

# **Scmbug manual**

**RELEASE\_0-13-0**

**The Scmbug Team**

**Scmbug manual: RELEASE\_0-13-0**

by The Scmbug Team

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This is the documentation of Scmbug, a system that integrates software configuration management with bug-tracking.

# Table of Contents

<b>1. About</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. Copyright Information	1
1.2. Disclaimer	1
1.3. Acknowledgments	1
1.4. Document Conventions	1
<b>2. Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1. What Is It?	3
2.2. Why Use an SCM System?	3
2.3. Why Use a Bug-tracking System?	3
2.4. Why Integrate SCM with Bug-tracking?	3
<b>3. Design</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1. Goals	4
3.2. System Architecture	4
3.3. Related Systems	5
3.3.1. Bugzilla Email Gateway	5
3.3.2. CVSZilla	5
3.3.3. Other Integration Systems	6
<b>4. Features</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1. Integration Actions	7
4.2. Verification Checks	7
4.2.1. Glue Checks	7
4.2.2. Server Checks	10
4.3. Integration of SCM Log Messages	15
4.4. Integration of SCM Labeling Operations	15
<b>5. SCM Frontends</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1. CVS	17
5.2. Subversion	18
5.3. Other SCM Systems	18
<b>6. Bug-tracking Backends</b>	<b>20</b>
6.1. Bugzilla	20
6.2. Mantis	21
6.3. Request Tracker	22
6.4. Other Bug-tracking Systems	22
<b>7. Integration Tools</b>	<b>24</b>
7.1. Glue Installer	24
7.1.1. CVS	24
7.1.2. Subversion	25
7.2. Version Description Document Generator	25
<b>8. Resources</b>	<b>27</b>
8.1. Availability	27
8.2. Installation	27
8.2.1. System	27
8.2.2. Documentation	28

8.2.3. Integration Tools .....	28
8.2.4. Integration Daemon .....	28
8.3. Upgrading.....	31
8.3.1. Issues .....	31
8.3.2. Steps .....	32
<b>A. FAQ.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>B. GNU Free Documentation License .....</b>	<b>35</b>
0. Preamble.....	35
1. Applicability and Definition.....	35
2. Verbatim Copying .....	36
3. Copying in Quantity .....	36
4. Modifications .....	37
5. Combining Documents .....	38
6. Collections of Documents .....	39
7. Aggregation with Independent Works.....	39
8. Translation.....	40
9. Termination .....	40
10. Future Revisions of this License .....	40
How to use this License for your documents .....	40
<b>Glossary .....</b>	<b>42</b>

# List of Figures

3-1. System architecture. ....	4
4-1. Glue enabling variable.....	7
4-2. Paths to the SCM tool's binaries. ....	8
4-3. Regular expressions describing the bug id, the split of bug ids and the log message. ....	8
4-4. Example log message accepted. ....	9
4-5. Minimum log message size policy. ....	9
4-6. Label naming convention policy.....	9
4-7. Presence of bug ids policy. ....	10
4-8. SCM to bug-tracking username mapping.....	11
4-9. Manually defined product name. ....	12
4-10. Automatically detected product name. ....	13
4-11. Repository structure with product names that can be automatically detected. ....	13
4-12. Automatically detected product names from Figure 4-11.....	13
4-13. Valid bug owner policy. ....	14
4-14. Open bug state policy. ....	14
4-15. Mail on success policy.....	15
5-1. A complex filename accepted by the CVS glue. ....	17
6-1. Bug-tracker installation directory for Bugzilla. ....	20
6-2. Bug-tracker installed locally variable.....	20
6-3. Database vendor variable. ....	21
6-4. Bug-tracker installation directory for Request Tracker. ....	22
7-1. Glue Installation in a Subversion repository under UNIX. ....	24
7-2. Glue Installation in a Subversion repository under Windows. ....	24
7-3. Defining the Subversion labeling directories. ....	25
7-4. Generating a Version Description Document. ....	26
8-1. Installation of the system from source. ....	27
8-2. Integration daemon start. ....	28
8-3. Mail::Sendmail, XML::Simple installation. ....	29
8-4. DBI installation. ....	30
8-5. DBD::mysql installation.....	30

# Chapter 1. About

## 1.1. Copyright Information

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## 1.2. Disclaimer

No liability for the contents of this document can be accepted. Follow the instructions herein at your own risk.

## 1.3. Acknowledgments

The excellent *Bugzilla Guide* (<http://www.bugzilla.org/docs/tip/html>) served as an example in preparation of this document. Content and structural document elements were reused from this guide. The *LDP Author Guide* (<http://www.tldp.org/LDP/LDP-Author-Guide/html/index.html>) also served as a good example.

Development of this system benefited from invaluable insight on SCM and bug-tracking issues, along with feedback, from John C. Quillan, Mark S. Reibert, Dave Swegen, the Bugzilla developers, and the Subversion developers.

## 1.4. Document Conventions

This document uses the following conventions:

### Descriptions

### Appearance

Warning

Don't run with scissors!

**Caution**

Hint

**Tip:** Would you like a breath mint?

Note

**Note:** Dear John...

Information requiring special attention

Read this or the cat gets it.

**Warning**

File or directory name

filename

Command to be typed

**command**

Application name

application

Normal user's prompt under bash shell

bash\$

Root user's prompt under bash shell

bash#

Environment variables

VARIABLE

Term found in the glossary

*cvs2cl*

Code example

<para>

Beginning and end of paragraph

</para>

This documentation is maintained in DocBook 4.2 SGML format.

# Chapter 2. Introduction

## 2.1. What Is It?

Scmbug is a system that integrates software configuration management with bug-tracking. It is implemented in Perl and has been successfully deployed on UNIX-like and Windows systems. It is pronounced *Scum-bag*.

## 2.2. Why Use an SCM System?

Those who do not use a software configuration management (SCM) system do not maintain a history of modifications performed to their software. When bugs creep in their software, they do not have adequate information on how changes to source code came about.

SCM systems, or even simple source code version control systems, make sure that a record of all changes and enhancements to the software is maintained. They provide a method of creating, storing, and labeling software changes.

## 2.3. Why Use a Bug-tracking System?

Those who do not use a bug-tracking system tend to rely on shared lists, email, spreadsheets and/or Post-It notes to monitor the status of defects. This procedure is usually error-prone and tends to cause those bugs judged least significant by developers to be dropped or ignored.

Integrated defect-tracking systems make sure that nothing gets swept under the carpet; they provide a method of creating, storing, arranging and processing defect reports and enhancement requests.

## 2.4. Why Integrate SCM with Bug-tracking?

SCM systems maintain software changes. Bug-tracking systems maintain lists of software enhancements and defects. By examining a log of software changes, it is uncertain *why* the changes occurred. By examining a log of defect reports, it is uncertain *what* changed in software in response to the defects.

Integration of SCM with bug-tracking ties the reason *why* a feature/defect was developed/fixed with *what* software changes occurred in the SCM system to accomplish this.



# Chapter 3. Design

## 3.1. Goals

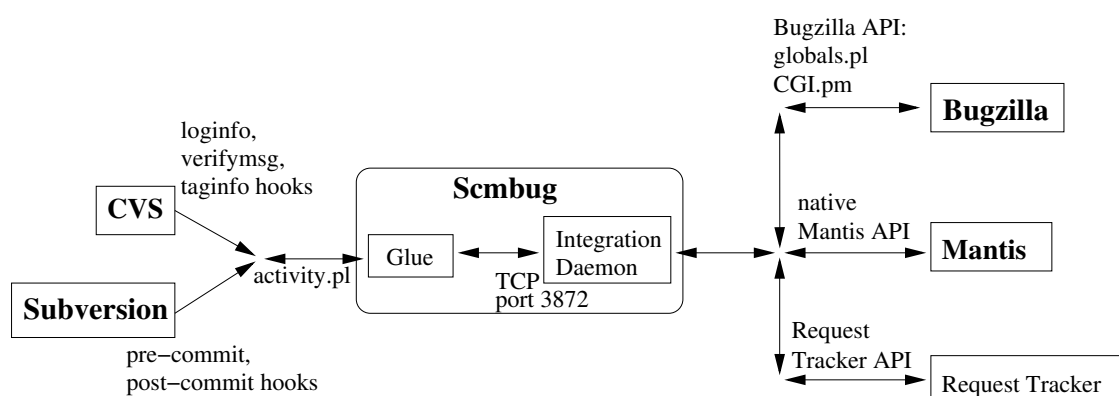
The goals of Scmbug are:

- Provide synchronous verification checks of SCM actions against the bug-tracking system.
- Provide a flexible architecture that can be deployed across the public Internet with reasonable security. Permit integrating repositories hosted by multiple SCM systems in separate networks, against a single, publicly accessible bug-tracking system, for use with multiple mobile developers.
- Define an SCM to bug-tracking integration interface and mechanism that will permit integration of any SCM system with any bug-tracking system.
- Encourage developers of other SCM to bug-tracking integration efforts to **solve the integration problem once and for all**.
- Integrate most popular free SCM or source code version control systems, such as CVS, Subversion, and Arch.
- Integrate most popular free bug-tracking systems, such as Bugzilla and Mantis.

## 3.2. System Architecture

Scmbug is developed as a client/server solution. As shown in Figure 3-1, it consists of a set of SCM system hooks that capture standard SCM events, a generic mechanism of handling these events on the machine hosting an SCM repository, a server daemon onto which integration requests corresponding to these events are transported, a generic mechanism of handling these requests, and functionality that can process these requests per bug-tracking system.

Figure 3-1. System architecture.



When various SCM events occur, such as committing software changes or labeling a repository, they are captured using hooks installed by Scmbug. Before the event's activity is allowed to proceed, various verification checks are performed as described in Section 4.2. These checks are synchronous; when an error is detected, the event's activity is stopped.

## 3.3. Related Systems

Scmbug is not original work. Most of the integration features separating it from related systems were first conceived and implemented by John C. Quillan for CVS and Bugzilla. The distinguishing features of his work are the synchronous nature of the verification checks, and a *VDD Generator* tool similar to the one described in Section 7.2. His work was never publicly released. Scmbug attempts to continue a redesigned, clean-room implementation of that work, supporting a wider variety of SCM and bug-tracking systems.

Other systems that integrate SCM with bug-tracking are described below. Along with Quillan's work, these solutions are unsuitable for certain development environments.

### 3.3.1. Bugzilla Email Gateway

SCM systems can integrate their actions with Bugzilla using the Bugzilla email gateway. Hook scripts installed in an SCM system can email the results of the system's actions to an email account configured to parse the email and process it accordingly. An example of such a configuration is available from *Steve McIntyre's* (<http://www.einval.com/~steve/software/cvs-bugzilla/>) web page.

This approach is not synchronous. For example, if a user accidentally commits against the wrong bug number, or a bug against which he is not the owner, the SCM system will proceed with the commit action regardless, without giving the user the option to correct his actions. Additionally, if the email gateway is not active, the developer will not be immediately aware that integration failed.

### 3.3.2. CVSZilla

Tony Garnock-Jones' *CVSZilla* (<http://homepages.kcbbs.gen.nz/~tonyg/>) integrates SCM events produced by CVS with Bugzilla. It also extends CVS to give rudimentary support to "change-sets", or "transactions".

CVSZilla does not support integration of events produced by any SCM system in a generic way. It modifies the Bugzilla schema and does not work with future versions of Bugzilla. Finally, it assumes that the TCP port used by MySQL is accessible from the machine hosting the CVS repository.

The last assumption does not always hold true, especially when a bug-tracking system is used to track development of mobile developers (laptop users), needing the flexibility to work both locally and remotely, on multiple projects, across different organizational units. Experience has shown that this is a common scenario in organizations with limited hardware, software, or labor resources, such as an academic environment.

For example, imagine integrating CVS actions from a repository hosted on a personal laptop with a Bugzilla instance that needs to be publicly accessible from the Internet. This same bug-tracking system is used for collaboration with other mobile developers of a different organization on a joint project hosted on a third machine. Integration over the public Internet is not possible without opening the MySQL database port Bugzilla uses. Opening this port is unnecessarily insecure, exposing access to other applications hosted on the same database system. The Scmbug daemon exposes the minimum required integration interface between an SCM system and a bug-tracking system.

### **3.3.3. Other Integration Systems**

Commercial products concentrate only on integrating a particular SCM system with a particular bug-tracking system, in a proprietary way. They do not attempt to define a public SCM to bug-tracking integration interface, and solve the integration problem once and for all.

Scmbug is an effort for defining an SCM to bug-tracking integration interface and mechanism that will permit integration of any SCM system with any bug-tracking system.

# Chapter 4. Features

## 4.1. Integration Actions

For every SCM event, multiple corresponding integration actions may be issued from the glue to the daemon. The list of possible integration actions is:

- `activity_verify`: An `activity_commit` integration action will soon follow, and data collected from the corresponding SCM event must be verified first.
- `activity_commit`: A software change has already been committed in the SCM system, and this event must be integrated with bug-tracking. This action usually follows an `activity_verify` integration action.
- `activity_tag`: A software labeling operation is issued in the SCM system, and this event must be integrated with bug-tracking.

## 4.2. Verification Checks

When various SCM events occur, verification checks are performed before the SCM event is allowed to proceed. Some checks are performed by the glue on the client side, the machine the SCM repository resides. Some others are performed on the server side, the machine hosting the Scmbug daemon.

### 4.2.1. Glue Checks

An integration request is issued to the Scmbug daemon if the following checks, performed by the glue, succeed.

#### 4.2.1.1. Enabled Integration

SCM events will be integrated with bug-tracking only if the integration glue is enabled. This can be controlled in the glue configuration file using the `enabled` variable, as shown in Figure 4-1.

**Figure 4-1. Glue enabling variable.**

```
#  
# Flags whether the glue is active  
#  
enabled => 1,
```

### 4.2.1.2. Supported SCM version

SCM tools may work considerably different between separate versions. For example, CVS changed during the 1.12.x series the format of command-line arguments supplied to integration hooks. Appropriate support is needed to handle their idiosyncracies. The SCM tool's version is detected at runtime, and interaction with the tool is handled accordingly.

One of the problems with some SCM systems is that they may unset the `PATH` variable (e.g. Subversion in 1.2.x). The list of paths to the tool's binaries must be supplied in the glue configuration file using the `binary_paths` variable, as shown in Figure 4-2. It is verified at runtime that each binary needed by an SCM tool is present in only one path from the list supplied, to avoid accidentally invoking the wrong version of the tool due to an incomplete installation of the SCM tool.

**Figure 4-2. Paths to the SCM tool's binaries.**

```
# Comma(,)-separated list of paths to any binaries the SCM
# tool may need to use
binary_paths => '/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin',
```

### 4.2.1.3. Use of log message template

The log message supplied to the SCM system when committing a software change is verified to match a log template expected by Scmbug. Two regular expressions describe how the bug id and log comment will be identified. These are defined as part of the `log_template` policy variable as shown in Figure 4-3, through the variables `bugid_regex` and `log_regex`.

A way to split a list of multiple bug ids into separate ids is also described with a regular expression through the variable `bugid_split_regex`. This is needed in order to permit special characters to precede a bug number. For example, instead of separating bug ids using a whitespace or comma, one may want to also prefix a bug id with a '#'. Bug-trackers may then autolinkify in their comments a bug id that is prefixed by a '#' (e.g. Bugzilla). An example log message accepted by these expressions is shown in Figure 4-4.

**Figure 4-3. Regular expressions describing the bug id, the split of bug ids and the log message.**

```
log_template => {
  # The bugid_regex is a regular expression that must set
  # the unnamed variable $1 to the bug number, or list of
  # bug numbers. It is checked for a match as: m/$regex/s
  bugid_regex => 'bug\s*(.*?):',
  # The bugid_split_regex is a regular expression describing
  # how a list of bug ids will be split in individual bug
  # numbers. It is split as: /$regex/
  bugid_split_regex => ',\s+#|\s+#|,\s+',
```

```
# The log_regex is a regular expression that must set the
# unnamed variable $1 to the log comment. It is checked
# for a match as: m/$regex/s
log_regex => 'bug.*?:\s*(.*)'
},
```

This template can be customized when the Scmbug codebase is configured, prior to installation. The arguments `--with-template-bugid-regex=<regular_expression>`, `--with-template-bugid-split-regex=<regular_expression>`, and `--with-template-log-regex=<regular_expression>` can be passed to `configure`, shown in Figure 8-1.

**Figure 4-4. Example log message accepted.**

```
bug 441:Improved the documentation of policy log_template by adding
an example log message.
```

#### 4.2.1.4. Presence of distinct bug ids

The log message supplied to the SCM system when committing a software change is verified to include only distinct bug ids.

#### 4.2.1.5. Valid log message size

It is verified that the log message supplied to the SCM system system meets a configurable minimum log message size limit. This behavior is defined in the glue configuration file using the `minimum_log_message_size` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-5.

**Figure 4-5. Minimum log message size policy.**

```
# Minimum number of characters log message.
minimum_log_message_size => {
  enabled => 1,
  size => 50
},
```

#### 4.2.1.6. Convention-based labeling

It is verified that the names used in labeling operations, such as creation of tags or branches, match a configurable label naming convention. This behavior is defined in the glue configuration file using the `label_name` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-6.

**Figure 4-6. Label naming convention policy.**

```

# Format of label names (tag or branch names) defined as
# regular expressions.
label_name => {
  enabled => 1,
  names => [
    # Convention for official releases.
    # For example:
    # SCMBUG_RELEASE_0-2-7
    '^.+?_RELEASE_[0-9]+-[0-9]+-[0-9]+$',

    # Convention for development builds.
    # For example:
    # SCMBUG_BUILD_28_added_a_policies_mechanism
    '^.+?_BUILD_[0-9]+_.$$',

    # Convention for branches.
    # For example:
    # b_experimenting_with_policies_on_glue_side
    '^b_.$$',

    # Convention for private developer tags. Uses
    # the developer's initials (either 2 or 3).
    # For example:
    # p_kpm_prior_to_bug353_stabilization_fixes
    '^p_[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z]?[a-zA-Z]_.$$',
  ]
}

```

## 4.2.2. Server Checks

When an integration request is received by the Scmbug daemon, the following server checks are performed.

### 4.2.2.1. Presence of bug ids

The log message supplied to the SCM system when committing a software change may be required to include at least one bug id. This is determined using the `presence_of_bug_ids` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-7.

**Figure 4-7. Presence of bug ids policy.**

```

#
# Presence of bug ids. There are 3 options:
#
# - 'required'. A bug id must be specified during each
#   activity. Activities without a bug id will not be permitted.
#
# - 'optional'. If a bug id is supplied, the activity will be
#   integrated. If not the activity will be permitted to go
#   through in the SCM system, but without bug-tracking
#   integration.
#
# - 'none'. Never integrate activities regardless. This is
#   different than flagging the glue inactive. The remaining
#   policies are still enforced were applicable.
#   (e.g. policy minimum_log_message_size).
#
# This policy is ALWAYS enabled
presence_of_bug_ids => {
    value => 'required'
},

```

#### 4.2.2.2. Valid SCM to bug-tracking username mapping

All integration requests must include the SCM username of the user issuing an integration request. This username must be mapped to the username of the user in the bug-tracking system. Bug-tracking systems that do not support SCM usernames are accommodated through a username mapping list defined in the daemon configuration file using the `userlist` variable, as shown in Figure 4-8.

Two types of username mappings are possible. The first is a mapping based on a list of regular expressions that describe how the SCM username will be matched and how it will be transformed, using the `mapping_regexes` variable. The second is a direct, one-to-one mapping of an SCM username to a bug-tracking system username, using the `mapping_values` variable. Mappings based on `mapping_values` can override mappings based on `mapping_regexes`.

**Figure 4-8. SCM to bug-tracking username mapping.**

```

# Translation list of SCM usernames to bugtracking system
# usernames. Mappings based on mapping_regexes are applied
# first. Mappings based on mapping_values are applied second, and
# thus can override a mapping based on mapping_regexes.
userlist => {

    # This is a mapping based on regular expressions. The first
    # expression defines how the SCM username will be matched. The
    # second defines how it will be transformed, and uses the
    # unnamed variable $1 that was described by the first

```



```

# expression. The mapping is checked for a match as:
# m/$first_regex/
# and is applied as: s/$first_regex/$second_regex/
mapping_regexes => {
enabled => 0,
values => {
  # This is an example of mapping a Windows Domain user
  # from 'DOMAIN\user' to 'user@EMAIL_DOMAIN.com'
  '^DOMAIN\\(\\w+)$' => '$1@EMAIL_DOMAIN.com',
  # This is an example of mapping a UNIX user from
  # 'example_user' to 'example_user@exampledomain.com'
  '^(\w+)$' => '$1@exampledomain.com'
}
},

# This is a one-to-one mapping of SCM usernames to bugtracking
# system usernames. Mappings in this list override mappings
# from mapping_regexes.
mapping_values => {
enabled => 0,
values => {
  'DOMAIN\example_user' => 'example_user@DOMAIN.com',
  'example_user2' => 'example_user2@exampledomain.com'
}
},
}

```

If the SCM username already matches the bug-tracking username, these mappings can be disabled.

### 4.2.2.3. Valid product name

An `activity_verify` integration request must refer to bug ids filed against the SCM system's associated product name in the bug-tracking system. The product name can be defined in the glue configuration file in two ways:

- **Manually specified.** All SCM activity in the repository will be integrated against a single product name in the bug-tracker. This requires setting the `product_name` policy's `type` to `manual` and providing a product name in `value`, as shown in Figure 4-9.

**Figure 4-9. Manually defined product name.**

```

product_name => {
  type => 'manual',
  value => 'replace_with_product_name_or_directory_prefixes'
},

```

- **Automatically detected.** Some organizations may follow a development model that permits multiple products to be hosted under the same SCM repository. For example, multiple product names in the bug-tracking system may correspond to multiple branches in the SCM system. Scmbug can autodetect the appropriate product name by consulting a list of directory prefixes under which any SCM activity is accounted against a product name with the first subdirectory's name.

Figure 4-10 shows a configuration example that can autodetect from the repository structure of Figure 4-11 the list of product names in Figure 4-12. When a file from one of the directories shown in Figure 4-11 is committed, the appropriate product name shown in Figure 4-12 will be autodetected.

**Figure 4-10. Automatically detected product name.**

```
product_name => {
  type => 'auto',
  value => 'prefix1/of/directory/in/repository/,prefix2/of/directory/in/repository/'
},
```

**Figure 4-11. Repository structure with product names that can be automatically detected.**

```
prefix1/of/directory/in/repository/product_base/branches
prefix1/of/directory/in/repository/product_base/tags
prefix1/of/directory/in/repository/product_base/trunk
prefix2/of/directory/in/repository/productA_3-1/branches
prefix2/of/directory/in/repository/productA_3-1/tags
prefix2/of/directory/in/repository/productA_3-1/trunk
prefix2/of/directory/in/repository/productB
```

**Figure 4-12. Automatically detected product names from Figure 4-11.**

```
product_base
productA_3-1
productB
```

Another example where multiple products may be required would be a contracting company maintaining all their contracts in the same SCM repository but using separate product names in the bug-tracking tool.

**Note:** We must note that, from an SCM perspective, hosting multiple products that share a common codebase in the same SCM system may not be the ideal way to go. Organizations that follow this development model may want to consider developing their common codebase in it's own SCM repository, as a separate product. They can then import the common code as a vendor branch in multiple SCM repositories, each corresponding to a single product name they wish to publicly release. More information on vendor branches can be found in the CVS ([https://www.cvshome.org/docs/manual/cvs-1.12.9/cvs\\_13.html#SEC104](https://www.cvshome.org/docs/manual/cvs-1.12.9/cvs_13.html#SEC104)) and Subversion (<http://svnbook.red-bean.com/svnbook/ch07s04.html>) manuals.

**Note:** Automatically detected product names are not supported ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=746](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=746)) for CVS.

#### 4.2.2.4. Valid bug owner

It is verified that the SCM user issuing an `activity_verify` integration request is the owner of the bug against which subsequent integration requests will be issued. This behavior is optional and can be configured in the glue configuration file using the `valid_bug_owner` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-13.

**Figure 4-13. Valid bug owner policy.**

```
# The SCM user issuing an activity must be the user to which
# the bug is assigned
valid_bug_owner => {
    enabled => 1,
}
```

#### 4.2.2.5. Open-bug-state

It is verified that the bug against which an `activity_verify` integration request is issued must be in an open, active state in the bug-tracking system. This behavior is optional and can be configured in the glue configuration file using the `open_bug_state` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-14.

**Figure 4-14. Open bug state policy.**

```
# The bug against which an activity is issued must be in an
# open state
open_bug_state => {
    enabled => 1
},
```

### 4.2.2.6. Mail on success

An email can be send when an activity is accepted. This is defined in the glue configuration file using the `mail_on_success` policy variable, as shown in Figure 4-15.

**Figure 4-15. Mail on success policy.**

```
# Send an email after a successful activity (both committing
# and labeling).
mail_on_success => {
  enabled => 1,
  # Sending email when a tag is moved or deleted in CVS can
  # be annoying, since multiple emails are sent per
  # directory(but not when a tag is added). mail_on_label
  # can disable that behavior.
  mail_on_label => 1,
  values => {
    To => 'replace_with_commit_mailing_list_email@exampledomain.com',
    # Must be a valid email address
    From => 'Scmbug <replace_with_mailing_list_owner_email@exampledomain.com>',
    # Defaults to localhost if left empty
    Smtpp => 'replace_with_mail_server.domain.com'
  },
  # List of users that can be notified regardless.
  mail_scm_user => 1,
  mail_bug_owner => 1,
  mail_bug_reporter => 1,
  mail_bug_monitors => 1,
  # When labeling, the product owners can also be notified.
  mail_product_owners => 1
}
```

## 4.3. Integration of SCM Log Messages

When a software change occurs in the SCM system, a log message may be used to describe the change. Using an `activity_commit` integration request, this log message is inserted in the bug-tracking system against the specified bug id.

## 4.4. Integration of SCM Labeling Operations

When a tag or branch operation is issued in the SCM system, a name is used to describe this software labeling operation. Using an `activity_tag` integration request, this label is inserted in the list of possible versions of the product in the bug-tracking system.

# Chapter 5. SCM Frontends

## 5.1. CVS

CVS is the Concurrent Versions System, the dominant open-source network-transparent version control system.

Scmbug supports verification checks, integration of log messages with the bug-tracking system, and integration of labeling operations for CVS. Various deficiencies of CVS introduce complications in integration. It is recommended that users of CVS upgrade to *Subversion*.

CVS does not require users to enter a log comment when directories are added in a repository. Scmbug does not overcome this limitation, even though it is possible ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=285](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=285)) to do so.

Another limitation of CVS is that it does not provide an integration hook on `'cvs admin -o` ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=176](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=176))'.

The verification hook of CVS does not provide the list of files that will be modified. As a result, the *Valid product name* policy cannot be set to `auto` for CVS.

A major drawback of CVS is its lack of atomic transactions. As a side-effect, when the same log message is used to commit files in two separate directories, two integration actions occur using the same log message. Duplicate log messages are then entered in the bug-tracking system. An example of this can be observed in bug 353, in comments 2 and 3 ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=353#c2](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=353#c2)). It is possible ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=265](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=265)) to introduce logic in the Scmbug daemon that can solve this problem.

A common limitation of other systems integrating CVS with bug-tracking resulted from the inadequate mechanism CVS uses to provide the list of affected files in a commit trigger. For each file, the old version, new version, and the filename, all separated by commas, can be passed as command-line arguments to an integration trigger script. When the filenames, or the directory in which the files reside, contain either commas or whitespaces, a processing script using a single regular expression to parse these arguments will get confused. Some systems addressed this by requiring source modifications (<http://www.einval.com/~steve/software/cvs-bugzilla/#loginfo>) to the CVS binary, and distributed patches for it. Scmbug addresses this issue by employing a stateful parser ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=286#c2](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=286#c2)). Using this parser, the probability of files and directories with whitespaces or commas contained in their names to confuse the integration glue is marginal. For example, the filename shown in Figure 5-1 is accepted.

**Figure 5-1. A complex filename accepted by the CVS glue.**

a file with spaces,NONEs, commas, digits,1.1,2.numbers close to dots.1.2,NONE.txt

Scmbug has been verified to work against the following releases of CVS:

- *1.11.21*

Somewhere during the 1.12.x series of CVS (e.g. 1.12.9) the command line template format changed ([https://www.cvshome.org/docs/manual/cvs-1.12.10/cvs\\_18.html#SEC186](https://www.cvshome.org/docs/manual/cvs-1.12.10/cvs_18.html#SEC186)). This newer format is not yet ([http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show\\_bug.cgi?id=464](http://bugzilla.mkgnu.net/show_bug.cgi?id=464)) supported by Scmbug.

## 5.2. Subversion

*Subversion* is a compelling replacement for CVS.

Scmbug supports verification checks, integration of log messages with the bug-tracking system, and integration of labeling operations for Subversion.

Subversion is not yet ([http://subversion.tigris.org/issues/show\\_bug.cgi?id=1973](http://subversion.tigris.org/issues/show_bug.cgi?id=1973)) capable of using a predefined log template when the user's editor is opened to enter a log comment. As a result, the log template expected by Scmbug must be entered by the user.

Scmbug has been verified to work against the following releases of Subversion:

- *1.0.6*
- *1.1.3*
- *1.2.3*
- *1.3.0*

## 5.3. Other SCM Systems

Additional SCM frontends can be supported by Scmbug. Developers and system integrators of the following SCM systems are **strongly encouraged** to contribute an SCM integration frontend:

- *Aegis*

- *Arch*
- *Bazaar-NG*
- *Bitkeeper*
- *Clearcase*
- *GIT*
- *Katie*
- *Mercurial*
- *Monotone*
- *OpenCM*
- *Perforce*

Developing a frontend requires:

- Committing to support this frontend in future releases of Scmbug.
- Creating a new frontend module named `src/lib/product/Glue/FrontendName.pm.in`. The CVS frontend `src/lib/product/Glue/CVS.pm.in` serves as a good example.
- Updating `src/lib/product/Glue/Glue.pm.in:check_configuration` accordingly.
- Updating the configuration management files `configure.in` and `Makefile.in` to autogenerate, and autocleanup the new frontend.
- Updating the `install-tools` rule of `Makefile.in` to install the new frontend from source.
- Creating a new directory named `src/glue/templates/frontendname` that includes template hook/trigger scripts. The CVS trigger scripts in `src/glue/templates/cvs` serve as a good example.
- Updating the *Glue Installer* `src/scripts/install_glue.pl.in` and its manpage `doc/manpages/install_glue.sgml.1.in` to support the new frontend.
- Updating the *VDD Generator* `src/scripts/vdd_generator.pl.in` and its manpage `doc/manpages/vdd_generator.sgml.1.in` to support the new frontend.
- Updating the documentation in `doc/manual` to reflect support for the new frontend.



# Chapter 6. Bug-tracking Backends

## 6.1. Bugzilla

*Bugzilla* is an enterprise-class piece of software that tracks millions of bugs and issues for hundreds of organizations around the world.

Bugzilla does not provide a public interface for SCM integration. Nevertheless, the Scmbug daemon attempts to reuse functionality already available in the Perl-based Bugzilla libraries. As a result, the source code used to host a Bugzilla instance must be locally accessible by the daemon. The `installation_directory` variable is used to define the location of the Bugzilla source installation as shown in Figure 6-1.

**Figure 6-1. Bug-tracker installation directory for Bugzilla.**

```
# Used for Bugzilla and RequestTracker.
#
# Path to the directory of the bugtracker sources providing an
# API that the daemon can use
installation_directory => '/usr/share/bugzilla/lib'
```

Additionally, the `installed_locally` variable is used to flag whether Bugzilla is installed locally on the same machine the daemon is running as shown in Figure 6-2. This is required to flush Bugzilla's version cache when SCM tags are added or deleted, and immediately reflect tag manipulation to Bugzilla's user interface.

**Figure 6-2. Bug-tracker installed locally variable.**

```
# Used only for Bugzilla.
#
# Flags whether the live bugtracker instance is installed
# locally on the same machine the daemon is running
installed_locally => 1,
```

**Note:** For example, it is possible to install Bugzilla in machine A, and install a duplicate Bugzilla source in machine B where Scmbug is installed. In this scenario `installation_directory` would be set to Bugzilla's source code path on machine B, but the variable `installed_locally` would be set to 0.

The Bugzilla developers are planning ([http://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=254400](http://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show_bug.cgi?id=254400)) to provide a formal SCM integration interface in future releases.

As of version 2.18, Bugzilla does not yet support a mapping of the SCM username to a Bugzilla username. An SCM to bug-tracking username mapping is accommodated by the integration daemon using the `userlist` variable, as shown in Figure 4-8.

Scmbug has been verified to work against the following releases of Bugzilla:

- 2.14.2
- 2.16.5
- 2.18rc2
- 2.19.2
- 2.20.0

## 6.2. Mantis

*Mantis* is a web based PHP/MySQL-based bugtracking system.

Mantis does not provide a public interface for SCM integration. However, the Scmbug daemon includes a native Perl-based bug-tracking backend for integration with Mantis. Configuration of the variables `installation_directory` (Figure 6-1) and `installed_locally` (Figure 6-2) is not required.

Mantis supports installation with multiple database backends. The daemon configuration variable `database_vendor` defines the selected database backend, as shown in Figure 6-3.

**Figure 6-3. Database vendor variable.**

```
# Valid values are the ones accepted by the Perl DBI.
#
# For Bugzilla, this value is ignored
#
# For Mantis, *some* valid values (there are others) are:
# - 'mysql'
# - 'Pg'
database_vendor => 'mysql',
```

The Mantis developers are planning (<http://www.futureware.biz/mantis/view.php?id=151>) to provide a formal SCM integration interface (<http://www.futureware.biz/mantisconnect/>) in future releases.

As of version 0.19.0, Mantis does not yet support a mapping of the SCM username to a Mantis username. An SCM to bug-tracking username mapping is accommodated by the integration daemon using the `userlist` variable, as shown in Figure 4-8.

Scmbug has been verified to work against the following releases of Mantis:

- 0.19.0
- 1.0.0rc3

## 6.3. Request Tracker

*Request Tracker* is a web based request tracking system written in object-oriented Perl.

Request Tracker provides a public interface for SCM integration. The Scmbug daemon reuses functionality already available in the Perl-based Request Tracker libraries. As a result, the library code used to host a Request Tracker instance must be locally accessible by the daemon. The `installation_directory` variable is used to define the location of the Request Tracker installation as shown in Figure 6-4.

**Figure 6-4. Bug-tracker installation directory for Request Tracker.**

```
# Used for Bugzilla and RequestTracker.
#
# Path to the directory of the bugtracker sources providing an
# API that the daemon can use
installation_directory => '/usr/share/request-tracker3.4/lib'
```

This backend integration with Request Tracker assumes the product names in the `glue.conf` match the queue names set in the Request Tracker.

As of now the `activity_tag` integration action is not supported.

Scmbug has been verified to work against the following releases of Request Tracker:

- 3.4.5

## 6.4. Other Bug-tracking Systems

Additional bug-tracking backends can be supported by Scmbug. Developers and system integrators of the following bug-tracking systems are **strongly encouraged** to contribute a bug-tracking integration backend:

- *AntHill*
- *Bosco*
- *debbugs*
- *Double Choco Latte*
- *Eventum*
- *GForge*
- *GNATS*
- *Helis*
- *ITracker*
- *phpBugTracker*
- *Roundup*
- *Scarab*
- *Trac*
- *TUTOS*
- *Workbench*

Developing a backend requires:

- Committing to support this backend in future releases of Scmbug.
- Creating a new backend module named `src/lib/product/Daemon/BackendName.pm.in`. The Bugzilla backend `src/lib/product/Daemon/Bugzilla.pm.in` serves as a good example.
- Updating `src/lib/product/Daemon/Daemon.pm.in:read_configuration` accordingly.
- Updating the configuration management files `configure.in` and `Makefile.in` to autogenerate, and autocleanup the new backend.
- Updating the `install-server` rule of `Makefile.in` to install the new backend from source.
- Updating the documentation in `doc/manual` to reflect support for the new backend.

# Chapter 7. Integration Tools

## 7.1. Glue Installer

The command `scmbug_install_glue` is used to install the integration glue in an SCM repository. Existing hooks used in the SCM system are not overwritten. An example installing the glue in a Subversion repository under UNIX is shown in Figure 7-1.

**Figure 7-1. Glue Installation in a Subversion repository under UNIX.**

```
$ scmbug_install_glue --scm=Subversion --product=TestProduct \  
--repository=/tmp/testrepository --bug=1 --binary-paths=/bin,/usr/bin \  
--daemon=127.0.0.1  
This is the installation script of the Scmbug glue.  
The glue will be installed in repository: /tmp/testrepository.  
This is a repository for the Subversion SCM tool.  
The product name in the bug tracking system is TestProduct.  
The integration glue will be committed against bug 1.  
The IP address of the Scmbug integration daemon to contact is 127.0.0.1.  
-----  
Press Enter to continue or Ctrl-C to cancel  
  
Glue processing has been prepared in /tmp/Scmbug.30670  
Installing part1  
Check everything there before I commit or hit Ctrl-C to exit  
  
Glue processing has been prepared in /tmp/Scmbug.30670  
Installing part2  
Check everything there before I commit or hit Ctrl-C to exit
```

**Note:** Under Windows, the paths supplied to the installer should have directories separated with a **forward (/) slash**. Figure 7-2 shows an example running the installer under Windows.

**Figure 7-2. Glue Installation in a Subversion repository under Windows.**

```
$ scmbug_install_glue.pl --scm=Subversion --product=TestProduct \  
--repository=d:/Repository_test --bug=1 --daemon=127.0.0.1 \  
--binary-paths=C:/Program Files/Subversion/bin
```

### 7.1.1. CVS

Integration glue can be installed in both local and remote CVS repositories.

After installation, the file `<CVS_REPOSITORY_PATH>/CVSROOT/etc/scmbug/glue.conf` holds the configuration of the glue.

## 7.1.2. Subversion

Subversion repositories do not support installation of the integration glue remotely. Local repository access is required.

After installation, the file `<SVN_REPOSITORY_PATH>/hooks/etc/scmbug/glue.conf` holds the configuration of the glue.

Subversion does not distinguish between commit activities and creation of tags or branches. It *recommends* (<http://svnbook.red-bean.com/svnbook/ch04s07.html>) that the user manually creates top-level directories named `/trunk`, `/tags` and `/branches`. When it's time to create a tag or branch, Subversion proposes following the convention of creating a copy of the main trunk using `'svn copy'` in the `/tags` or `/branches` directories. As a result, the glue must manually detect if an `activity_verify` issued by Subversion also implies an `activity_tag`. To do so, it checks for addition of new subdirectories in the directories `/tags` or `/branches`. This behavior is defined in the glue configuration file using the `label_directories` variable, as shown in Figure 7-3.

**Figure 7-3. Defining the Subversion labeling directories.**

```
label_directories => [
    'tags',
    'branches'
]
```

## 7.2. Version Description Document Generator

Since SCM changes are integrated with bug-tracking, it is possible to produce a list of changes that occurred for a particular version of a software at a level that's higher than source changes.

`ChangeLog` information derived strictly from the SCM system, such as a report produced using the `cvs2cl` tool for CVS or using `'svn log'` in Subversion, is overly detailed. It describes software changesets at a lower level, which interests mostly developers. It is of little value to a user simply interested in a summary of added features. Moreover, when multiple changesets are committed in response to a defect, such a document becomes lengthy. It takes considerable time to follow the history of changes and decipher if, or how, a defect was corrected.

Instead, a VDD reports at a higher level a summary of the features/defects worked on and *why*, using information recorded in the bug-tracking system. It provides additional useful information such as

resolution status, bug owner, severity, and priority. It also reports *what* changes occurred at a lower level in the SCM system per bug, effectively superseding `ChangeLog` documents produced strictly from the SCM system. Without integration of SCM with bug-tracking, this level of detail in a release document would not be possible.

Given two SCM label names (tag or branch names), this tool queries the SCM tool for the dates the labels were applied. It then queries the bug-tracking system to produce a report of the bugs worked between that date range. A VDD can additionally reflect decisions of the development team which are not documented in the SCM logs, such as choosing to not add a feature, resolving it as WONTFIX. It may also display bugs that were added in the period between releases but not worked yet, alerting users of newly discovered defects.

A VDD document can be generated using the command `scmbug_vdd_generator`. An example producing this document is shown in Figure 7-4.

**Figure 7-4. Generating a Version Description Document.**

```
$ scmbug_vdd_generator --scm=Subversion --product=TestProduct \  
  --repository=/tmp/testrepository --from=SCMBUG_RELEASE_0-8-1 \  
  --to=SCMBUG_RELEASE_0-8-2
```

The output of this tool is a collection of files. An XML file is produced that contains the result of the VDD query. This file is also transformed using XSLT into a Docbook 4.2 SGML file. Finally, this SGML file is processed using Docbook tools to produce PDF and HTML output.

### Warning

It is uncertain where one can get for Windows the `xsltproc` and `docbook-utils` packages to transform the XML and SGML versions of the VDD to other formats.

# Chapter 8. Resources

## 8.1. Availability

Scmbug is available for UNIX and Windows systems. It's webpage (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/scmbug>) contains the most up to date information on the project, including the latest release and manual.

A users mailing list is available for subscription (<http://lists.mkgnu.net/mailman/listinfo/scmbug-users>), or simply for sending email (<mailto:scmbug-users@lists.mkgnu.net>).

## 8.2. Installation

### 8.2.1. System

Under UNIX, Scmbug is available in the form of Debian and RPM packages. The provided packages are:

- `scmbug-common`: common libraries.
- `scmbug-doc`: documentation.
- `scmbug-tools`: tools that can install the integration glue in an SCM repository and enhance the experience of integrating SCM with bug-tracking.
- `scmbug-server`: the integration daemon.

Under Windows, the entire Scmbug system is available in the form of a single .zip file. It must be manually installed in `C:/Program Files/Scmbug`. It requires ActiveState ActivePerl (<http://www.activestate.com/Products/ActivePerl/>) installed in `C:/Perl/bin/perl`, and a temporary directory called `C:/Temp`.

Source code distributions are also available. Figure 8-1 shows how the system can be configured and installed from source. It is possible to choose a different destination of the libraries and binaries of Scmbug both in UNIX and Windows systems at configuration time. If you are configuring from source code, running `./configure --help` can provide more information.

**Figure 8-1. Installation of the system from source.**

```
bash$ ./configure
```



```

bash$ make
bash$ su
bash# make install-common
bash# make install-doc
bash# make install-tools
bash# make install-server

```

**Tip:** Installing all these packages will **NOT** automatically integrate an SCM repository with a bug-tracking system. It will only install the basic software needed to do so.

A user must configure the *Integration Daemon* and start it as shown in Figure 8-2. Then, a user must run the *Glue Installer* to install the Scmbug integration in an SCM repository.

### Figure 8-2. Integration daemon start.

Starting the Integration Daemon in UNIX systems:

```
bash# /etc/init.d/scmbug-server start
```

Starting the Integration Daemon in Windows systems:

```

C:\> cd C:/Program Files/Scmbug/etc/init.d
C:/Program Files/Scmbug/etc/init.d> scmbug-server.bat

```

**Tip:** When specifying paths in Windows, either in the glue installer, the glue configuration file, or the integration daemon, paths should have directories separated with a **forward (/) slash**.

## 8.2.2. Documentation

Installation of documentation, including this manual, requires installing the package `scmbug-doc`.

## 8.2.3. Integration Tools

Installation of the *Integration Tools* requires installing the packages `scmbug-common` and `scmbug-tools`.

Running the *VDD Generator* additionally requires installing the `xsltproc`, and `docbook-utils` packages. It is uncertain where one could get these packages for Windows.

## 8.2.4. Integration Daemon

Installation of the daemon requires installing the packages `scmbug-common` and `scmbug-server`. Additionally, it requires installing the `Mail::Sendmail` and `XML::Simple` Perl modules, as shown in Figure 8-3.

**Figure 8-3. Mail::Sendmail, XML::Simple installation.**

Installation in UNIX systems:

```
bash$ su
bash# perl -MCPAN -e "install Mail::Sendmail"
bash# perl -MCPAN -e "install XML::Simple"
```

Installation in Windows systems:

```
C:\> ppm
PPM - Programmer's Package Manager version 3.1.
Copyright (c) 2001 ActiveState Corp. All Rights Reserved.
ActiveState is a devision of Sophos.
```

Entering interactive shell. Using Term::ReadLine::Stub as readline library.

```
Type 'help' to get started.
ppm> install Mail-Sendmail
ppm> install XML-Simple
```

The file `/etc/scmbug/daemon.conf` holds the configuration of the daemon.

Integration with multiple bug-tracking systems can be accomplished by starting multiple daemons listening at different ports.

### 8.2.4.1. Bugzilla

For reasons explained in Section 6.1, the integration daemon requires local presence of the source code used to run a Bugzilla instance. It also requires access to the database used to store Bugzilla's data. It is recommended that the daemon is installed on the same machine Bugzilla runs, but this is not required. If the daemon *is* installed on the same machine Bugzilla runs, Scmbug will force the Bugzilla version cache (which is a local file) to be regenerated when `activity_tag` integration requests are processed.

### 8.2.4.2. Mantis

Integration with Mantis requires access to the database used to store Mantis' data. At a minimum, it requires installing the DBI Perl module, as shown in Figure 8-4.

**Figure 8-4. DBI installation.**

Installation in UNIX systems:

```
bash$ su
bash# perl -MCPAN -e "install DBI"
```

Installation in Windows systems:

```
C:\> ppm
PPM - Programmer's Package Manager version 3.1.
Copyright (c) 2001 ActiveState Corp. All Rights Reserved.
ActiveState is a devision of Sophos.
```

Entering interactive shell. Using Term::ReadLine::Stub as readline library.

```
Type 'help' to get started.
ppm> install DBI
```

As explained in Section 6.2, Mantis supports installation with multiple database backends, and requires the corresponding DBD Perl module to be installed. For example, if Mantis is installed with a MySQL database backend, the `DBD::mysql` Perl module must also be installed (Figure 8-5) and the `database_vendor` variable must be configured as shown in Figure 6-3.

**Figure 8-5. DBD::mysql installation.**

Installation in UNIX systems:

```
bash$ su
bash# perl -MCPAN -e "install DBD::mysql"
```

Installation in Windows systems:

```
C:\> ppm
PPM - Programmer's Package Manager version 3.1.
Copyright (c) 2001 ActiveState Corp. All Rights Reserved.
ActiveState is a devision of Sophos.
```

Entering interactive shell. Using Term::ReadLine::Stub as readline library.

```
Type 'help' to get started.
ppm> install DBD-mysql
```

### 8.2.4.3. Request Tracker

For reasons explained in Section 6.3, the integration daemon requires local presence of the source code used to run a RequestTracker instance. It has not yet been investigated if it also requires local access to the database used to store RequestTracker's data.

## 8.3. Upgrading

Upgrading to newer versions of Scmbug is possible. It first requires understanding the issues involved in running non-matching versions of the Glue and Daemon.

### 8.3.1. Issues

The communication protocol between the Glue and the Daemon is upgraded and is backwards-incompatible when the minor version number of Scmbug increases. For example, SCMBUG\_RELEASE\_0-1-x and SCMBUG\_RELEASE\_0-2-x are not compatible, but SCMBUG\_RELEASE\_0-2-1 and SCMBUG\_RELEASE\_0-2-8 are.

**Tip:** During SCM events activity, if the Glue detects an incompatible version of the Daemon, it will refuse to continue.

#### Warning

Running incompatible versions of the Glue and Daemon can result in developers being locked out of an SCM repository.

For example, when using CVS it could result in the integration failing to commit any changes, leading into a dead-end. This would prohibit disabling the Glue in its entirety, and require manually editing the repository locally using RCS commands. Certainly, an SCM repository can always be brought back to a working state by a competent administrator.

Since version SCMBUG\_RELEASE\_0-3-3, the Glue Installer is able to safely upgrade the integration to newer versions. It first completely disables all SCM hooks installed by Scmbug, upgrades the Glue code, and then enables the hooks. During the last step, the Daemon does not need to be contacted, since the hooks are not yet active.

**Note:** If you understand the implementation internals of Scmbug you will be able to determine whether a new feature is implemented in the Glue or the Daemon, and upgrade only the Glue or only the Daemon.

One example where you might not want to upgrade both the Glue and Daemon is if you have a lot of SCM repositories and you need a new feature that has been implemented only on the Daemon. Upgrading only the daemon is a lot easier than first upgrading all repositories. Another example would be upgrading only the Glue of a single SCM repository if you need a new Scmbug feature only in that repository.

**Tip:** If in doubt, upgrade everything.

## 8.3.2. Steps

Upgrading to a newer version of Scmbug requires first upgrading the Glue and then the Daemon, by carrying out in order the following steps.

### 8.3.2.1. Glue Upgrading

- *Upgrading Scmbug:* Install newer versions of the packages `scmbug-common`, `scmbug-doc`, and `scmbug-tools`, as shown in Section 8.2.1.

**Tip:** If one of the SCM repositories that will be upgraded is hosted by Subversion, then these packages must also be installed on the machine hosting the Subversion repository. As explained in Section 7.1.2, local repository access will be required in the next step to upgrade the integration glue.

- *Upgrading all SCM repositories:* Run the *Glue Installer* once per SCM repository with respective arguments to upgrade to a newer version of the Glue, as described in Section 7.1.

### Warning

The Glue Installer will display changes between the existing and updated glue configuration file in diff format. Manually merge-in any updates to the glue configuration file as needed. Failure to do so could result in the Glue failing to work.

### 8.3.2.2. Daemon Upgrading

- *Upgrading the Integration Daemon:* After **all** SCM repositories have been upgraded, upgrade the Integration Daemon by installing a newer version of the packages `scmbug-common` and `scmbug-server`, as shown in Section 8.2.4.

#### **Warning**

Ommiting to upgrade an SCM repository before upgrading the Daemon could result in developers being locked out of the repository.

Should that happen, it's possible to downgrade to the previous version of the Daemon, upgrade the repository as described in Section 8.3.2.1, and upgrade the Daemon again. During this process, all other upgraded SCM repositories will be unable to accept activity, since the Glue will detect an incompatible Daemon and refuse to continue.

# Appendix A. FAQ

This FAQ includes questions not covered elsewhere in this manual.

# Appendix B. GNU Free Documentation License

Version 1.1, March 2000

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# Glossary

## A

### Aegis

*Aegis* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/aegis/>) is a transaction-based software configuration management system. It provides a framework within which a team of developers may work on many changes to a program independently, and Aegis coordinates integrating these changes back into the master source of the program, with as little disruption as possible. Aegis supports geographically distributed development.

### AntHill

*Anthill* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/anthill/>) is a bug tracking database system written in PHP. It provides the standard bug tracking features such as: user logins, summary reports, submitting bugs, querying bugs, various severity and status levels. It also provides some unique features, such as a template system, and multi-lingual support.

### Arch

*Arch* (<http://regexps.srparish.net/www/#Gnu-arch>) is a modern replacement for CVS, specifically designed for the distributed development needs of open source projects. It has uniquely good support for development on branches (especially good merging tools), distributed repositories (every developer can have branches in their own repository), changeset-oriented project management (arch commits changes to multiple files at once), and, of course, file and directory renaming.

## B

### Bazaar-NG

*Bazaar-NG* (<http://www.bazaar-ng.org/>) is a powerful, friendly, and scalable open source distributed version control system. It attempts to combine the best features from all free version control systems into a single coherent and simple system.

## **Bitkeeper**

*Bitkeeper* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/bitkeeper/>) is a fully distributed source management system, supporting globally distributed development, disconnected operation, change sets, and many active branches. It is used by some major projects such as the Linux kernel, MySQL, Xaraya, and Xen.

## **Bosco**

*Bosco* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/bosco/>) is a rewrite of the popular Bugzilla defect tracking software in PHP. It is database-independent, and aims to be easy to maintain and modify. It also has an API to allow external applications to work with its data.

## **Bugzilla**

*Bugzilla* (<http://www.bugzilla.org>) is an enterprise-class piece of software that tracks millions of bugs and issues for hundreds of organizations around the world.

# **C**

## **ClearCase**

*ClearCase* (<http://www-306.ibm.com/software/awdtools/clearcase/>) is a version control system.

## **CVS**

*CVS* (<http://www.cvshome.org/>) is the Concurrent Versions System, the dominant, open-source, network-transparent version control system. It allows you to keep old versions of files (usually source code), keep a log of who, when, and why changes occurred, etc., like RCS or SCCS. Unlike the simpler systems, CVS does not just operate on one file at a time or one directory at a time, but operates on hierarchical collections of directories consisting of version controlled files. CVS helps to manage releases and to control the concurrent editing of source files among multiple authors. CVS allows triggers to enable/log/control various operations and works well over a wide area network.



## **cvs2cl**

A *tool* (<http://www.red-bean.com/cvs2cl/>) that autogenerates a `ChangeLog` document from CVS.

# **D**

## **debbugs**

*debbugs* (<http://www.benham.net/debbugs/>) is the Debian bug-tracking system.

## **Double Choco Latte**

*Double Choco Latte* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/doublechocolate/>) is a system for tracking bugs, changes, enhancements, and requests for software. The system is suited for multiple products and multiple accounts (clients). It is also known to handle call center activity, although this will evolve into a separate module.

# **E**

## **Eventum**

*Eventum* (<http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/other/eventum/>) is a user-friendly and flexible issue tracking system that can be used by a support department to track incoming technical support requests, or by a software development team to quickly organize tasks and bugs. Eventum is used by the MySQL AB Technical Support team.

# **G**

## **GForge**

*GForge* (<http://www.gforge.org>) is a Web-based collaborative development environment. It's based on a fork of the 2.61 SourceForge code, which used to be available via anonymous CVS from VA Software, but has been extensively rewritten and enhanced.

## **GIT**

*GIT* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/git>) is a "directory content manager" that was designed to handle massive projects such as the Linux kernel with speed and efficiency. It falls in the category of distributed source code management tools and is similar to GNU Arch, Monotone, and BitKeeper. Every GIT working directory is a fully-fledged repository with full revision tracking capabilities and is not dependent on network access to a central server.

## **GNATS**

*GNATS* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/gnats/>) is the GNU bug-tracking system, a portable incident/bug report/help request-tracking system which runs on UNIX-like operating systems. It easily handles thousands of problem reports, has been in wide use since the early 90s, and can do most of its operations over e-mail. Several front end interfaces exist, including command line, emacs, and Tcl/Tk interfaces. There are also a number of Web (CGI) interfaces written in scripting languages like Perl and Python.

# **H**

## **Helis**

*Helis* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/helis/>) includes the main features of most bug tracking systems. It is helpful for managing required evolutions, lacks, proposals, and bugs. Authenticated users can reach the database through a Web browser (Mozilla, Netscape, or IE). Distinct features include the ability to manage releases (e.g. return resolved bugs between release 1.04 and 1.00), precise access rights, and managing validation reports.

# **I**

## **ITracker**

*ITracker* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/itracker/>) is a Java J2EE issue/bug tracking system designed to support multiple projects with independent user bases. It supports features such as full i18n support, multiple versions and project components, detailed histories, issue searching, file attachments, dynamic reports with charts, configurable field values, customizable project level fields, pluggable authentication, a built-in scheduler, and email notifications.

# K

## Katie

*Katie* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/katie/>) is a revision control system, somewhat like a cross between CVS and NFS, that was inspired by Rational ClearCase. The three most interesting features are that the repository is mounted as a filesystem (rather than being copied to a local workspace), that all versions of all files (even deleted ones) are accessible through this filesystem (so the "katie diff" command is a convenience rather than a necessity like "cvs diff"), and that directories are versioned (just like files are). It is functional enough to be self-hosting, but there is much work still to go before it will be a generally useful tool. Features that are implemented already include VOBs, elements, branches, dynamic views, view-extended pathnames, config specs (including auto-make-branch rules), labels, hard links, and symbolic links.

# M

## Mantis

*Mantis* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/mantis/>) is a PHP/MySQL-based bugtracking system. It is extremely easy to deploy and customize, and features one of the simplest and cleanest interfaces of any tracking tool available. It supports multiple projects and email notification, and is localized for over 18 languages.

## Mercurial

*Mercurial* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/mercurial/>) is a fast, lightweight Source Control Management system designed for the efficient handling of very large distributed projects.

## Monotone

*Monotone* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/monotone/>) is a distributed version control system with a flat peer model, cryptographic version naming, meta-data certificates, decentralized authority, and overlapping branches. It works out of a transactional version database stored in a regular file, and uses a custom network protocol for efficient database synchronization.

## O

### **OpenCM**

*OpenCM* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/opencm/>) is designed as a secure, high-integrity replacement for CVS. It includes features such as file renaming, branch and file level access control, cryptographic authentication, and end-to-end integrity controls.

## P

### **Perforce**

*Perforce* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/perforce/>) is a software configuration management system that is fast, robust, runs on over 50 platforms, and scales to over 1000 users on a single repository. It supports atomic submits and works well over wide area networks, including the Internet.

### **phpBugTracker**

*phpBugTracker* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/phpbt/>) is an attempt to copy the functionality of Bugzilla while providing a codebase that is independent of the database and presentation layers.

## R

### **Request Tracker**

*Request Tracker* (<http://www.bestpractical.com/rt/>) is an enterprise-grade ticketing system which enables a group of people to intelligently and efficiently manage tasks, issues, and requests submitted by a community of users. Written in object-oriented Perl, RT is a high-level, portable, platform independent system that eases collaboration within organizations and makes it easy for them to take care of their customers.

### **Roundup**

*Roundup* (<http://roundup.sourceforge.net/>) is a simple-to-use and -install issue-tracking system with command-line, web and e-mail interfaces. It is based on the winning design from Ka-Ping Yee in the Software Carpentry "Track" design competition.

# S

## Scarab

*Scarab* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/scarab/>) is an issue tracking system that features data entry, queries, reports, notifications to interested parties, collaborative accumulation of comments, dependency tracking, and collaborative prioritization (voting). It uses Java Servlet technology to enhance speed, scalability, maintainability, and ease of installation. It contains XML import/export support, allowing easy migration from other systems (like Bugzilla). The modular code design eases the modification of features. It is fully customizable via a set of administrative Web pages. The look and feel of the UI can easily be modified, and Scarab can easily be integrated into larger systems. .

## Subversion

*Subversion* (<http://subversion.tigris.org/>) is a compelling replacement for CVS.

# T

## Trac

*Trac* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/trac/>) is a minimalistic but highly useful issue tracker and software project environment based around an integrated Wiki engine. Features include an interface to Subversion (source revision control), a bug/issue tracking database, and convenient report facilities.

## TUTOS

*TUTOS* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/tutos/>) (The Ultimate Team Organization Software) is a groupware, ERP (Enterprise Resource Planing), CRM (Customer Relationship Management), and PLM (Project Lifecycle Management) suite that helps small to medium teams manage various things in one place. Its features include personal and group calendars, an address book, product and project management, bug tracking, installation management, a task list, notes, files, mailboxes, and useful links between all of the above.

# W

## **Workbench**

*Workbench* (<http://freshmeat.net/projects/workbench/>) is a powerful PHP/MySQL bug-tracking application. It supports multiple projects, full change history, custom reporting, and many other useful tools.