

Re: SAL, Auto_Text_IO release

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Ada/comp.lang.ada/2006-06/msg00365.html>

- *From:* M E Leypold <development-2006-8ecbb5cc8a-REMOVETHIS@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 21 Jun 2006 15:12:08 +0200
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Stephen Leake <stephen_leake@xxxxxxx> writes:

M E Leypold <development-2006-8ecbb5cc8a-REMOVETHIS@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

Some of us are still stuck with 3.15p. We can't GPL our customers code and being so small we can't pay the ACT support.

How small can you be to not afford \$15k/year?
I've never worked for a small company (I work for the US government), so I have no experience with this.
But it seems to me that if you are paying two people's salary, then you ought to be able to afford 15k for a very important tool.

Stephen, I'm not discussing nature or size of my business on usenet. The point I made in another post was, that entry-costs of \$15000 are quite a hindrance in bootstrapping any business in Ada software (development) _gradually_.

And concerning the general tone of my message (that on which you answered here) you should probably have seen the smiley from the very beginning. Please :-).

Would you, in the light of that situation perhaps, I ask humbly, consider, to also link the old versions (the last with 3.15p-Support)?

I'm not sure what you mean by "link".

If you mean "keep the .tar.gz files on your website", I suppose I could.

Yep, that I mean.

But that implies some level of support, which I don't want to do.

Well, I don't think it does. You could even state that explicitly.

It's just as easy for you to keep those files on your machine.

It is and I have them. I only thought (suggestion only) it would be good practice if/when you introduce incompatible changes in a piece of software, it would be good practice to keep the older versions available for some time. I imagine that there are still a lot of users of 3.15p out there, especially on windows (but also on Debian: If one doesn't want to replace the compiler that comes with the system).

If you didn't keep a copy, then you need to seriously reconsider your backup plan!

Stephen, please don't lecture me. I'd prefer discussion at eye level.

Having said all that, what are you using SAL for? I never hear from users.

Not yet. I staged them in our source tree and there were considerations to use SAL instead of Martin Dowies backport of Ada.Containers as working mechanisms in some library. This has come to nothing yet. I'm not sure wether it will done now, since the old SAL is now "unsupported". We'll probably have to postpone integration of SAL until after we have done the transition to some newer version of GNAT.

Regards -- Markus

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