Multi-Platform Version Control with SourceSafe

SourceSafe by One Tree Software is designed to be a *one point control center for all your code.* This commitment extends beyond providing a project-oriented model and an accessible interface. It means that if you port code across different platforms, accessing common files across a heterogeneous network, you need to be able to store those files in SourceSafe and access them from all your operating environments.

This document lists the major software platforms which may be important to your development strategy, and discusses SourceSafe's support for these platforms. Before listing the platforms, however, a few general points should be made.

- *All SourceSafe versions are 100% compatible with each other.*

  If you check out a file from the Macintosh, the checkout status will appear on a Windows users' screen. After you update the file back into SourceSafe, the new file may be checked out to a UNIX machine somewhere else on the network.

- *Cross-platform issues such as the different end-of-line characters used by different systems, the varying rules for legal filenames, and many platform-specific features are handled transparently by SourceSafe.*

- *SourceSafe interfaces on different platforms are similar to each other, in order to minimize the learning curve.*

  Of course, each version is also designed to look and act as a user of that environment would expect. When these twin goals come in conflict, the interface standards of the operating system are considered paramount.

- *With very minor variations, the feature set on all versions of SourceSafe is the same.*

- *Finally--if you are maintaining portable code, SourceSafe's Shared Files feature can enable you to keep track of which modules are used by which versions of your program.*

  See the technical bulletin "Version Control the SourceSafe Way" for more information about this feature.

DOS

The original version of SourceSafe was a DOS application, and the DOS product has remained an integral part of the product line. SourceSafe for DOS actually consists of two programs: a text-based pop-up interface, and a command-line. The two versions complement each other, providing different ways of accessing the same functionality.

SourceSafe runs under DOS version 3.3 or higher.

Microsoft Windows

SourceSafe 2.0 added a Windows version of SourceSafe, and introduced SourceSafe's graphical interface for the first time. SourceSafe for Windows is *not* a simple "shell" that spawns a command-line or another product: it is a full Microsoft Windows application, with an interface modeled on the File Manager.

SourceSafe runs under Windows version 3.1 or higher. Because of SourceSafe's advanced interface, Windows 3.0 is *not supported.*

Microsoft Windows/NT

Since the July '92 Beta release of the Windows/NT operating system, One Tree Software has been shipping a *full 32-bit NT version of SourceSafe.* The interface is visually identical to the Windows 3.1 version of SourceSafe, but is a genuine NT application in every respect. SourceSafe for Windows/NT provides both a graphical interface and a command-line, and fully supports NTFS, HPFS and FAT file systems with "long filename" and "short filename" modes for cross compatibility.

The Macintosh

SourceSafe 2.1 added, to SourceSafe's PC line, a Macintosh version of SourceSafe. SourceSafe for the Macintosh is *not* a standalone application with an interface--instead, it is a command-line ToolServer application. (A later version of SourceSafe will be a standalone Macintosh application with a user interface; however, no date is scheduled for this product.)

SourceSafe is completely aware of Macintosh-specific issues such as the resource fork, file information (type, creator, flags), and the modification *and creation* date/time of files.

SourceSafe runs under Macintosh System 7.0. In addition to system software, SourceSafe requires the command-line environment which can be provided by the Macintosh Programmer's WorkShop (MPW) or by recent Symantec compilers such as Think C 6.0.

UNIX

SourceSafe 2.12 saw the introduction of a UNIX addition to the product line. SourceSafe for UNIX is strictly a command-line application, not a graphical (X-Windows) program. (A later version of SourceSafe will support a graphical interface; however, there is no scheduled date for this product.)

As of this writing (October 1993), SourceSafe is available on the following UNIX "flavors." However, new platforms are continually being added to the list.

- SCO UNIX v3.2.2 and later
- Sun 4 and Sparcstations: SunOS 4.1.2, Solaris 1.1
- AT&T System V Release 4 on Intel
- IBM RS6000: AIX 2.3
- DecStations: Ultrix 4.2
- HP 700 & 800 series: HPUX 8.0

OS/2

With SourceSafe 2.2, a native OS/2 product completed SourceSafe's multi-platform product line. SourceSafe for OS/2 offers both a PM interface and a native OS/2 command-line. The user can alternate between "long filename" (for HPFS) and "short filename" (for FAT file systems) modes, providing for the full range of OS/2 file naming. Extended attributes are fully supported and maintained.

SourceSafe runs under OS/2 2.0 or higher.