



# <CFABORT>

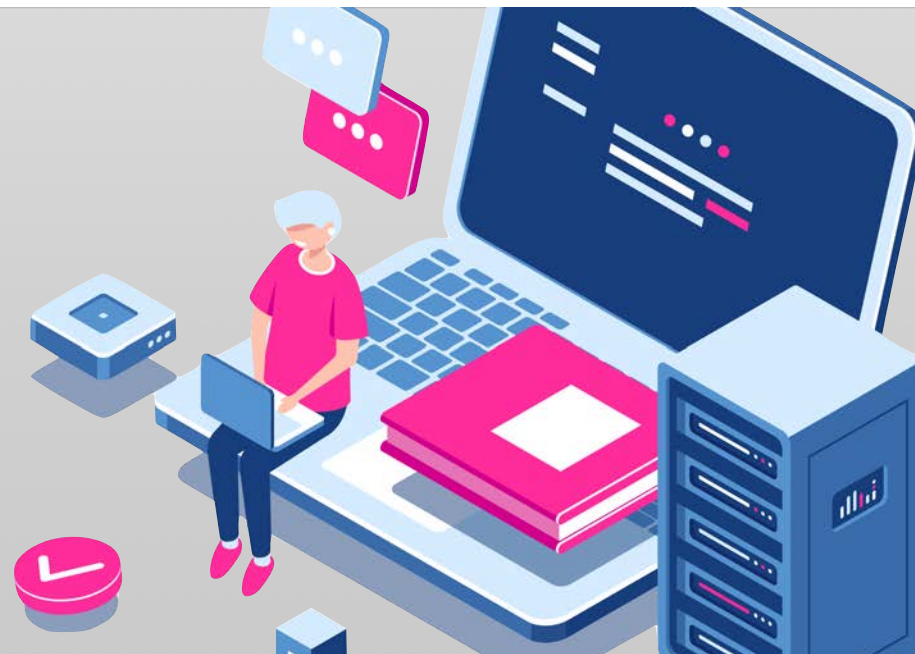
When It's Time to Leave ColdFusion

<WEBAPPER>  
cloud application engineers

## INTRODUCTION

# ADOBE COLDFUSION 101

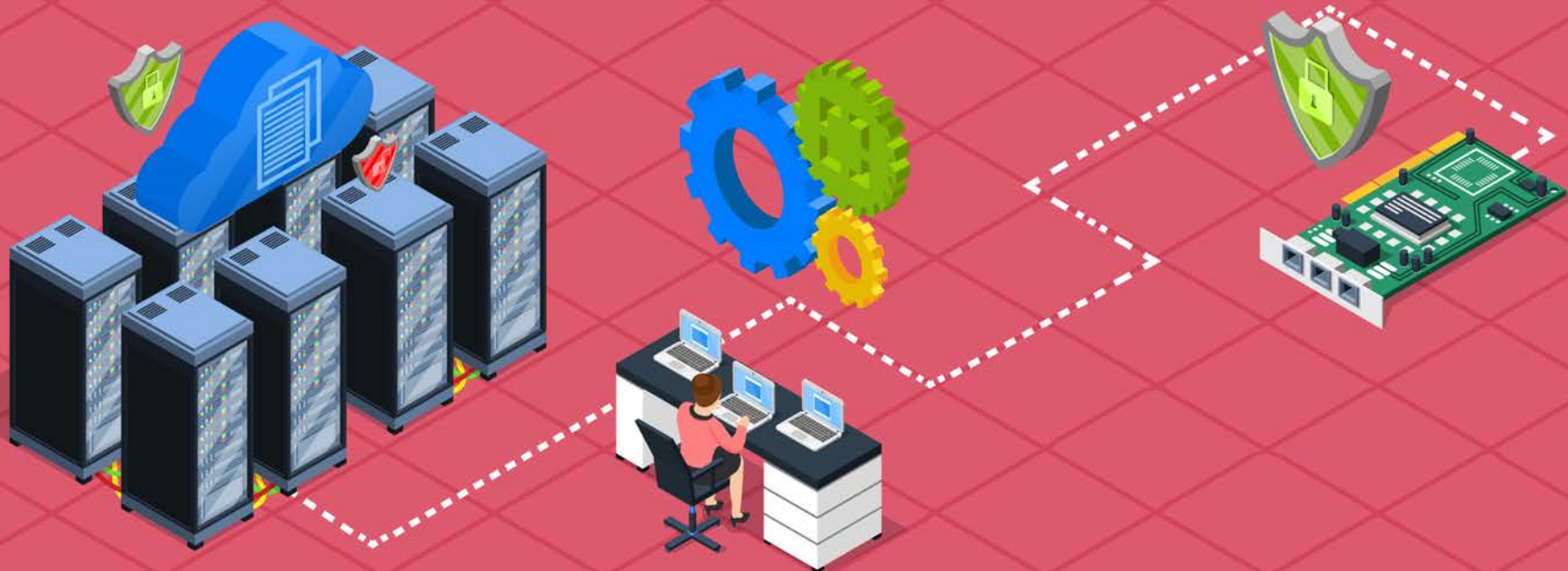
Adobe ColdFusion (ACF) is a commercial web application server and development platform. Originally created by Allaire Corporation in 1995, it used a scripting tag language to connect HTML pages to a database. Allaire built a loyal community as it competed against languages like PHP, ASP, and JSP. Macromedia acquired Allaire in 2001, and in June 2002 released ColdFusion MX, a ColdFusion Server re-written completely using Java. In 2005, Adobe acquired Macromedia, going on to release several versions of CF: 8, 9, 10, 11, 2016, and 2018. The latest major release, Adobe ColdFusion 2021, came to market in November of 2020.



INTRODUCTION

# ADOBE COLDFUSION 101

Adobe ColdFusion is (still) a popular web application development environment that uses a tag-based scripting language (ColdFusion Markup Language, AKA CFML) to build modern web apps quickly. CFML also has CFScript, which enables developers to use a syntax like JavaScript. Many large companies choose ColdFusion because of its scalability, security, reliability and rapid development capabilities.

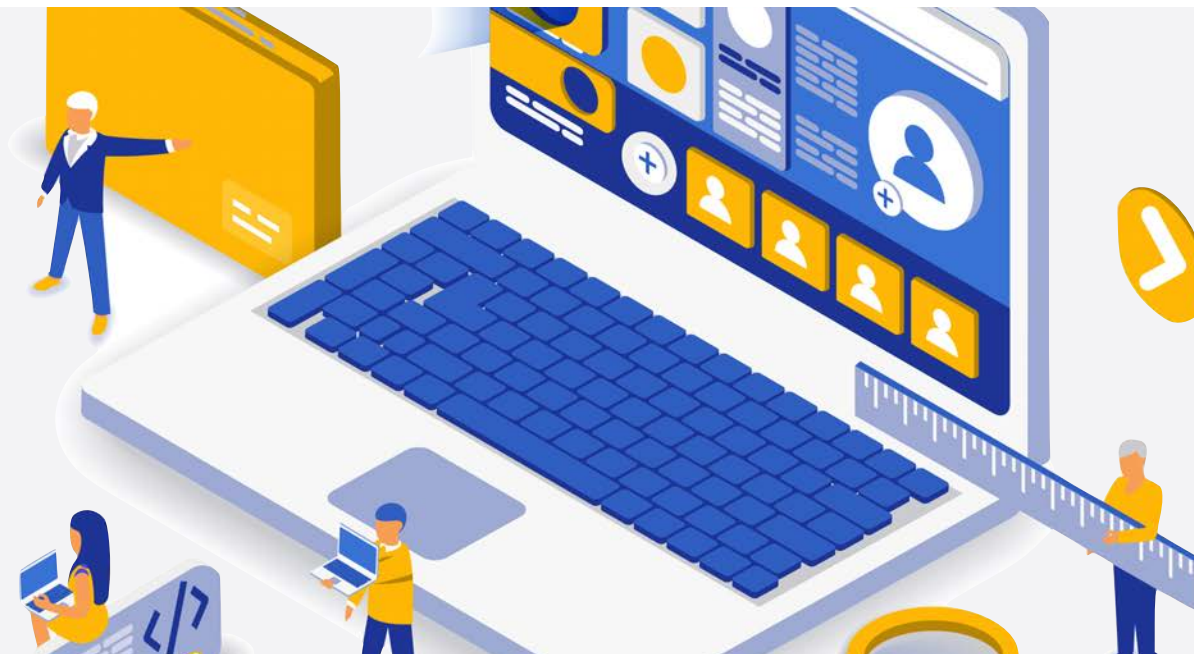


## INFLECTION POINT

# THE STATE OF COLDFUSION

For a variety of reasons, we see ColdFusion 2021 as an inflection point for an exodus from ColdFusion. We encounter a growing number of users who are frustrated by ColdFusion's outdated licensing, the contracting market, and the lackadaisical attitude of Adobe.

In addition, CFML users are often faced with modernization challenges and high licensing costs.



INFLECTION POINT  
**THE STATE OF  
COLDFUSION**

Adobe has apparently decided to focus on the top of the market – government and enterprise customers who are heavily embedded in ColdFusion – as evident from its antiquated licensing model. Adobe ColdFusion 2021 is sold in two forms: the Standard Edition costs \$2,499 for two cores, and the Enterprise Edition is \$9,499 for eight cores. Adobe’s cores-based licensing model is per-server (regardless of whether virtual or physical), which further adds to costs. You can’t, for example, buy one Enterprise license and run a cluster of four 2-core server instances.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

# COLDFUSION 2021 ISN'T TRUE CLOUD COMPUTING

Cloud computing design patterns, such as microservices and serverless architectures for systems and software, reflect a critical trend with profound implications for enterprise IT. Converting a monolithic architecture to microservices represents a fundamental shift in how IT approaches software development. Adobe ColdFusion uses a monolithic architecture, with a large-footprint and centralized application runtime. As such, putting ColdFusion in the cloud isn't true cloud computing. Despite residing in a cloud environment, it's not leveraging many benefits of the cloud.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

# THE SHRINKING CFML TALENT POOL

One of the challenges of using older technologies is the shrinking number of developers. Many developers initially chose ColdFusion because it was easy to learn, fast to deliver code, and “fun to use”. But “young blood” isn’t coming in, and that would be a danger sign for any development platform. The lack of a youthful talent pool means higher salaries to continue development. Any hiring manager who has contrasted the CFML-guru and Python-guru talent pools will immediately understand what we’re saying.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

# ADOBE IS NOT SOLVING THE PROBLEM

Many developers are frustrated with Adobe's slow pace and apparent disregard for marketing. The economics for Adobe investing in ColdFusion do not support deep investment. We've seen a long, slow decline for Adobe, which probably doesn't stack up well when they're making big strides with other products. Lucee's open source solution has impacted Adobe revenue too. ACF licensing fees will remain a source of community frustration as cloud computing evolves.





## WHAT'S NEXT

# CLOUD ADVANTAGES

An overwhelming majority of enterprises report that they have a multi-cloud strategy in place or in the works. Today two-thirds of all enterprise infrastructure is cloud-based, and estimates show 82% of workloads live in the cloud. Why?

### **Uptime**

Mission-critical applications must eliminate Single Point of Failure (SPoF) architectures. With ColdFusion, that means building levels of redundancy into your cloud architecture.

### **Performance**

Sometimes you must add computing power to your application to improve performance. In the cloud, that can be as simple as adding more CPUs or memory. With better performance, customers have a better experience.

### **Scalability**

A cloud configuration with load balancing provides better uptime & performance and enables adding capacity. Auto Scaling monitors applications and adjusts capacity to maintain steady, predictable performance at low costs.

WHAT'S NEXT

# TYPES OF CLOUD MIGRATIONS

<b>Rehost</b>	Lift & Shift
<b>Replatform</b>	Lift, "Tinker" & Shift
<b>Repurchase</b>	Switch products
<b>Rearchitect</b>	Rebuild using cloud-native features
<b>Retire</b>	Eliminate workload
<b>Retain</b>	Keep existing workload



WHAT'S NEXT

# TYPES OF CLOUD MIGRATIONS

We see four options with ACF cloud migration:

- |                        |                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rehost</b>          | Move from data centers to the cloud.                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Replatform Lite</b> | Switch from Adobe ColdFusion to Lucee (changing course slightly, with better near-term options for true cloud design).                                |
| <b>Replatform</b>      | Rewrite portions of the application as cloud native (minimize ACF expenses while using the “strangler” pattern to slowly replace monolith components) |
| <b>Rearchitect</b>     | Rewrite the entire application as cloud native (most divergent).                                                                                      |



## WHAT'S NEXT

# THE STRANGLER PATTERN

*An alternative route is to gradually create a new system around the edges of the old, letting it grow slowly over several years until the old system is strangled.*

-- Martin Fowler

The idea of the strangler pattern came from enterprise software development pundit Martin Fowler. On holiday in Australia, Fowler encountered strangler fig trees in the rainforest. These banyan-like trees seed in the upper branches of a tree and gradually work their way down the tree until they reach the soil. As they grow into wild, exciting shapes, they strangle and eventually kill the tree where they first started. As a developer who was always rewriting critical systems, he used the strangler fig analogy as a way to describe his work.

Nearly all microservice success stories originate from a monolith application that grew unmanageable and was broken up. Keep in mind the strangler fig — you seed functions into your application, gradually replacing and augmenting the original monolith.

**SUMMARY**

# TRANSFORM YOUR APPLICATION

Leverage Webapper's deep experience with Adobe ColdFusion and Lucee with a decade in cloud computing technology, to drive an agile long-term delivery strategy. Start your cloud transformation!

- ColdFusion Experience Since 1998
- Cloud Experience Since 2011





TRANSFORM YOUR APPLICATION

# PARTNER WITH WEBAPPER



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