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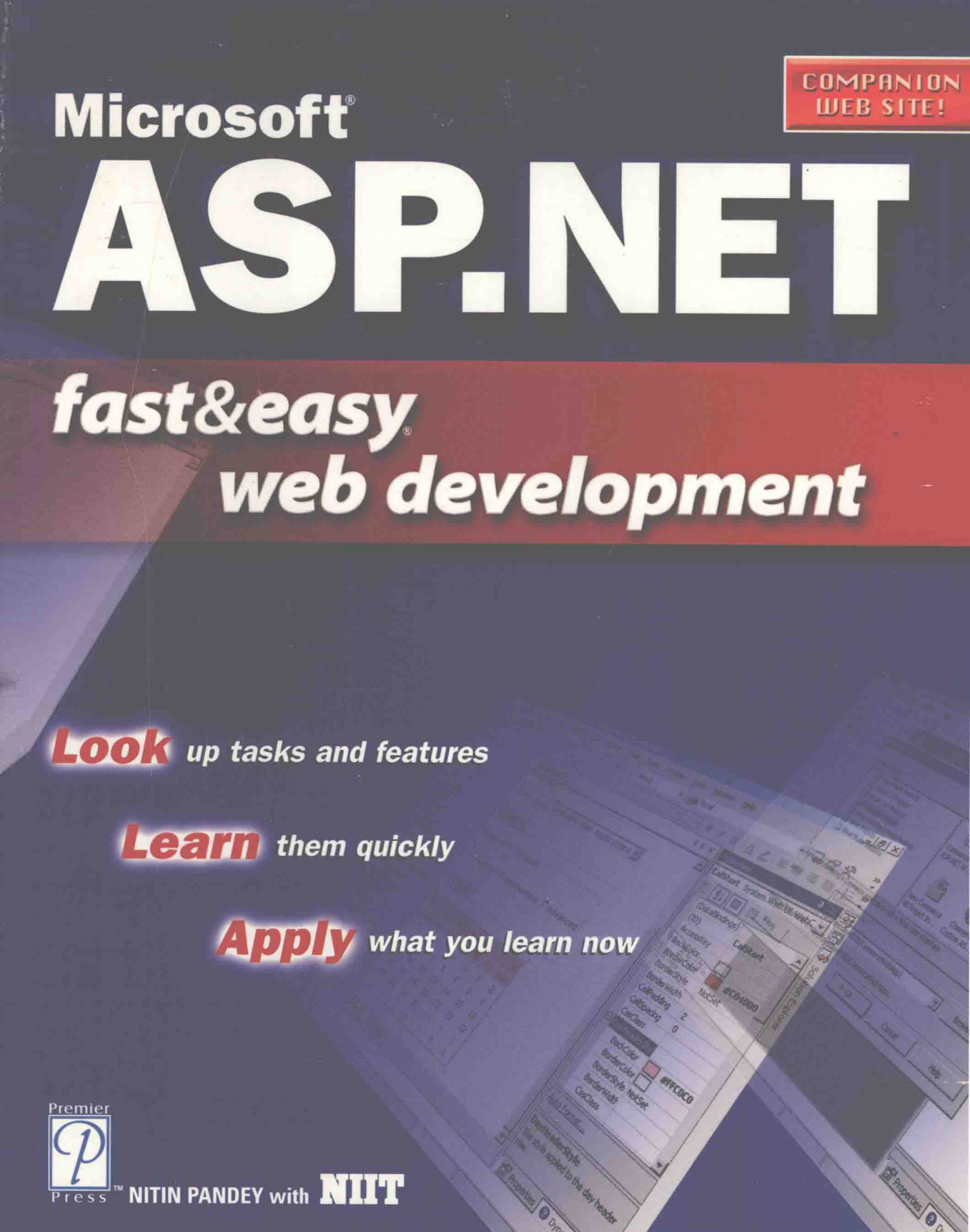

Premier Press™ NITIN PANDEY with NIIT

Microsoft® ASP.NET

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Nitin Pandey

with NIIT

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About NIIT

NIIT is a Global IT Solutions Corporation with a presence in 38 countries. With its unique business model and technology creation capabilities, NIIT delivers Software and Learning Solutions to more than 1000 clients around the world.

The success of NIIT's training solutions lies in its unique approach to education. NIIT's Knowledge Solutions Business conceives, researches, and develops all of the course material. A rigorous instructional design methodology is followed to create engaging and compelling course content. NIIT has one of the largest learning-material development facilities in the world, with more than 5000 person-years of experience.

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About the Author

Nitin Pandey works as a Consultant with NIIT. In his two years of work experience at NIIT, he has authored several books, which include *Commerce Server 2000 Configuration and Administration*, *Visual Studio .NET for Dummies*, and *C# Professional Projects*.

At NIIT, Nitin has been a SME (*Subject Matter Expert*) for seminars and WBTs developed for Microsoft. He has also actively worked on all languages of the .NET Framework, Visual Studio .NET, and .NET Enterprise Servers.

When he is not at work, Nitin enjoys reading and playing volleyball.

Introduction

ASP (*Active Server Pages*) has long been used as a Web programming language for creating dynamic Web sites. ASP.NET is the next version of ASP 3.0, and it simplifies the development of ASP applications for the Internet. ASP.NET forms an important component of Microsoft's .NET initiative.

With the release of Visual Studio .NET, creating ASP.NET applications has become very simple. Visual Studio .NET provides all of the necessary tools and support for creating ASP.NET applications. The easy-to-use interface of Visual Studio .NET coupled with the power of ASP.NET makes programming Web applications an easy and interesting experience.

ASP.NET Fast & Easy Web Development equips you with the necessary skills to create ASP.NET applications. The characteristic visual emphasis of the book introduces ASP, Visual Basic .NET, and ADO.NET concepts to novice developers. These concepts help you get started with ASP.NET. Thereafter, the book delves into the advanced features of ASP.NET, which include validating user input; developing user controls and composite controls; reading XML data; creating XML Web services; managing, retrieving, formatting, and displaying data using ADO.NET data objects; and creating and implementing Web services.

Who Should Read This Book

Readers who are proficient in HTML and have some experience in Web programming can best utilize this book. You will probably benefit more from the book if you have worked on a scripting language before. After reading this book, you will be

proficient in ASP.NET and able to create high-performance dynamic Web sites. If this is your expectation, then this book is certainly for you!

Although the book builds from very elementary concepts, it delves into fairly advanced topics that provide valuable information to both novice and expert developers. If you have already programmed in one or more of the .NET languages, you might want to skip the first five chapters of the book, which lay the foundation for novice developers.

Added Advice to Make You a Pro

To benefit as much as possible from this book, you should download the code for the sample application that is available at http://www.premierpressbooks.com/downloads.asp. The sample application runs through all of the important chapters of the book, with each chapter building on the application in some way. Therefore, as you read the book, you will have a professional application ready to use.

After you read this book, your next objective should be to create an application that is similar to (or even more advanced than) the application developed in this book. This will give you adequate hands-on practice in creating ASP.NET applications. You should also regularly visit some of the useful Web sites on ASP.NET that I have listed in Appendix D, "Online Resources for ASP.NET." These Web sites provide the latest information on the developments in ASP.NET.

Conventions Used in This Book

In the book, you will find several special elements that will make using this book easier.

- Tips give you helpful information or shortcuts to accomplish a goal more quickly or easily.
- Notes provide you with additional information or background about a given topic.
- Cautions warn you of potential pitfalls or glitches in an application or procedure.

Contents at a Glance

Introduction . . . . . **xvii**

Chapter 1	Introducing the .NET Initiative	1
Chapter 2	Installing and Configuring Visual Studio .NET	15
Chapter 3	Exploring the New Features of ASP.NET	33
Chapter 4	Visual Basic .NET Basics	45
Chapter 5	Beginning with a Simple ASP.NET Application	65
Chapter 6	Adding Server Controls to a Web Form	85
Chapter 7	Accepting Information Using Web Forms	105
Chapter 8	SQL Server Basics	123
Chapter 9	Getting Started with ADO.NET	143
Chapter 10	Managing Data for ASP.NET Applications	161
Chapter 11	Displaying Data Using Data Binding Server Controls	181
Chapter 12	Creating a User Control in ASP.NET	201
Chapter 13	Creating a Composite Control in ASP.NET	209
Chapter 14	Getting Started with ASP.NET Web Services	225

Chapter 15 Building ASP.NET Web Services 241

Chapter 16 Building Mobile Web Applications 251

Chapter 17 Managing State in ASP.NET Applications 265

Chapter 18 Caching in ASP.NET Applications 273

Chapter 19 Tracing ASP.NET Applications 281

Chapter 20 Debugging ASP.NET Applications 293

Chapter 21 Handling Exceptions in ASP.NET Applications 301

Chapter 22 Securing ASP.NET Applications 307

Chapter 23 Deploying ASP.NET Applications 323

Appendix A Keyboard Shortcuts in Visual Studio .NET 351

Appendix B Developing ASP.NET Applications in Visual C# 355

Appendix C Migrating from ASP 3.0 to ASP.NET 367

Appendix D Online Resources for ASP.NET 377

Index 381

Contents

Introduction . . . . . **xvii**

Chapter 1 Introducing the .NET Initiative **1**

Products and Technologies in the .NET Initiative 2

.NET Enterprise Servers 2

.NET Framework 7

Visual Studio .NET 11

Applications Created in ASP.NET 11

ASP.NET Web Applications 12

ASP.NET Web Services 12

Implementing the .NET Initiative 13

Chapter 2 Installing and Configuring Visual Studio .NET 15

Installing Visual Studio .NET 16

Hardware and Software Requirements 16

Installing Windows Update Components 17

Visual Studio .NET Installation 21

Checking for Product Upgrades 23

Configuring Visual Studio .NET 24

Visual Studio .NET Windows 24

Customizing Visual Studio .NET 29

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Chapter 3 Exploring the New Features of ASP.NET 33
Getting Started with ASP.NET 34
Understanding the ASP.NET Application Architecture 34
Examine the Features of ASP.NET 35
Advantages of ASP.NET 39
Introducing Web Forms 39
Understanding the Page Class 40
Understanding Page Directives 40
Understanding Postbacks and Round Trips 42
Understanding Cookies 43
Understanding Query Strings 43

Chapter 4 Visual Basic .NET Basics 45
An Introduction to Visual Basic .NET 46
Using Variable and Data Types 46
Declaring Variables 47
Initializing Variables 49
Using the Option Explicit Statement 49
Working with Arrays 52
Declaring an Array 52
Initializing an Array 53
Working with Multi-Dimensional Arrays 53
Understanding Dynamic Arrays 54
Working with Decision Structures 56
Using If...Then...Else Statements 56
Using Select...Case Statements 58
Looping Constructs 60
Understanding While...End While Statements 60
Understanding Do...Loop Statements 61
Understanding For...Next Statements 62
Understanding For Each...Next Statements 63

Chapter 5 Beginning with a Simple ASP.NET Application 65
Creating ASP.NET Web Application Projects 66
Creating a New Project. 66
Renaming a Web Form 69
Changing the Class Associated with a Web Form 70
Adding a New Form 72
Designing Forms 74
Selecting a Layout for a Form. 74
Adding Controls to a Form. 76
Responding to User Interaction 79
Redirecting a User to Another Web Form 80
Executing the Application 82

Chapter 6 Adding Server Controls to a Web Form 85
Using ASP.NET Server Controls 86
Working with the Label Control 87
Working with the DropDownList Control. 90
Working with the Button Control 93
Working with the Panel Control 94
Working with the RadioButtonList Control 95
Working with the Calendar Control 97
Working with the AdRotator Control 98
Coding the Functionality of a Web Form 101
Coding the Load Event of a Form 101
Hiding and Displaying Panels on a Form 102

Chapter 7 Accepting Information Using Web Forms 105
Designing Forms to Accept Information. 106
Understanding Form Structure. 106
Adding Server Controls to a Form 107
Adding HTML Controls to the Form 110

Validating Information on a Form 113
Understanding Validation Controls in ASP.NET 113
Adding Validation Controls to a Form 115
Coding the Validation Logic 118
Running the Form 120

Chapter 8 SQL Server Basics 123
Creating Databases and Tables 124
Creating a Database 124
Creating a Table 126
Managing Data 132
Inserting Data 132
Updating Data 135
Deleting Data 137
Retrieving Data 138
Retrieving Data Using the SELECT Query 138
Retrieving Data Using a Conditional Query 139
Understanding Stored Procedures 140
Creating a Stored Procedure 140
Executing a Stored Procedure 142

Chapter 9 Getting Started with ADO.NET 143
Understanding the Features of ADO.NET 144
Non-Dependency on a Persistent Connection 144
Data Commands 145
Datasets 145
Support for XML 146
Understanding the ADO.NET Architecture 147
Datasets 148
The .NET Data Provider 148
Configuring a Data Adapter 154
Introducing the Data Adapter Configuration Wizard 154
Running the Wizard 154

Chapter 10 Managing Data for ASP.NET Applications 161
Adding Data to SQL Server Databases 162
Designing a Database Table 162
Designing a Form to Accept Information 165
Inserting Records into the Database Table 165
Retrieving Data from SQL Server Databases 174
Designing the Form to Display Data 175
Displaying Data on a Form 176
Running the Application 179

Chapter 11 Displaying Data Using Data Binding Server Controls 181
Using the DataGrid Control 182
Displaying Data in a DataGrid Control 182
Customizing a DataGrid Control 189
Using the Repeater Control 192
Displaying Data in a Repeater Control 192
Customizing the Repeater Control 196
Using the DataList Control 196
Designing the DataList Control 197
Implementing the Programming Logic 198

Chapter 12 Creating a User Control in ASP.NET 201
Converting a Web Form into a User Control 202
Removing HTML Tags 202
Renaming Web Form Files 204
Changing Page Directives 205
Adding a User Control to a Web Form 206
Instantiating the Control 206
Testing the Application 207

Chapter 13 Creating a Composite Control in ASP.NET 209
Creating a Composite Control 210
Creating a Class Library Project 210

Renaming the Module Files and the Class 211
Coding the Functionality of the Control 212
Adding the Composite Control to a Web Form 217
Creating a Reference to the Control 217
Instantiating the Control. 219
Testing the Control 221

Chapter 14 Getting Started with ASP.NET Web Services 225
Defining Web Services 226
Understanding the Architecture of Web Services 227
Understanding the Workings of Web Services. 228
Web Service Technologies 229
Creating Web Services in the .NET Framework 233
Understanding Default Files Created for Web Services 235
Understanding the Default Code Generated for Web Services. 237
Testing Web Services 238

Chapter 15 Building ASP.NET Web Services. 241
Creating a Web Service. 242
Creating an ASP.NET Web Service Project. 242
Adding Web Methods to the Web Service. 243
Testing the Web Service 245
Accessing a Web Service. 247
Adding a Web Reference 247
Implementing the Web Service 249
Testing the Output of a Web Service 250

Chapter 16 Building Mobile Web Applications. 251
Overview of Mobile Web Applications 252
Installing Prerequisite Software 253
Installing the Mobile Internet Toolkit 253
Installing the Microsoft Mobile Emulator 255

Creating a Mobile Web Application 257
Adding a Mobile Web Form to a Project 258
Designing Forms for a Mobile Application. 259
Writing the Code for the Form. 262
Testing a Mobile Application 263

Chapter 17 Managing State in ASP.NET Applications 265
Implementing Client-Side State Management 266
Using Cookies 266
Using Query Strings 267
Using Hidden Fields 267
Implementing Server-Side State Management. 268
Implementing Session State Management. 268
Implementing Application State Management 271

Chapter 18 Caching in ASP.NET Applications. 273
Implementing Page-Output Caching 274
Implementing Page-Fragment Caching 276
Implementing Page-Data Caching 277
Adding Items to the Cache. 277
Creating Cache Dependencies. 279
Caching in Web Services. 280

Chapter 19 Tracing ASP.NET Applications 281
Enabling Page-Level Tracing 282
Generating Trace Output 282
Adding Custom Data to Trace Output 287
Enabling Application-Level Tracing. 289
Configuring the Trace Service 289
Changing Properties of the Trace Output 291

Chapter 20 Debugging ASP.NET Applications 293
Debugging Tools in Visual Studio .NET 294
Using the Breakpoints Window 294

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