Subject: Re: Coyote Library Updates
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Wed, 10 Aug 2011 12:06:25 GMT

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Hello,

David Fanning wrote:
> Paul van Delst writes:
>
>> I don't think this applies to you, but I've found that to be a common
> feeling amongst people that resist using version
>> control: it immortalises all their mistakes.
>>
>> My response to that is: meh. I tend to learn much more from my mistakes and use them as teaching moments (i.e. "What not
>> to do" slides in seminar presentations). Anyway...
>
> Yes, I agree that the way most people *become* experts
> is by exploring the possibility space in the widest
> possible way. It's just a messy business, and observing
> it tends to diminish the awe and reverence most experts
> are held in, and gives people the idea that "I could do
> this, too", which is entirely the wrong idea to be giving
> out if you depend on your expertise for making a living. :-(

Fair enough. I'm not self-employed so my approach of making myself as dispensible as possible isn't as fraught with
immediate fiscal distress.

>> It is enough. But it really only makes sense to you
>> because you use it all the time. Outside users just
>> want a single, reliable place to go to to get updates.
>
> Really!? Then how come you are the only one I ever
> hear complaining about this. ;-)

Because living in DC has made me a right curmudgeonly old bugger? :o)

 > I've often wondered why I have the zip file under version
> control at all. Do you think it is necessary? My problem is
> I need to make a zip file, and it has to have the same name
> all the time so my web pages can point to it. How would you
> handle this for people with no access to the SVN repository?

See Mike's reply.

> You are like my wife. Both of you always seem to be right. :-)

The most important words in your last sentence is "seem to be". There is an aphorism I have quoted since I gave a oral
presentation on gravity wave detection in my undergraduate years: If you can't blind them with brilliance, baffle them
with bull****. :oD

Queue the Incredible Hulk theme music as I backpedal off into the distance....

cheers,

paulv

p.s. Also see:
  http://stevenmsmith.com/ar-satir-change-model/
The trick (I reckon) is to figure out how to minimise the length of stage 3. :o/ The last 7+ years have taught me that
it is difficult. Trust is hard to earn.