ReleaseChecking

Checking a Release Candidate

The purpose of this page is to provide guidelines for the kind of things to check for a *Release Candidate* before voting. As well as helping people checking releases, hopefully it will help Release Managers avoid some potential pitfalls / objections.

These are just some initial thoughts - hopefully others will add in their 2c - niallp

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1. General Checks

- Has the release been **tagged** in Subversion?
- Are there **open** (non-enhancement) **bugzilla** tickets?
- Have any **version-specific** files been updated? (e.g. build.xml, Version.java)

2. Binary Distribution

- Are the **NOTICE** and **LICENSE** files included in the **root** directory?
- Are the **NOTICE** and **LICENSE** files included in **jar**?
- Is the **jar's manifest** file correct?
    - Check the component **version number** is correct.
    - Check the **title** and **vendor**.
    - Check the **JDK version**.
        - if the JDK version is higher than expected (e.g. JDK 1.4 rather than JDK 1.3) does the maven build have the compatibility option set?
    - Check the **Built-By** field.
        - If the name in the jar file does not match your ASF account name, rebuild with '-Duser.name=your-asf-account'.
- Check the **documentation**
    - Is the **version** information correct (has it been updated)?
    - Is the **style** in keeping with other Commons components
    - Is there adequate information on:
        - **Releases**
        - **Mailing Lists**
        - **Dependencies**
            - Are all dependencies appropriately **licensed**?
            - Are all dependencies **released** versions?
            - Dependency **comments** are good (indicating whether its required/optional/for testing/for the site generation) e.g. [Resources](#)
        - **Issue Tracking** - there are some good examples of custom issue tracking pages (see [Validator](#) or [IO](#)).
        - **Project License**
    - Do the **JavaDocs** look OK?
    - Are there any **check style** or **javadoc warnings**
    - Do all the **links work** for the local copy of the documentation?
- If you're a user of the component - can you **give the RC a test run**?

3. Source Distribution

- Are the **NOTICE** and **LICENSE** files included in the **root** directory?
- Is **everything** in the **source repository** included in the distro?
    - Files typically in the **root** directory
        - project.xml
        - maven.xml
        - project.properties
        - (maybe) build.xml
        - Checkstyle files (xml config, checkstyle headers file)
    - Are the contents of the **source** directory present
    - Are the contents of the **xdocs** directory present
    - Are **configuration** files / directories present?
    - Are there any additional files included that are not in the source repository?
        - e.g. SVN files, log files, temporary distribution directories
- Can the project be built (e.g. run **"maven dist"** or relevant ant command) from the **source distribution** (note the commons-build directory will need to be available)?
    - do the **tests** run?
    - is the **jar** correctly generated
    - do the distribution files **generated** (i.e. binary/source zip/tar.gz files) **match** the ones for the **release** (md5's and bytecounts may be different and diffs may fail if checking is done on a different platform than that used to cut the release)?

Other pages which might be of interest

- [ReleaseShoppingList](#)