

# Project Communication and Exchange of Results

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# Overview

- Background
- Project Communication
  - Mailing Lists
  - Forum
- Exchange of Results
  - SVN
  - Alternatives

# Background

- Experiences from different projects
- SEOS
  - <http://www.seos-project.eu>
  - FP6 Project
  - 11 Partners
- *physik multimedial*
  - Federal German Project
  - <http://www.physik-multimedial.de>



# Communication within the Project

# Project Communication

- Should be:
  - fast
  - reliable
  - traceable
    - who said what
  - public/private
    - public to project / public to all
    - but also private

# Mailing Lists

- established form of communication
  - everyone\* has used email before
  - use your own, well-known mail client
- for small or big projects
  - scalable: thousands of subscribers possible

\* well, almost everyone

# Mailing Lists (cont.)

- Archives
  - public or private
  - in case you missed a discussion
  - threaded
    - grouped by discussion
  - reference conclusions easily
  - searchable

# Mailing Lists (cont.)

- Experiences:
  - accepted form of communication
  - easy to take discussions off-list
  - public discussion leads to input from others
  - private and public mailing lists cater for all needs



# Forum

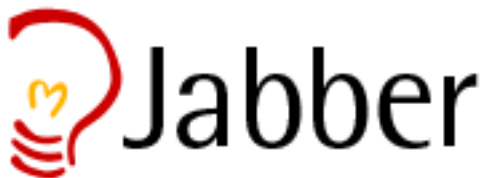
- web-based forums
  - often used for discussions with “customers”
    - public-for-all discussions
    - others can find problems and solutions via search engines
  - rarely used for project discussions
    - no easy notification of new messages
      - email alert possible, but you still have to go to the forum to see the message content
      - you have to actively seek for new posts

# Forum (cont.)

- Experiences:
  - not accepted in SEOS or *physik multimedial* as platform for developer/project communication
  - but: successful as support forum

# Alternatives

- Instant Messaging
  - suited for quick one-on-one communication
  - quick sharing of thoughts
  - brainstorming
- Jabber, AIM/ICQ, Skype, ...



# Summary

- Project Communication should be easy and fast
- People should be comfortable with the tools used
- Different forms of communication complement each other

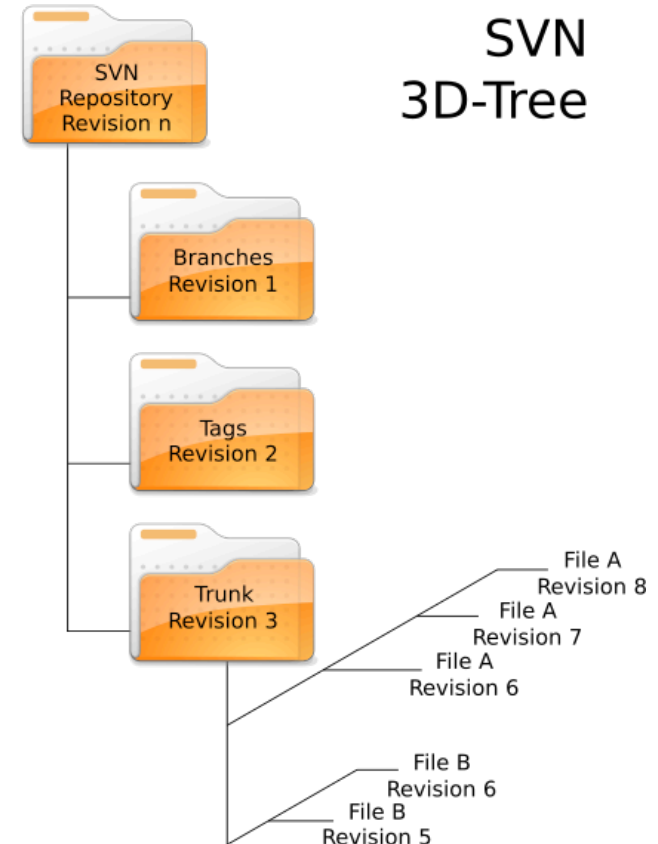
# Exchange of Results

# Exchange of Results

- Central server with all results
  - source code
  - documents
  - synchronized between partners
- Project partners have read/write access
- Public access is possible
  - rarely wanted (for documents)
  - fine-grained control

# Version Control Systems

- Files have revisions
  - you can reference a specific version of a file
  - you can go back in history
    - retrieve old revisions
    - revert accidental deletions
  - changes are logged



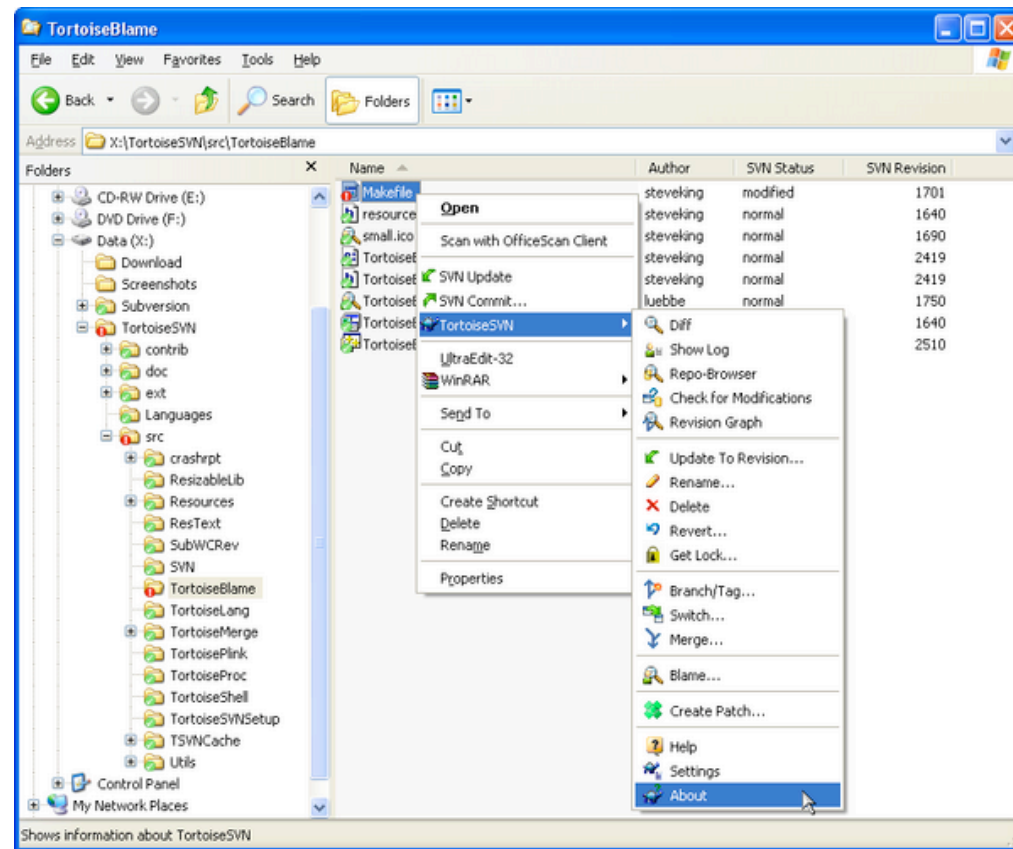
# Subversion

- centralized Version Control System (VCS)
  - one central server
  - connection needed for commit
- <http://subversion.tigris.org/>
- short: SVN
- runs on all mayor platforms
  - Windows, Linux, \*BSD, Solaris, OS X, ...



# Subversion (cont.)

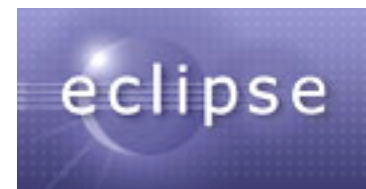
- TortoiseSVN:
  - <http://tortoisesvn.net/>
  - graphical client for Windows
  - integrates into Explorer



# Subversion (cont.)

- Integrated into many *Integreated Development Environments (IDE)* and editors

- Eclipse
- NetBeans
- XCode
- TextMate

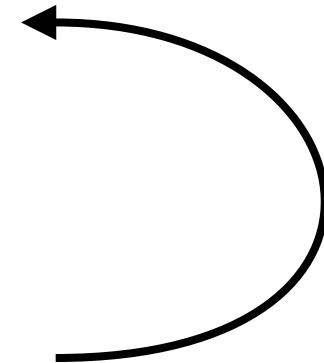


# Subversion Workflow

- create new file
  - add content
- add to repository
  - only “registered” files are handled by SVN
- commit file
  - provide a comment explaining the changes made

# Subversion Workflow (cont.)

- update working directory
  - receive changes made by others
- make changes
- commit changes



# Integration into BugTracker

- Trac
  - <http://trac.edgewall.org>
  - Wiki
- Bug Tracker
  - Roadmap
- Source Code Browser

The screenshot shows the Trac interface. At the top left is the Trac logo with the text "trac Integrated SCM & Project Management". To the right is a search box and a "Search" button. Below the logo are navigation links: "Login", "Settings", "Help/Guide", and "About Trac". A horizontal menu contains "Wiki", "Timeline", "Roadmap" (which is highlighted), "Browse Source", "View Tickets", "New Ticket", and "Search".

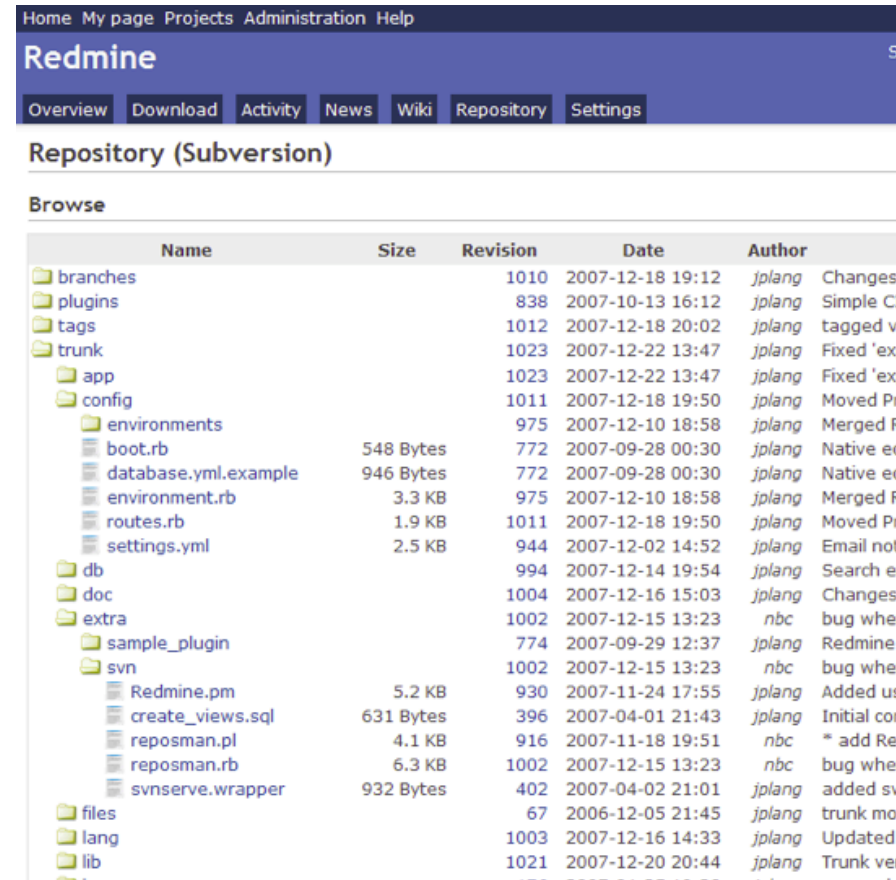
The main content area is titled "Roadmap". It shows a milestone named "milestone1" with the text "No date set". Below this is a progress bar that is 33% filled with green. Under the bar, it says "Active tickets: 2" and "Closed tickets: 1".

Below the first bar is another progress bar that is 75% filled with green. Below it, it says "Estimated work: 16.0 h", "Spent work: 6.0 h", and "Remaining work: 2.0 h".

On the right side of the roadmap section, there is a checkbox labeled "Show already completed milestones" which is currently unchecked, and an "Update" button below it.

# Integration into BugTracker (cont.)

- Redmine
  - <http://redmine.org/>
  - Ruby on Rails based
  - LDAP Authentication
  - Time-Management
    - Gantt-Charts



# Summary

- VCS provides safety for project results
- collaboration made easy
- Recommendation: SVN

# Questions?

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# Thanks for listening!

# Links

- <http://www.seos-project.eu/>
- <http://www.physik-multimedial.de/>
- <http://www.jabber.org/>
- <http://subversion.tigris.org/>
- <http://tortoisesvn.net/>
- <http://trac.edgewall.org/>
- <http://redmine.org>