

Source Code Management

Why do we need it?

Once a project passes a non-trivial size for an individual or has more than a single developer, a number of management issues arise in the development process. Source Code Management (SCM) is a field of tools and processes to safeguard a project against these problems.

What does it provide to us?

SCM provides tools to keep versions, histories, meta-information, access control and deal with merging of multiple branches to source code. These are designed to help mitigate common issues in the programmer's development cycle.

Major categories of solutions.

- Copying files manually
- Rsync (network syncing of files)
- True Source Code Management (also called Revision Control)

Introducing SVN and Git, the two major Open Source solutions available today.

SVN is the most common SCM used today, but Git is making serious inroads to taking over that title.

A short overview of SVN commands.

A mention of the Microsoft-specific solutions.

- Visual Source Safe (VSS) and why not to use it.
- Microsoft Team Foundation Studio
- TortoiseSVN and why to use it.

Where to go for more information.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Source_Control_Management

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_revision_control_software

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Git_\(software\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Git_(software))

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subversion_\(software\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subversion_(software))

<http://git-scm.com/>

<http://subversion.tigris.org/>