An E-commerce framework

Kreditor

Richard Carlsson
Kreditor is changing name to...
What is an “e-commerce framework”? 

• A web shop, basically
• General, all-in-one solution
  – Well designed website for shoppers
  – Administration web interface for shop employees
  – Built-in databases for goods, stock, orders, ...
  – Content management (text, pictures, ...)
  – Payment systems
  – Ready to use in very short time
Easy to customize

• CSS, Javascript, Web templates
  – Every shop can have a different look and feel
• Upload pictures and texts
• Internationalization (languages, currencies)
• Plug-ins
  – Different payment solutions
  – Connect to other systems, databases, etc.
  – Anything else you can think of
Why?

• There are many such frameworks already
  – and several are Open Source
• We are not trying to beat them
  – at least not to begin with
• We want to use Erlang all the way
  – experiment with scalability, distribution, EC2(?)
  – integrated solution
• Experience with new cool Erlang technologies
Existing frameworks

• Java, C#, Perl, Ruby, Python, PHP
  – Scripting languages have many drawbacks
  – Java and C# are boring and clumsy
• MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, Bdb, ...
  – Standard relational, transactional databases
  – Not very exciting, and some scalability problems
What we have in mind

• All code written in Erlang
  – Stable, efficient, live upgrades, parallel
• CouchDB
  – Cool, modern, document-oriented database
  – Different way of thinking (not transactional)
  – Efficient, scalable, and all written in Erlang
• Nitrogen
  – Nice new web framework for Erlang
Challenges for the project group

• Many parts
  – Business logic, web design, database, networks, protocols, useability, security, scalability, testing, ...

• Project management, cooperation
  – Probably several work groups

• Many people with different talents needed
  – From hardcore technical to web design

• Opportunity for creativity and new ideas