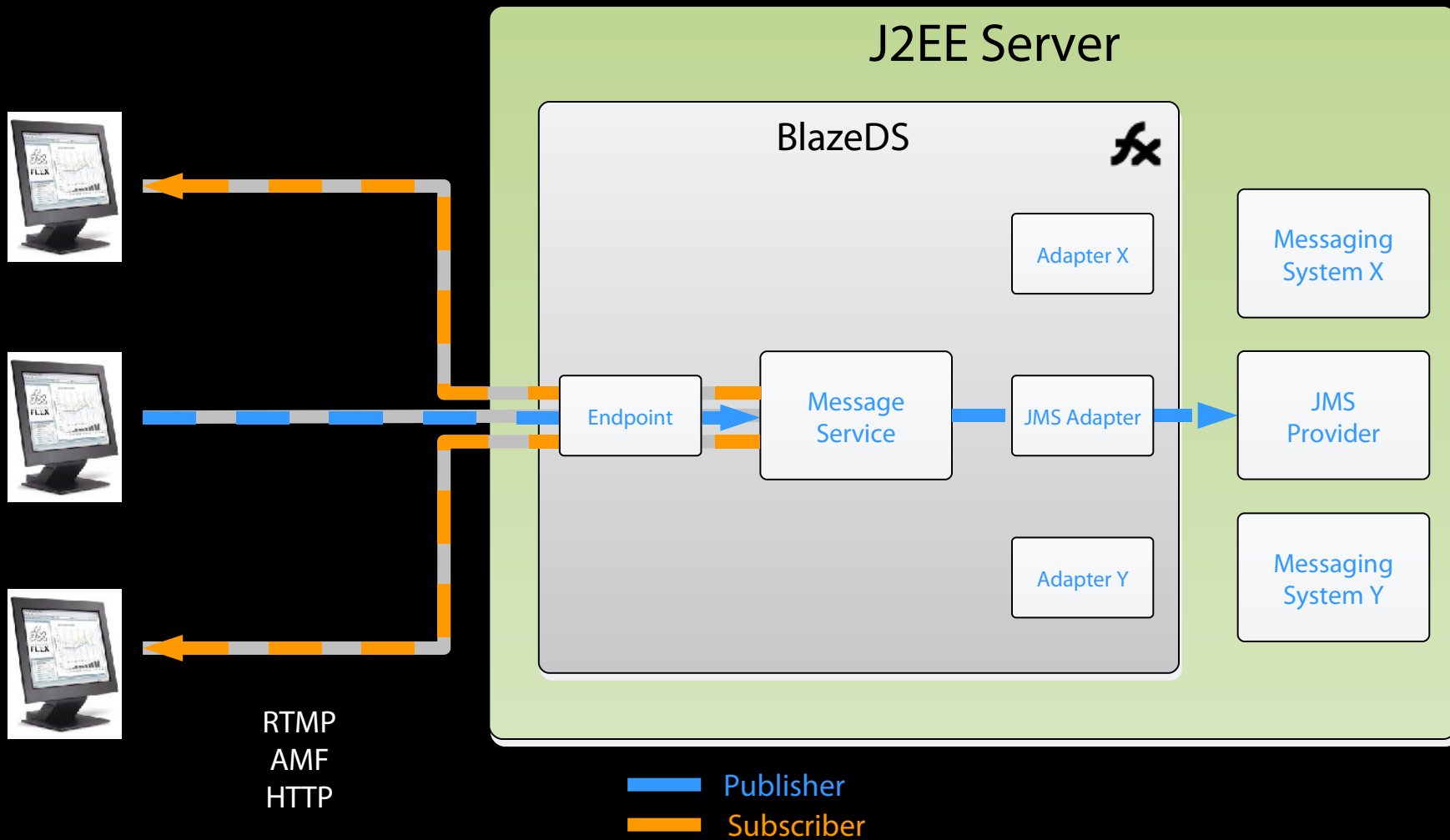
App Server



Flex with Java via Remoting



Flex with Java via Messaging



Spring and Flex

- Flex moves the view and controller completely to the client
 - The return of client/server architecture
- Still want to utilize our rich Java model / business layer
 - Spring!

Spring and Flex!

- SpringSource and Adobe have formed a joint partnership to turn this idea into reality!
- The foundations of this new integration will be available as open source
 - A new Spring subproject in the web portfolio:

Spring BlazeDS Integration

- Focus on integrating the open source BlazeDS with Spring

- Bootstrap the BlazeDS MessageBroker as a Spring-managed bean (no more web.xml MessageBrokerServlet config needed)
- Route http-based Flex messages to the MessageBroker through the Spring DispatcherServlet
- Expose Spring beans for remoting using typical Spring remoting exporter configuration

- Spring Security integration
 - Ensure that Spring security can secure any Springmanaged endpoints with credentials provided by the Flex app

- Spring JMS integration
 - Integration with the BlazeDS MessageService
 - Use Spring configuration to manage BlazeDS MessageDestinations
 - Let Spring manage the JMS details
 - Allows easy communication from Flex clients to Spring message-driven POJOs
- Spring 3.0 REST integration
 - Provides support for multiple client-types
 - Flex apps can already consume Spring 3.0 RESTful endpoints through HTTPService
 - Additional value could be realized by providing an AMFView implementation
 - Response for HTTP requests with a Content-Type=application/actionscript

web.xml

listener>

<listener-class>org.springframework.web.context.ContextLoaderListener</listener-class>

/listener>

servlet>

<servlet-name>testdrive</servlet-name>

<servlet-class>org.springframework.web.servlet.DispatcherServlet</servlet-class>

<load-on-startup>1</load-on-startup>

web.xml - Security Config

context-param>

<param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>

<param-value>

 /WEB-INF/config/web-application-config.xml

 /WEB-INF/config/web-application-security.xml

</param-value>

/context-param>

filter>

<filter-name>springSecurityFilterChain</filter-name>

web-application-config.xml

beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"

xmlns:flex="http://www.springframework.org/schema/flex"

xmlns:security="http://www.springframework.org/schema/security"

xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"

xsi:schemaLocation="

<http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans>

<http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-2.5.xsd>

<http://www.springframework.org/schema/flex>

<http://www.springframework.org/schema/flex/spring-flex-1.0.xsd>

web-application-config.xml - Remoting Beans

```
<!-- Expose the productDAO bean for BlazeDS remoting -->
```

```
<flex:remote-service ref="productService" />
```

```
<!-- A secured version of productService -->
```

```
<bean id="securedProductService" class="flex.spring.samples.product.ProductDAO" >
```

```
  <flex:remote-service/>
```

```
  <constructor-arg ref="dataSource"/>
```

```
  <security:intercept-methods>
```

```
    <security:protect method="find*" access="ROLE_USER" />
```

```
  </security:intercept-methods>
```

```
</bean>
```

Frameworks

- Cairngorm
- Mate
- PureMVC

- Clear

- Swiz
- Spring ActionScript

fluint - Flex Unit and Integration Testing Framework

- Multiple simultaneous asynchronous operations
- Asynchronous setup and teardown
- Asynchronous returns before method body completion
- Support for UIComponent testing
- Support for test sequences
- Support for testing Cairngorm commands and controllers
- XML output of testing results
- Support for externalizing tests in modules
- Build automation integration with Apache Ant

Flex Monkey

- Records and plays back Flex UI interactions
- UI Interactions can be edited and replayed
- Generates FlexUnit TestCases, and can also be used with non-FlexUnit-based testing frameworks
- Tests can be run from build systems such as Ant
- Handles all Flex UI events
- Uses Flex Automation API to provide native control over your flex app. Requires no javascript or browser plug-ins to use.
- Unit tests are written entirely in ActionScript. No other programming or special purpose scripting languages are needed to develop comprehensive UI test suites.
- Non-invasive. Requires no modifications to your application source.