Managing ICIS Codes

Reminiscing the Past

- Codes were uploaded on \filer1\icis4\...
- Miscommunication among peers resulted to overwriting of codes
- Rewriting of codes IS tedious for the developer (especially when one forgets to back-up his/her codes)
- Saving a copy (backup) on local machine consumes a lot of disk space and is cumbersome.

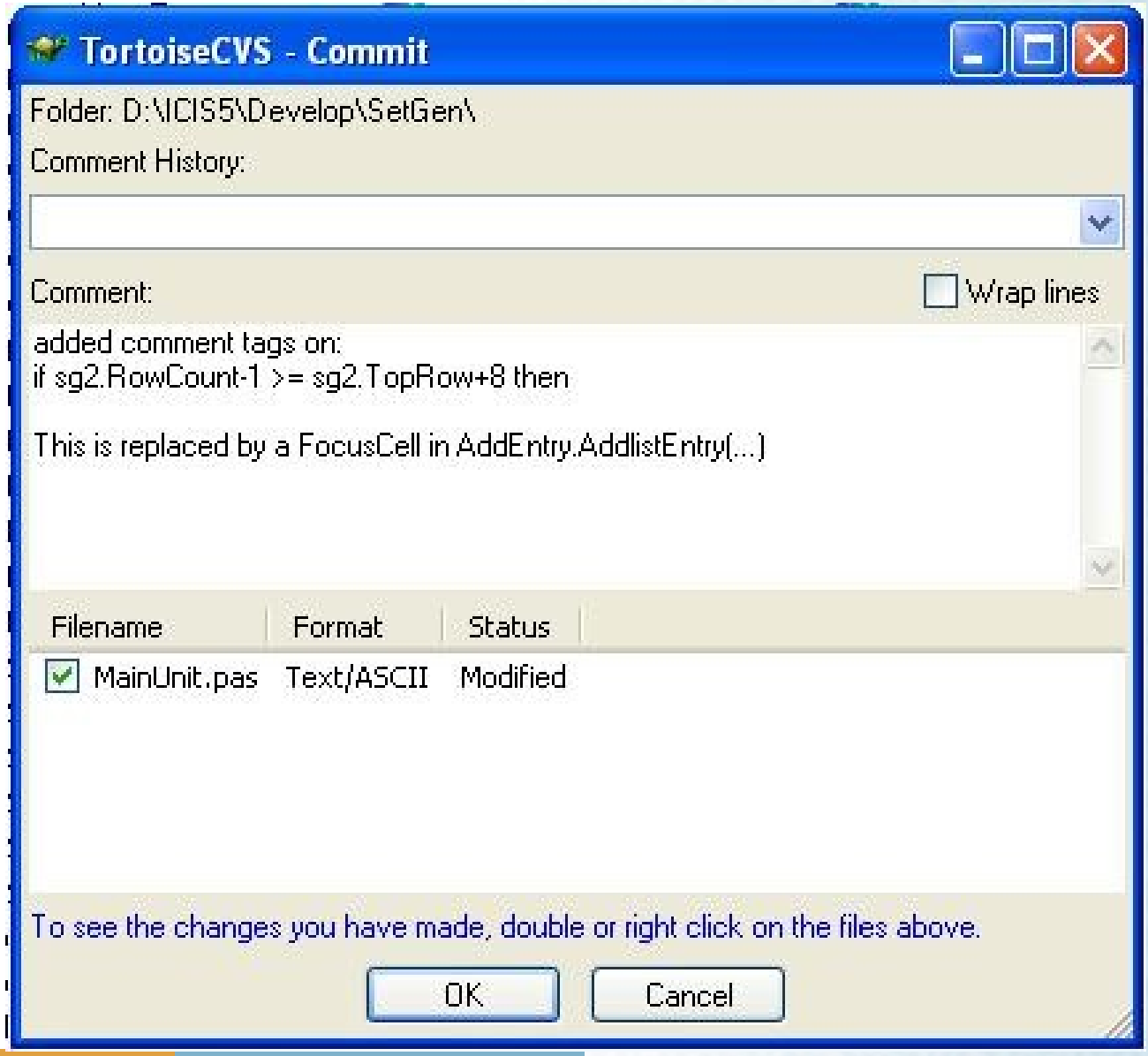
Managing ICIS Codes (con't…)

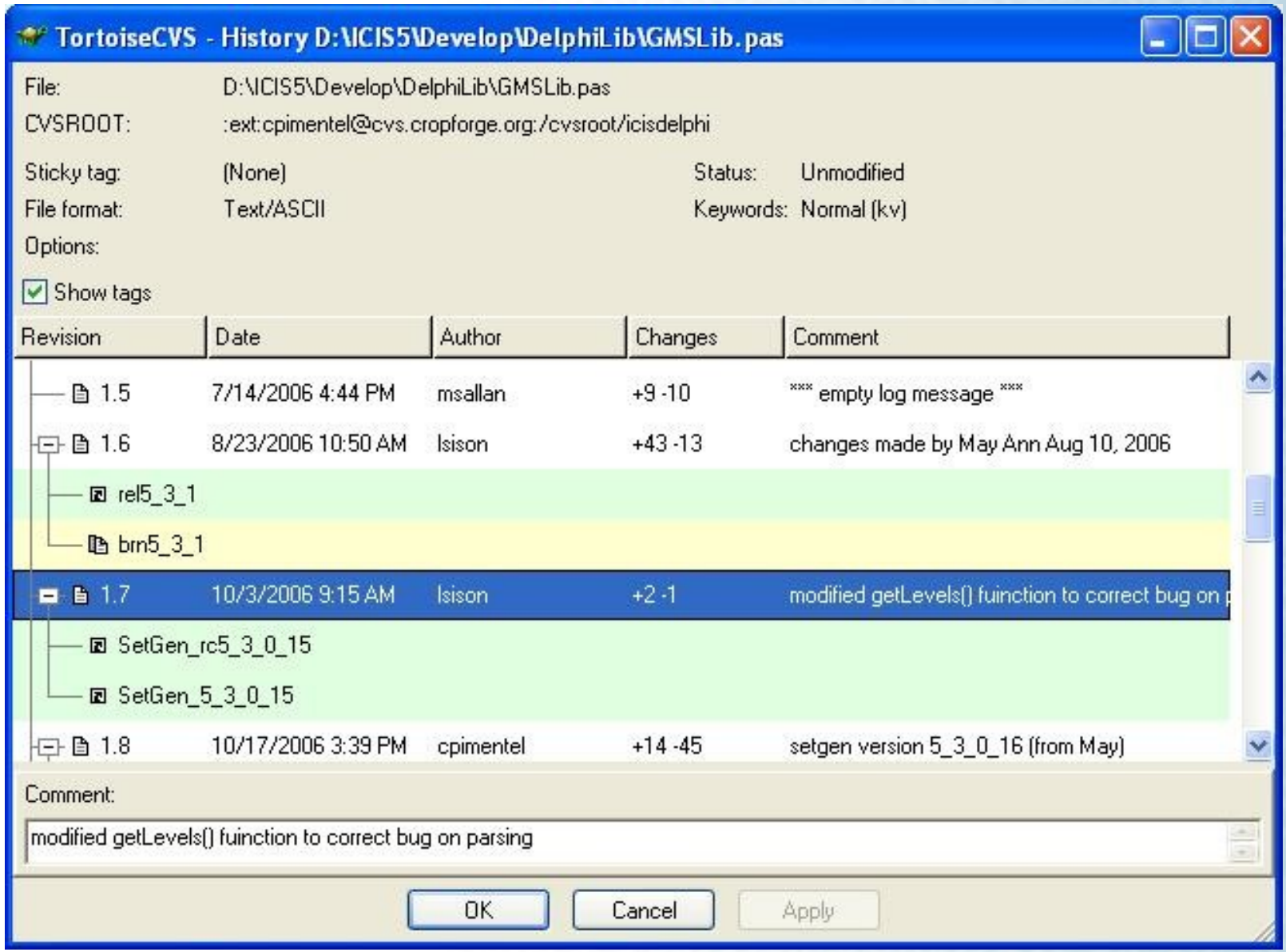
Using CVS (Concurrent Version System)

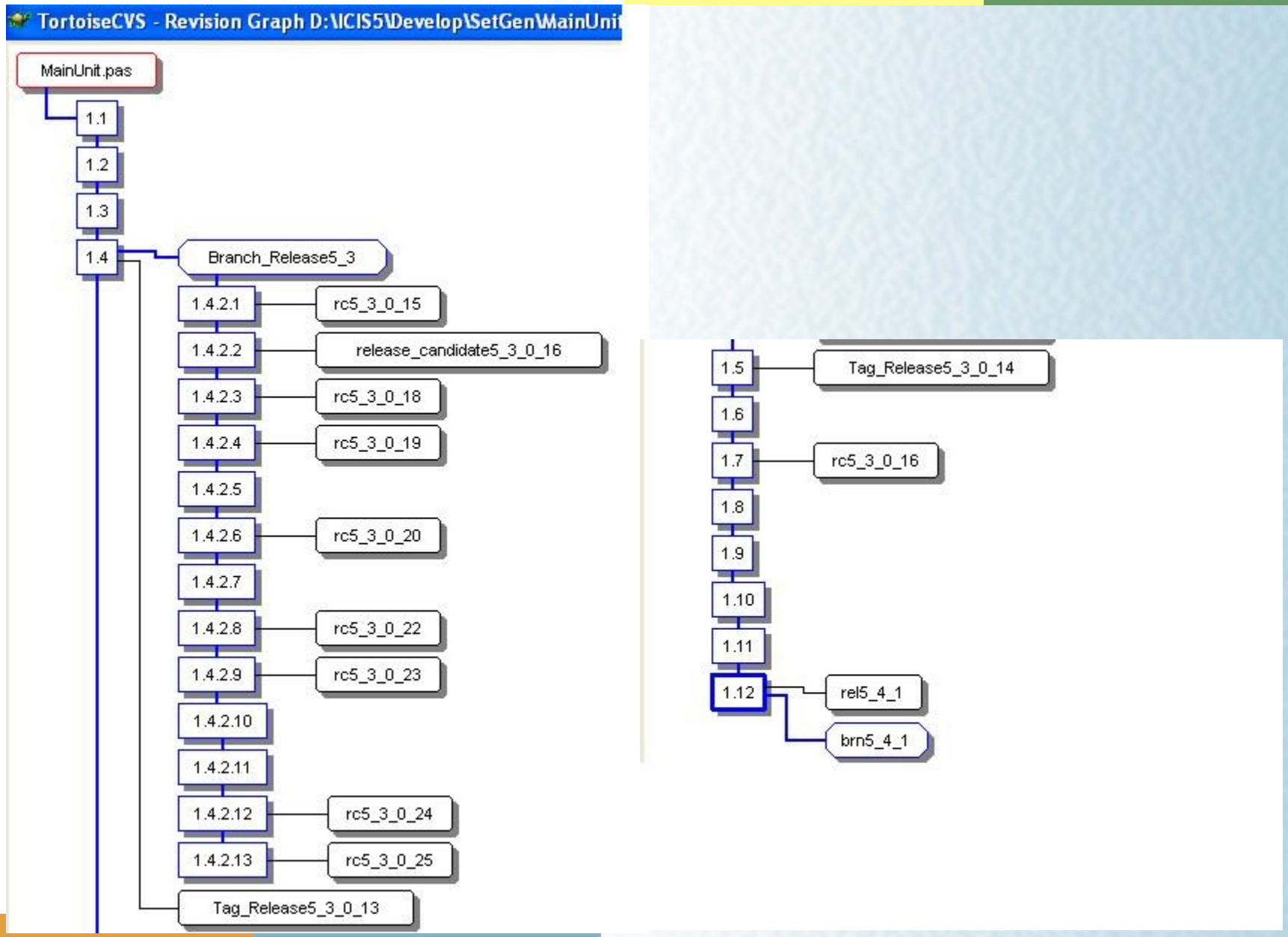
- Tools to use along with CVS are TortoiseCVS and BeyondCompare
- Code conflicts for developers working on the same module is solved thru merging
- Can always revert to old version
- Enables developers scattered by geography to function as a single team.
- Learning curve is not too high

CVS terminologies

- Checkout
- Update
- Commit
- Add
- Tag
- Branch
- Merge
- Revision Graph
- History


TortoiseCVS - Commit
Folder: D:\ICIS5\Develop\SetGen\
Comment History:
Comment:
Wrap lines
added comment tags on:
if sg2.RowCount-1 >= sg2.TopRow+8 then
This is replaced by a FocusCell in AddEntry.AddlistEntry(...)
Filename
Format
Status
MainUnit.pas
Text/ASCII
Modified
To see the changes you have made, double or right click on the files above.
OK
Cancel


TortoiseCVS - History D:\ICIS5\Develop\DelphiLib\GMSLib.pas
File: D:\ICIS5\Develop\DelphiLib\GMSLib.pas
CVSROOT: :ext:cpimentel@cvs.cropforge.org:/cvsroot/icisdelphi
Sticky tag: (None)
Status: Unmodified
File format: Text/ASCII
Keywords: Normal (kv)
Options:
Show tags
Revision
Date
Author
Changes
Comment
1.5 7/14/2006 4:44 PM msallan +9 -10 *** empty log message ***
1.6 8/23/2006 10:50 AM lsison +43 -13 changes made by May Ann Aug 10, 2006
rel5_3_1
brn5_3_1
1.7 10/3/2006 9:15 AM lsison +2 -1 modified getLevels() fuinction to correct bug on p
SetGen_rc5_3_0_15
SetGen_5_3_0_15
1.8 10/17/2006 3:39 PM cpimentel +14 -45 setgen version 5_3_0_16 (from May)
Comment:
modified getLevels() fuinction to correct bug on parsing
OK
Cancel
Apply


TortoiseCVS - Revision Graph D:\ICIS5\Develop\SetGen\MainUnit
MainUnit.pas
1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
Branch_Release5_3
1.4.2.1
rc5_3_0_15
1.4.2.2
release_candidate5_3_0_16
1.4.2.3
rc5_3_0_18
1.4.2.4
rc5_3_0_19
1.4.2.5
1.4.2.6
rc5_3_0_20
1.4.2.7
1.4.2.8
rc5_3_0_22
1.4.2.9
rc5_3_0_23
1.4.2.10
1.4.2.11
1.4.2.12
rc5_3_0_24
1.4.2.13
rc5_3_0_25
Tag_Release5_3_0_13
1.5
Tag_Release5_3_0_14
1.6
1.7
rc5_3_0_16
1.8
1.9
1.10
1.11
1.12
rel5_4_1
brn5_4_1

Best Practices

- Update code from CVS often
- Before committing, do an update first to make sure there are no conflicts
- Add descriptive comment in the changes done in a file
- Make a Branch for every release. This is used for debugging the features for this release.

Managing ICIS Codes (con't…)

Through our experience using CVS, we learned that :

- CVS is not a substitute for management.
  - managers and project leaders are expected to talk to us frequently enough to make certain we are aware of schedules, merge points, branch names and release dates. If they don't, CVS can't help.
- CVS is not a substitute for developer communication.
  - When faced with conflicts within a single file, most developers manage to resolve them without too much effort. But a more general definition of "conflict" includes problems too difficult to solve without communication between developers.