THE SOURCE

A newsletter about PRC® for users and friends. PRC is IT Governance for Multivalue/U2.

In this issue:

Greetings and News SB/XA, Social Networking, IssueTrak, Test Plans

Technical Tips PCI DSS, Cloud computing, secure coding

Manuals & Tipsheets New FTP site – login and password Release Information Early adoption PRC for SB/XA!

Support support@sjplus.com

** Greetings & News **

PRC for SB/XA! Tinkering with SB/XA and XAML? Ask about the early adoption program for PRC 6.8b.

Linked In: PRC has a group on linked in. There is not a lot going on there yet – but it's a start. [LinkedIn Group: PRC Users (IT Governance tool for Pick U2 Multivalue]

Twitter: SJ+ twitters (a bit), too, if you care to follow us there. [Twitter.com PRC_SJPlus]

PRC and IssueTrak

IssueTrak (www.issuetrak.com) is an issue tracking application which allows users to submit their problems/issues/requests/questions through the web. It has designated preference settings to automate the life-cycle and notification of involved parties. PRC has similar functionality within the scope of the U2/Multivalue development platform. Tom Whitmore at RATEX Business Solutions envisioned a company-wide, automated life-cycle and he has integrated the two tools to achieve just that. When IssueTrak knows what is next, it tells PRC. When PRC knows what is next it tells IssueTrak. The result is a fully integrated, fully automated IT environment. Here's how it works: An issue is opened in IssueTrak, reviewed and assigned to the various personnel that will manage it from there. When an application change on Universe is required there is a type code designation - this causes the issue to be exported and a project in PRC is automatically opened. The targeted programmer, code reviewer and tester come over from IssueTrak, then as the PRC project moves through its lifecycle emails and updates are sent back to IssueTrak. This type of integration can easily be done with any problem reporting tool that can export and import using a standard format. Of course there is also a problem reporting tool included in PRC - and automatic notification opportunities throughout. Have it your way!

PRC Test Plans

The test plan/ test management module is undergoing some redesign. Navigation will be smoother and it will be easier to create and manage re-usable test plans. Screens have been refactored to make the best use of the SB+ GUI interface too, for those who can take advantage of that. Watch for (or ask for!) more details on the new interface and new options in an upcoming tip-sheet.

** Tech Tip **

The hottest topic on the regulation front is **PCI DSS** – any company that takes credit cards in payment for goods or services must comply with the Payment Card Industry's Data Security Standards, to one degree or another. Critical issues include encrypting data both at rest and in motion (SSL). IT Governance (controlling access, change) is a big part of this compliance as well as routine security - firewall, anti-malware and secure access.

Perhaps the hottest thing in IT is virtualization and **cloud computing**. This introduces security implications, as well! At a recent seminar I was one of the suckers that raised my hand when the presenter asked "Who thinks their data is *more* secure in a virtual machine?"

On any server, once you've implemented a firewall and updated anti-malware tools and you keep a watch on the logs, you are secure ... right? Yeah, you are keeping the bad guys out – but 80% of security breaches are still occurring "from the inside". What can you do about that? The way you layout your data (what files contain what data, what files are encrypted, what files are on what server), the way you construct access to various software and data components (menus, passwords) and the way you *code* all have a significant impact on security. So - *How do we code for security?*

All three of these are subjects for full articles that will be along shortly. Need info sooner? Ask!

** SUPPORT **

Don't forget to use support@sjplus.com when reporting new issues or questions. Perhaps not faster than a speeding bullet, but definitely faster than a phone call!

** Manuals & Tip Sheets **

There are always new tip-sheets – remember to check / re-download periodically. Recently the tip sheet on using a "**Remote Voc**" was revamped. NOTE: Due to changes in the various layers beyond our control (primarily for security purposes, they tell me), the ftp site on siplus.com (accessible via the "client access" button) has changed and has a **new login and password**. Contact support@siplus.com for those new details.

** RELEASE INFORMATION **

The current field release: **6.71** as in llama.

PRC 6.8b for SB/XA supporting Windows Presentation Foundation / .net / Xaml development is available for early adoption.

http://sjplus.com

 $PRC \\ \\ \textbf{®} \ \ Complete software configuration management for Multivalue development.}$

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