

LIGHTWEIGHT TOOLS FOR SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

The Open Source Way

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How can we apply the tools used by the Apache Cocoon project team to other projects?

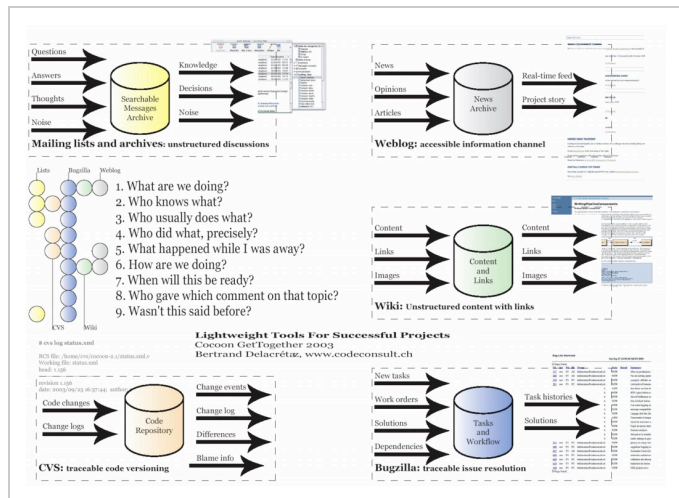
How can we improve the usage of these tools in the Cocoon project?

1. INTRO: WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

Project (not coding or build) tools used by the Cocoon team.

What do they bring?

Can we do better?



2. SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

Communication is the key?

Need Stories!

Email? Post-it notes? Documentation?

Coming into an existing team or project?

Need self-service information tools!



6. BUGZILLA

Structured author and component info.

Simple workflow: "assigned to".

Task history: "comments".

Attachments.

Powerful queries.

The screenshot shows a Bugzilla bug report for bug 86168. The bug is titled "Makefile Pl. of Template Toolkit 2.06" and is categorized as a "patch". The bug was created on 2002-01-11 at 08:34:44. The reporter is kiko@async.com.br (Christian Reis). The bug is currently in the "NEW" status and is assigned to myk@mozilla.org (Myk Melez). The bug is targeted for Mozilla 2.18. The summary states: "Bugzilla should use template pages instead of hard-coded HTML". The bug has 5 votes and is linked to several other bugs. The "Additional Comments" section is empty. The "Description" section contains a discussion about moving hard-coded HTML code into templates and using the Template Toolkit. The page also includes a "View Bug Activity" and "Format For Printing" link.

7. WIKI

Easy content creation.

Easy linking.

Fully open.

The screenshot shows the Cocoon project website. The page title is "Cocoon" and the subtitle is "Cocoon is an Apache project". The page is divided into "Past" and "Present" sections. The "Present" section lists several topics: "ThePyramidModel", "LatestRelease", "Installing", "ConfiguringCocoon", "Sitemap", "Pipelines", "Components", "CommandLine", "XSP", "DevelopingComponents", "ExploringTheLogs", and "Links". A window titled "Sans titre9.tiff" is open over the page, showing a preview of the page content with the same title and subtitle.

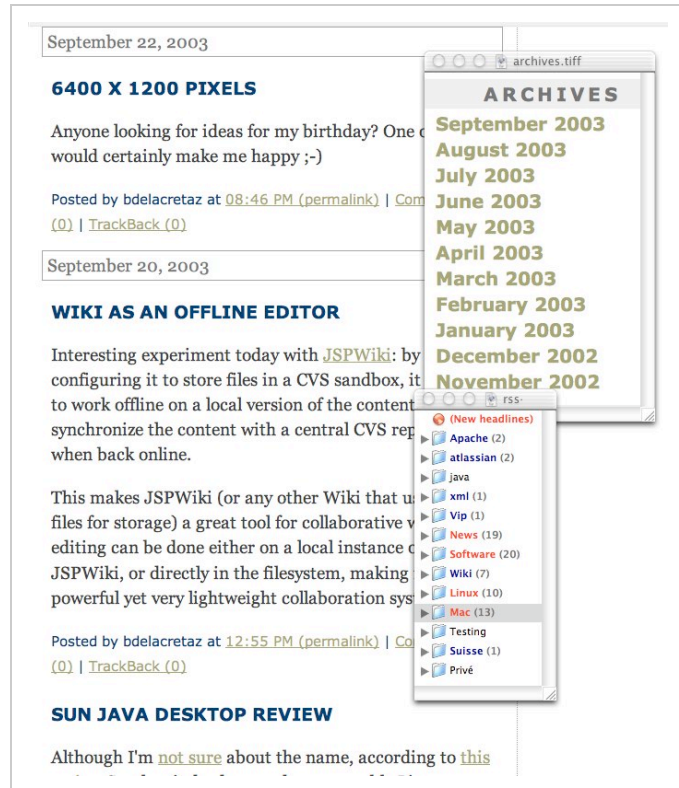
8. WEBLOGS

Stories in chronological order.

Time-based archive.

Full-text search.

RSS feed, multiple subscriptions.



9. PART TWO: ANALYSIS

What does each tool bring?

10. MAILING LISTS + ARCHIVES

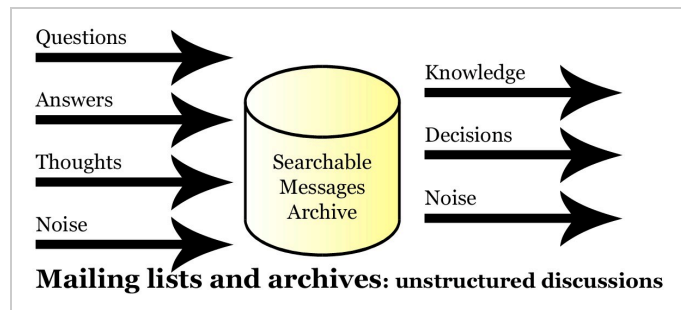
Threaded broadcasts.

Archives have little structure.

Need discipline!

Should that be "more or less" searchable?

Self-service help for 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9.

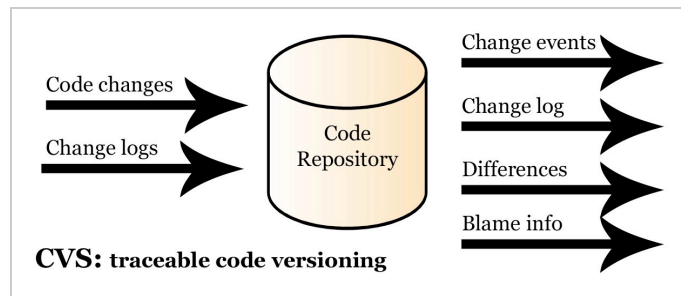


11. CVS (DESERT ISLAND TOOL)

Shared files, strict control, descriptions of changes.

Tells the story of the code.

Self-service help for 4, 5, maybe 2.

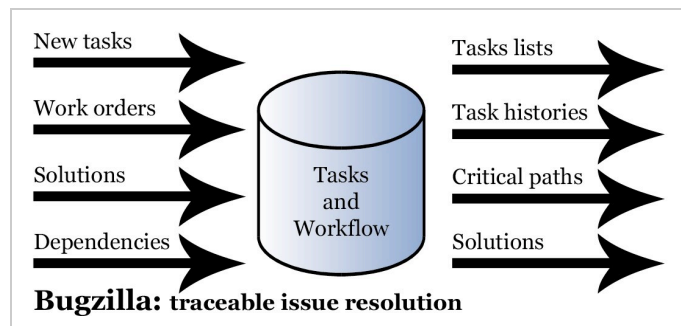


12. BUGZILLA (DESERT ISLAND TOOL)

Dynamic list of tasks, queries, workflow.

Traceable actions (with effort).

Could tell the story of the project in detail!



13. BUZGILLA DEPENDENCIES

Using dependencies between tasks to help answer 6 and 7.

Tasks depend on others.

Dynamic status reports.

Bugs that bug 86168 depends on

(view as bug list)

- 80183 [Bugzilla 2.16, jake@bugzilla.org] - configurable index page (using Template Toolkit)
 - 37339 [Bugzilla 2.16, jake@bugzilla.org] - Bugzilla sidebar, containing info in footer.
 - 76484 [Bugzilla 2.16, jake@bugzilla.org] - Allow multiple QuickSearch forms in a single document.
- 98602 [Bugzilla 2.16, myk@mozilla.org] - Templatize createattachment.cgi.
- 98707 [Bugzilla 2.16, gerv@mozilla.org] - query.cgi redesign/templatisation.
- 103778 [Bugzilla 2.16, myk@mozilla.org] - templatize buglist.cgi.
- 103953 [Bugzilla 2.16, gerv@mozilla.org] - Templatise enter_bug.cgi.
- 110012 [Bugzilla 2.16, gerv@mozilla.org] - Spank show_bug.cgi hard - templatize and combine.
- 124274 [Bugzilla 2.16, myk@mozilla.org] - RFE: make link names in "Actions" footer customizable.
- 140435 [Bugzilla 2.16, gerv@mozilla.org] - Templatise GetCommandMenu.
- 170213 [Bugzilla 2.18, gerv@mozilla.org] - Make all static HTML files into page.cgi pages.
- 190212 [---, justdave@bugzilla.org] - Templatize all administrator-facing pages in Bugzilla.
 - 119485 [Bugzilla 2.18, myk@mozilla.org] - Templatise editusers.cgi.
 - 92905 [Bugzilla 2.16, bbaetz@acm.org] - editusers.cgi errors in apache errorlog: fetchrow failed.
 - 148147 [Bugzilla 2.18, preed@sigkill.com] - Templatize whineatnews.pl.
 - 190196 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - editproducts.cgi needs templating.
 - 190220 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - templatize editcomponents.cgi.
 - 190222 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - templatize editgroups.cgi.
 - 190223 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - templatize editkeywords.cgi.
 - 190224 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - templatize editmilestones.cgi.
 - 190226 [Bugzilla 2.18, justdave@bugzilla.org] - templatize editversions.cgi.

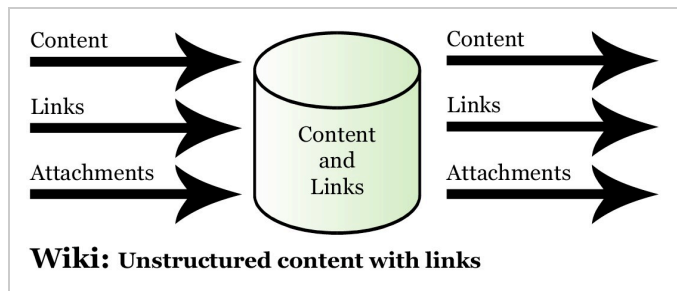
14. WIKI

Unstructured shared documentation, open access and editing.

Traceable edits.

Empowers users!

Self-service help depends on content.



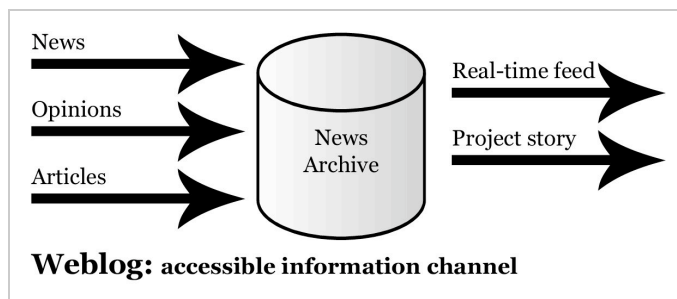
15. PROJECT WEBLOG

Condensed news and public information.

Tells the story!

Notification via RSS feeds.

Self-service help for 1, 5, 6.



16. DESERT ISLAND TOOLS

CVS

Cannot drive nails without a hammer.

Bugzilla

Can replace lists and archives in smaller teams.

Mailing lists

Require lots of discipline.

17. PART THREE: DISCUSSION

How are we doing?

Possible improvements?

18. HOW IS COCOON DOING? (THE GOOD)

1. What are we doing?
2. Who knows what?
3. Who usually does what?
4. Who did what, precisely?
5. What happened while I was away?
8. Who gave which comment on that topic?
9. Wasn't this said before?

```

List:      xml-cocoon-dev
Subject:   [ANN] Apache Cocoon 2.1 Released
From:      "Carsten Ziegeler" <cziegeler () s-und-n ! de>
Date:      2003-08-13 9:24:34
[Download message RAW]

Apache Cocoon 2.1 Released
-----
The Apache Cocoon Community is proud to announce the new release
of Apache Cocoon.

```

19. HOW IS COCOON DOING? (THE..HUM...)

Hard questions:

6. *How are we doing?*

7. *When will this be ready?*

Hard to answer: no commitment on hours worked!

...more bugzilla?

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```

20. IMPROVEMENTS?

Monday morning staff meeting? (just kidding...)

Shared tests scenarios and reports?

Project weblog?

Bugzilla dependencies?

Instant messaging?

21. THE [RT] EFFECT

Random Thoughts - "what if?" list messages.

Wild ideas floating around.

ASCII art rulez ;-)

Getting to know each other.

Improve community, avoid one-man shows.

Keep it up!

22. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

5% goes through - be nice ;-)

Assume you're wrong.

Assume you didn't understand.

Ask - clarify.

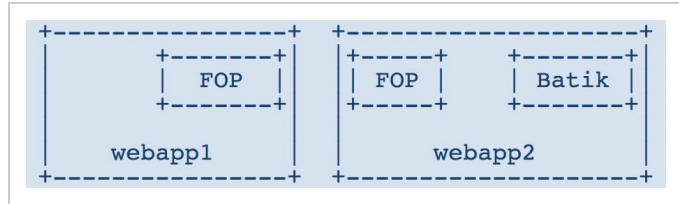
Be patient..

23. CONCLUSIONS

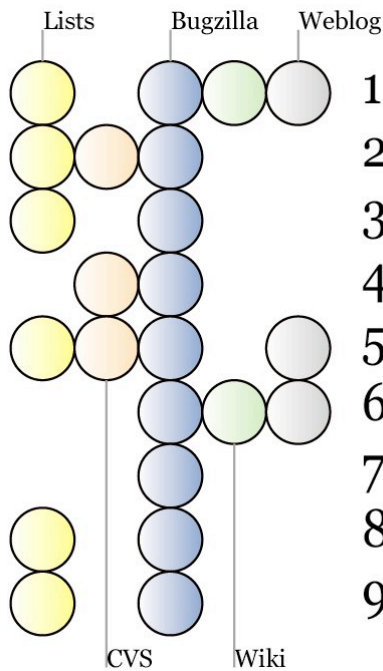
Great tools! Tell your friends about them..

Cocoon Team: Currently hard to answer the "when" questions, and no traceability of tests.

Need more bugzilla?



24. REMEMBER - THE QUESTIONS



1. What are we doing?
2. Who knows what?
3. Who usually does what?
4. Who did what, precisely?
5. What happened while I was away?
6. How are we doing?
7. When will this be ready?
8. Who gave which comment on that topic?
9. Wasn't this said before?

25. CODA

Thanks!

To Marc Portier for fruitful collaboration on content.

To Antonio Gallardo, Carsten Ziegeler, Geoff Howard and Stefano Mazzocchi for reviewing this.

To the GT team for having us here!

Ants picture: www.imageafter.com

26. TOOLS REFERENCE

www.cvshome.org

www.bugzilla.org

www.jspwiki.org

www.movabletype.org

And many other similar tools!