

Jailbreaking the Forges : project export/import efforts

Olivier Berger, Telecom SudParis

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Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Who's tweeting now

- Institut TELECOM / TELECOM SudParis / Computer Science dept.
 - Research on collaborative development platforms, tools, process, in FLOSS communities
- Previously worked in service companies (Cap Gemini, IDEALX)
- At TELECOM SudParis since 2002
- R&D on FLOSS, forges, bugtracking, Linked Data, etc. (CALIBRE, HELIOS, COCLICO)
- Contributor to Debian, FusionForge, ForgePlucker, Eclipse Lyo, OSLC



About COCLICO



<http://www.coclico-project.org/>

The Coclico project aims to reinforce software forges communities by structuring an open source ecosystem for which a critical mass exists in France.

Quick poll

Jailbreaking
the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Which forges are you using ?

Sharing some ideas with you

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Forges are great

There are still some issues :

- Features
- Project lock-in
How to move a project from one forge to the other ?
- Silos
 - APIs : scraping, SOAP, XMLRPC :-/

Project lock-in

Jailbreaking
the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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SudParis

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

**Still too much
lock-in**

Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

- There's still too much lock-in
- Even if not lock-in, too much entropy generated
- Who's caring ?
 - Since 2003 (CoopX initiative)
...
• to 2010 (COCLICO, ongoing work)

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the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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Who cares if migration is impossible?

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Excerpt from the DocumentFoundation / LibreOffice FAQ

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

<http://www.documentfoundation.org/faq/> (sept. 30 2010)

Q : Why are you building a new web infrastructure ?

A : Since Oracle's takeover of Sun Microsystems, the Community has been under "notice to quit" from our previous Collabnet infrastructure. With today's announcement of a Foundation, we now have an entity which can own our emerging new infrastructure.

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Eric (ESR) Raymond

“Three Systemic Problems with Open-Source Hosting Sites”¹

- ① *Hosting Sites Are Data Jails*
- ② *Hosting Sites have Poor Scriptability*
- ③ *Hosting Sites Have Inadequate Support for Immigration*

1. <http://esr.ibiblio.org/?p=1282>

Git ?

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the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

OK, with git, less centralization == less lock-in

But :

- Anyone using GitHub ?
- Developing free software ?
- With non-free tools ?
- How much do, you depend on it ?

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
**Freedom vs
Hosted**
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

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Jesse (obra) Vincent, in :

“Web 2.0 is Sharecropping” Conference (5')²

“If you don't own your tools, you're going to be in a whole mess of trouble.”

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
**Freedom vs
Hosted**
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Eben Moglen, in

“Freedom in the Cloud” Conference (1h)³

- What's the difference between forge users and social network sites users ?
- Cloud “jail” platforms vs. forge servers close to users

Forge proliferation

- Services vs Software
 - Services
 - list your own
 - Software
 - list your own
- Choosing a tool or service at project start
- Later changes ?
- Proliferation is great, but repeating errors of the past is not
- Preserve developers **freedom to fork**

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
**Forge
proliferation**

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

- Not reinventing yet another forge
Venerable forges with circa 2000 PHP codebase
- Interoperability - import/export toolbox
- From legacy forges to modern
Migration path : towards more REST APIs, more RDF extensible representation formats, more Linked Data, supporting new tools (CI, tests, Eclipse, etc.)
- Raising awareness
- Sharing experience in a community (PlanetForge, see bellow)
- More details : ongoing work, soon on PlanetForge wiki (or ask us on planetforge discussion list)

Forgeplucker

- ForgePlucker (initiated by ESR) is the reference <http://home.gna.org/forgelucker/>
- There was code, but still a lot of work (and improvements to make)
- We improved forgelucker to improve the forge ontology, fusionforge coverage
- Towards a standard forge project dump format (RDF, ontologies, OpenDocument Package container...)
- Based on same core standards as for dynamic interoperability (OSLC)
- We “forked” its code on gitorious (paradox)
- Scraping is not only option (direct admin export), but reference Python codebase

Interoperability techniques

Worked on in COCLICO

- RDF / Linked Data (JSON or XML)
- OAuth
- OSLC proposed standard
 - Web technology : REST, RDF, AJAX,
 - Open community, Open standard
 - OSLC-CM (Change Management) FLOSS implementations developed in Helios and COCLICO
 - Mantis bugtracker
 - FusionForge trackers (soon Codendi too)
 - Many more domains than trackers
- WebID, aka FOAF+SSL
- Building grounds for forge interop standard to be elaborated at PlanetForge community

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

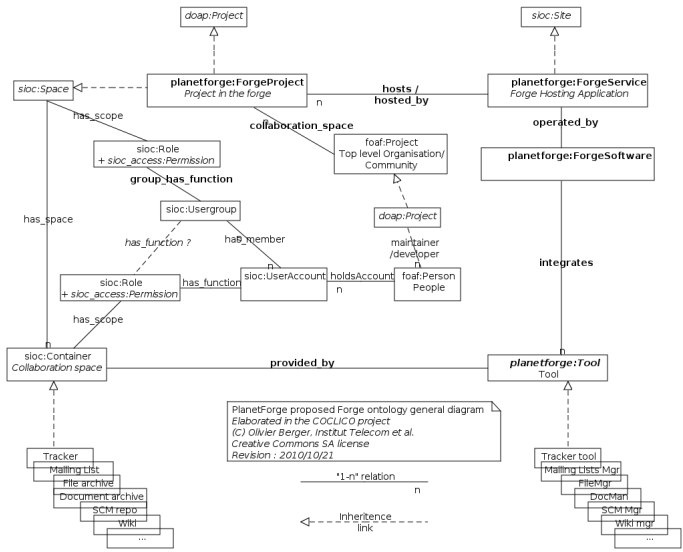
Implementations

Join in !

Jailbreaking the Forges :
 project export/import efforts

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Forge artifacts/tools ontology



Introduction

Foreword
 About COCLICO

Issues

Still too much lock-in
 Who cares ?
 Freedom vs Hosted
 Forge proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
 Forge ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Introduction

Foreword

About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in

Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted

Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Evolving the format to more extensibility and semantics, with RDF

- OpenDocument Package (zip) container
- Metadata RDF (JSON) description (Forge ontology) of links between people, projects, forge tools, and rest of the export data
- Dumps of the tools inside the container if possible
- In principle run from the user's client system (scraping)

FusionForge

Jailbreaking
the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

- Exporter
 - Based on ForgePlucker
 - Run from the forge's hosting system
- Importer
 - 'projectimport' plugin in Fusionforge trunk
- Other goodies for dynamic interoperability

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

<http://trac-hacks.org/wiki/PlanetForgeImportExportPlugin>

- INRIA (S. Champion)
- Export
- Import

Introduction

Foreword

About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in

Who cares ?

Freedom vs
Hosted

Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques

Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

https://github.com/scampion/forgeplucker/tree/import_redmine

- Bearstech (V. Caron)

Codendi, Novaforge, ...

Jailbreaking
the Forges :
project ex-
port/import
efforts

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SudParis

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

Not so much used by FLOSS projects

Forge export/import

ForgePlucker

Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

Join in !

- We need more export / import features compatible to each-other
- Let's talk on the forgeplucker mailing-list

Interoperability of forges and other dev tools

PlanetForge

PlanetForge community

- News agregator (planet)
<http://planet.planetforge.org/>
- Microblogging (!planetforge)
<http://identi.ca/group/planetforge>
- Mailing-list
<mailto:discussions@planetforge.org>
- Wiki
<http://wiki.planetforge.org/>
- Forge meetups (OWF, RMLL/LSM, ...)
- Share ideas, experience, collaborate
- Interoperability standardization

Join us!

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Introduction

Foreword
About
COCLICO

Issues

Still too much
lock-in
Who cares ?
Freedom vs
Hosted
Forge
proliferation

Efforts

COCLICO's
ForgePlucker

Interoperability

Techniques
Forge
ontology

Implementations

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- Made with org-mode under emacs (org + beamer)

Q & A

Thank you
Questions?

More

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