Skinning Components in Flex 4 (GUMBO)
Our Agenda

• Introductions
• What Is Skinning?
• Flex 3 vs Flex 4 - Skinning Differences?
• Flex 4 Skinning Examples
• Summary
• Additional Resources
Introductions

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✓ Application Developer and Trainer Since '85
✓ ColdFusion Developer Since '99
✓ Flash Developer Since '99
✓ Flex Developer Since '05
✓ Deploying Flex application to AIR Since '07
What Is Skinning?

• Skinning is the process of completely customizing the look and feel of a visual component.

• Adobe provides several tools that enable you to produce skinning assets, such as:
  - Flash Professional
  - Fireworks
  - Photoshop
  - Illustrator
Skinning in previous versions of Flex was a simple graphic-only process.

Skinning in Flex 4 is very different from the way we did it in previous versions of Flex.

Skins can be composed of multiple elements such as

- Text, Images, FXG images, Filters, Transitions, States

Skins can be created in a separate MXML or ActionScript component

FXG is a way of describing vector graphics in XML - like SVG

The GUMBO component model will be merged with the existing “Halo” component model - backward compatibility
**Flex 4 Skinning Advantages**

- All visual aspects, including layout, can be controlled by the custom skin component.
- The new framework provides a single, consistent mechanism for all skins – the process of skinning a Button is the same as skinning a List item.
- You can control all visual aspects of your components so it can be easily manipulated by other tools.
Flex 4 Skinning Advantages

http://opensource.adobe.com/wiki/display/flexsdk/Gumbo+Skinning
Flex 4 Skinning Examples

A Simple Button Example

[Flex4Example01]
Flex 4 Skinning Examples

Defining Filters in the Button Example

[Flex4Example02]
Defining States in the Button Example
Flex 4 Skinning Examples

Defining Transitions in the Button Example

[Flex4Example04]
Summary

Download - Learn - Participate!

GUMBO Skinning - Adobe Open Source Docs
http://opensource.adobe.com/wiki/display/flexsdk/Gumbo+Skinning

Jumping Into Skinning with Flex 4

Gumbo (Flex 4) Skin with Transitions
http://scalenine.com/blog/2008/07/20/gumbo-flex-4-skin-with-transitions/
“I Have a Question!!”