

Foundation ActionScript 3.0 with Flash CS3 and Flex

Steve Webster, Todd Yard, and Sean McSharry



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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Steve Webster got hooked on ActionScript back in the early days of Flash 4, when scientists still thought that the Earth was both flat and the center of the universe, and has been monkeying around with Flash and Flex ever since.

He works as a developer at Yahoo! in London, where he spends his time preaching the virtues of good Flash and Flex to his colleagues, both Flashers and standardistas alike, and occasionally attempting to practice what he preaches.

Over the years, he has written and contributed to a vast number of Flash-related books for friends of ED and somehow still possesses a modicum of sanity. He maintains a regular (OK, sporadic) blog at dynamicflash.com and runs the companion site for this book at foundationas3.com.

Todd Yard is currently a software architect at Brightcove in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he has been working on the company's video product and service since 2005, leading the development of its Flash front end. He has contributed as an author to a dozen friends of ED books on Flash and served as technical editor on several others. His personal site, 27Bobs.com, really needs updating, but he's a busy guy.

Sean McSharry has been a Flash developer and designer since 1999 (Flash 3). Like many top developers in his field, he comes from a nonprogramming background originally (in his case, a tree surgeon). He runs the popular Flashcoder blog (flashcoder.net/blog). He has consulted in many business sectors, from oil exploration to banking to IPTV, for major industry leaders such as Microsoft and Adobe Consulting. He is an Adobe Certified Flash Developer and Designer, and has worked on everything from banners to massive RIAs. He has worked in Europe and America, and is presently freelancing in the UK. He uses the entire Flash Platform in his development (Flash, Flex, ActionScript, Flash Lite, Flash Media Server, and so on). He is a prerelease tester for many Adobe products, and is actively involved in the Flash community, most recently, getting Adobe to sponsor the poker tournaments he organizes quarterly for Adobe professionals (pokercoder.com).

Sean strongly believes that Flash developers and designers should be as comfortable with and passionate about code as they are about aesthetics and design. Pragmatic development is something he pushes very hard. Assume nothing. Don't code what you shouldn't code. Code with project maintenance in mind. These are his top rules for running a successful development team and producing successful applications.

ABOUT THE TECHNICAL REVIEWER

Mike Jones is an old man of the Flash world, having first picked up Flash in late 1996, when it was still called Futurewave Splash. For more than a decade, he has produced web applications, websites, and desktop applications using the Flash Platform, not once thinking that perhaps it was time to find something better to do.

In his spare time, Mike runs the website FlashGen.com (flashgen.com). Originally launched as a Macromedia Generator resource site in 1998, the site is now used as a blog-style repository for information based on Flash, Flex, AIR, and ActionScript. Mike lives in Haslemere, Surrey, UK, with his fiancée and their cat Figo.

ABOUT THE COVER IMAGE DESIGNER



Corné van Dooren designed the front cover image for this book. Having been given a brief by friends of ED to come up with a new design for the Foundation series, he was inspired to create this new setup, combining technology and organic forms.

With a colorful background as an avid cartoonist, Corné discovered the infinite world of multimedia at the age of 17, a journey of discovery that hasn't stopped since. His mantra has always been, "The only limit to multimedia is the imagination," which has kept him moving forward constantly.

After enjoying success after success over the past years—working for many international clients, as well as being featured in multimedia magazines, testing software, and working on many other friends of ED books—Corné decided it was time to take another step in his career by launching his own company, Project 79, in March 2005. You can see more of his work and contact him through <http://www.cornevandooren.com> or <http://www.project79.com>.

If you like his work, be sure to check out his chapter in *New Masters of Photoshop: Volume 2*, also published by friends of ED (ISBN: 1-59059-315-4).