
Subject: Re: SVN Question

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 10 Dec 2007 18:48:40 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Paul van Delst writes:

>
>> This statement confuses me. You don't have replicated files in your repository, surely?
>> E.g. there is only one version of fsc_color.pro that is used by code in both the "coyote"
>> and "catalyst" directories.

>
> Some of you may have experienced the difficulties inherent
> in trying to maintain backward compatible code. Of course,
> I always stay on the cutting edge of things, but occasionally
> customers have older (MUCH older!) versions of IDL. Catalyst,
> in particular, seems to run into this problem, and I've had
> to maintain "old" versions that don't support some of the
> newest features of the language.

Wouldn't older version be tagged as "released" or in separate release branches? You don't want old stuff polluting your trunk, surely.

The way I organise my repository (not my idea, adapted it from Mike Mason's "Pragmatic Version Control using Subversion") is via the following conventions:

e.g.:

```
svnrepos
|-- trunk
|-- branches
|   |-- RB-1.0
|   |-- RB-1.0.1
|   |-- RB-1.0.2
|   |-- EXP-exp1_name
|   |-- EXP-exp2_name
|   `-- RB-2.0
`-- tags
    |-- REL-1.0
    `-- REL-1.0.1
```

with:

trunk: The main line of stable, planned development

branches:

- Release Branches are label "RB-rel#"
- EXPerimental development branches are labeled "EXP-desc"

tags:

- Actual RELeases are label "REL-rel#" (matches the RB tag)

- Also tag snapshots of trunk or other branches (add the date and rev# to tag).
- NO DEVELOPMENT (otherwise it would be a branch).

So, if I need to keep an older release around (that some client is still using, dammit :o), it's in a branch. Appropriate changes can still be merged to/from the trunk from/to any of the branches as needed. Bleeding edge stuff goes in a "EXP" branch.

In subversion, branches and tags are cheap - so use 'em liberally and wear them out.

cheers,

paulv

p.s. There are some additional naming conventions for bug fixes if you have a tracking system too.
