



Essential CVS

By Jennifer Vesperman

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CVS, the Concurrent Versions System, is the popular source-code management tool that frees developers from the chaos that too often ensues when multiple users work on the same file. An open source technology that is available on most computer platforms, including Windows® and Mac OS® X, CVS is widely used to manage program code, web site content, and to track changes made to system configuration files. Multiple users can check out files from a directory tree, make changes, and then commit those changes back into the directory. If two developers modify the same file, CVS enables both sets of changes to be merged together into one final file. Although CVS is a lifesaver in many development scenarios, it suffers from poor documentation. But with *Essential CVS*, developers can have it all: the order that CVS brings and the comprehensive documentation developers need. *Essential CVS* is a complete and easy-to-follow reference that helps programmers and system administrators apply order to the task of managing large quantities of documents. The book covers basic concepts and usage of CVS, and features a comprehensive reference for CVS commands--including a handy Command Reference Card for quick, on-the-job checks. The book also includes advanced information on all aspects of CVS that involve automation, logging, branching and merging, and "watches." Readers will find in-depth coverage of the following:

- Installing CVS and building your first repository
- Basic use of CVS, including importing projects, checking out projects, committing changes, and updating projects
- Tagging, branching and merging
- Working with multiple users
- Clients, operating systems, and IDEs
- Repository management and managing remote repositories
- Project administration, including bug tracking systems, enforcing log messages, history and annotation, and more.
- Troubleshooting

Version control is essential to maintaining order in any project, large or small. Any CVS user, from beginners to team leaders and system administrators, will find this practical guide to CVS indispensable in getting the most from this valuable tool.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Essential CVS does what you might think would be a small job more effectively and more comprehensively than I would have imagined, even allowing for the generally high standard of O'Reilly books. Apart from covering the boring stuff well, it has two big advantages over the Web: it backs up its discussion of various CVS functions with wise advice and policies on why and how to use these facilities - plus it provides readable (and, presumably, tested) examples. Computing sciences prizes abstraction and generalities; computing practice should, like this book, be informed by concrete specifics and sensible rules-of-thumb." - Damian Counsell, news@UK, December 2003

About the Author

Jennifer Vesperman is the author of Essential CVS. She writes for the O'Reilly Network, the Linux Documentation Project, and occasionally Linux.Com. As a programmer and system administrator, she currently works with Cybersource, an Australian IT consulting firm. She is the current Coordinator for LinuxChix, an advocacy and support group that focuses on women who use and develop open source programs (especially Linux).

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kim Deyoung:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Essential CVS, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Robert Perkins:

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